

Re: Meeting to discuss/establish a Visual Arts Group in Orkney

Dear

Thank you for your continued interest in **untitled**. The chosen date for the informal gathering, to discuss the idea of the group with a wider number of visual artists in Orkney and hopefully progress the project, is:

Date: **Saturday 31st March**

Time: **2 - 3.30pm**

Venue: **The studio of the Papdale Primary School Artists in Residence, Christil Trumpet, in Kirkwall**

We are aware that a number of you are unable to attend the meeting on this date - unfortunately it was the date that the majority of people could make - however, we will keep you informed of progress and look forward to your continued interest.

The meeting will be a pretty informal event - with the opportunity to meet and chat with other artists before we see if there is enough interest in setting up a group.

We will give a short welcome and introduction at around 2.30pm, once we have all met and had a chat - followed by an election for an Executive Committee if there is enough interest. Our proposal is for the Committee to have a rolling Chair (like Veer North in Shetland), rather than a formal fixed post. There will be a minimum of three people needed to form a Committee, and probably a maximum of around seven.

For those of you able to attend the meeting, we look forward to seeing you.

Best wishes,

Clare Gee, Rik Hammond, Frances Pelly, Christopher Prendergast & Matilda Tumim

Email. info@untitledvisualarts.org.uk

Saturday 31st March . 2 - 3.30pm . Papdale Primary School, Kirkwall (Artists' Studio)

- 2.00pm** **Opportunity for an informal chat and chance to meet other folk - with a cup of tea or coffee**
- 2.30pm** **Formal welcome and background to the aims & objectives of the group**
- 2.40pm** **Practical discussion about the workings of the group including potential for charging membership fees (see Veer North membership details)**
- 2.50pm** **Election of Committee**
- 3.00pm** **Committee to gather details of members, organise their first meeting etc.**
- 3.30pm** **End of gathering**

Discussion points

Aims & objectives

As mentioned in our previous letters, our initial proposal for the group is for it to be a constituted, membership association, run to help organise opportunities for social networking, dialogue and artistic collaboration for visual artists in Orkney.

We are proposing that the following aims and objectives be adopted by the group (at least to start with):

- **Facilitating a supportive and professional network for visual artists in Orkney;**
- **Encouraging dialogue and critical debate within the field of visual arts in Orkney and beyond;**
- **Supporting and promoting experimental, research based, conceptual and collaborative visual arts;**
- **Promoting dialogue between artists, galleries, arts workers, educators and the public;**
- **Raising awareness of what visual artists do and how they contribute to the wider community;**
- **Facilitating projects and events which develop contemporary visual art practice in Orkney;**
- **Encouraging and developing creative opportunities for visual artists within Orkney; *and***
- **Supporting creative opportunities for local visual artists beyond Orkney.**

Committee structure

An Executive Committee responsible for the direction of the group, will require the following roles and responsibilities:

Secretary/Membership
Treasurer
Networker

The Committee could also include the following:

Archivist
Publicity
Events / Exhibitions
Website / ICT

(See enclosed information about Veer North for guidance on the roles and responsibilities listed above)

Other items

Several of the artists present can update the group on the recent HI~Arts meetings concerning regional visual arts development issues and share information about the recent 'Five Challenges' report on the state of the visual arts in the region (written by Georgina Coburn at HI~Arts) and the HI~Arts Visual Arts Gathering in Ullapool in November 2006.



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Directions

Papdale Primary School is located on Willow Road in Kirkwall. As the school will be closed, please approach the studio via the side entrance (on the left side of the school) - near the top of Willowburn Road. The studio is located in a portable cabin, at the back of the school, near the kitchens. If you have problems finding the studio on the day - call Rik Hammond 07880 731 130 for help.