

Information pack for studios applications

Background Information

The Borlase Smart John Wells Trust is a charitable trust and a limited company, and it owns and manages studio buildings in St Ives and Newlyn. These provide a total of 22 studio spaces: 15 in St Ives, and 7 in Newlyn.

The Trust was set up in 1949 to acquire and manage Porthmeor Studios and Cellars. The building has provided studios and exhibition space for artists since the late nineteenth century, including several influential and internationally important figures such as Julius Olsson, Ben Nicholson, Patrick Heron, Terry Frost, Peter Lanyon, Francis Bacon, Wilhelmina Barns Graham and Roger Hilton, and it provides workspace for artists, fishermen and the St Ives School of Painting.

Trewarveneth Studios and Anchor Studio in Newlyn were bequeathed to the Trust following the death of the artist John Wells in 2000. Anchor Studio was built in 1888 as a purpose-built studio for the painter Stanhope Forbes, one of the founder members of the Newlyn School. John Wells purchased it from his widow in 1947, and later bought the neighbouring Trewarveneth Studios.

The Trust aims to provide opportunities for artists at all stages of their careers, and tenants are encouraged to play a full part in its programme. The Porthmeor Artist Residency Programme has hosted residencies for several exciting emerging and established artists over the past three years. It is currently suspended due to the coronavirus epidemic, but we hope to restart it next year.

The Trust staff are:

Chris Hibbert, Manager and Sarah Taylor, Trust Administrator.

Studio Information

The Trust has two studios at Porthmeor (Studios 5 and 9), and Anchor Studio in Newlyn (currently being renovated as a live/work space, but unfortunately not accessible to wheelchair users), which are available for short term tenancies between January and June 2021.

Studio 5: 1st January to 15 May (4.5 months)

Studio 9: 1st January to 28th February (2 months) and 1st April to 30th June (3 months)

Anchor Studio: 1st April to 30th June (3 months)

Images and descriptions of the studios can be seen at

<https://www.bsjwtrust.co.uk/location/porthmeor-studios/>

<https://www.bsjwtrust.co.uk/studios/anchor-studio/>

<https://www.bsjwtrust.co.uk/artists-studios/anchor-overview/anchor-renovation/>

The Trust charges £65.00 + VAT/sq m for its studios, and the table below shows the area of each studio and its monthly rent including VAT. Anchor Studio accommodation includes a bed-sitting room, kitchen and bathroom. Tenants are expected to pay rent by standing order monthly in advance.

Studios are individually metered for electricity and water, and tenants will be invoiced quarterly.

Tenants are responsible for business rates, which are collected by Cornwall Council. The government is offering a small business rates relief scheme, and currently no business rates are payable for qualifying small businesses who have registered.

Studio Rent

Studio	Area Sq.m	Rent/month (incl VAT)	Length of lease
5	84	£ 546.00	4.5 months
9	38	£ 247.00	2 & 3 months
Anchor	86	£ 1059.00	3 months (live/work space)

Selection Policy

Applicants are invited to submit details of their practice as listed in the application requirements shown on page 4. The Trust will also consider applications from artists wishing to share a studio.

A Selection Panel is convened by the Trust comprising members who have considerable relevant experience, and it may invite applicants to attend an interview.

Selection is based on the following criteria:

- ◆ The quality of work.
- ◆ Evidence of the artist's serious approach to their work.
- ◆ Proven commitment to the development of their practice.
- ◆ A commitment to live and work in Cornwall during the tenancy.

Artists occupy space as tenants of the Trust. The lease is excluded from the security of tenure provisions of the Landlord and Tenants Act 1954, and so the tenant will not have a right to a new lease or compensation at the end of the term.

Viewing

No viewing dates have been arranged due to COVID restrictions, but it may be possible to view Anchor Studio. Please contact chris@bsjwtrust.co.uk.

For more information, please contact:

Chris Hibbert
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Porthmeor Studios
Back Road West
St Ives TR26 1NG

07519616973

chris@bsjwtrust.co.uk

Application

Please provide the following information, preferably in a Word document or PDF, with images attached separately as JPEGs:

1. Name
2. Address
3. Email
4. Phone
5. If you have any access requirements ie wheelchair user.
6. Up-to-date CV.
7. Short statement to include information about your work and evidence of your commitment to the arts scene in Cornwall, and demonstrating a genuine need for a professional work space. It is a condition that you reside in Cornwall for the duration of your tenancy and this should be addressed in your statement.
8. Studio preference, and length of tenancy.
9. Two referees.
10. Attach 6 JPEG images (no slides), maximum 1MB per image, with a short description of the work illustrated. This should include medium, size and date.

Please note that images should either be of work completed in the last two years, or work in progress.

The panel will use this information to determine the quality, seriousness and ambition of your work.

Send your applications preferably by email to: admin@bsjwtrust.co.uk

Closing date for applications: 5pm Friday 6th November 2020