

Spike Island

SPIKE ISLAND ARTISTS' STUDIOS

Spike Island is home to over 70 independent artists at different stages of their careers and working across all types of media.

Our professional studios are subsidised, making them accessible to artists who would otherwise find it difficult to afford workspace. We have a combination of individual and shared studios. All our studios are secure, and can be accessed 24/7. As well as a place to work, our studios provide a vibrant creative network – allowing you to forge new collaborations and gain peer support.

As a Spike Island studio holder, you'll also have the chance to make national and international connections with our visiting artists and residents.

FACILITIES

Individual studios range in size from 176 to 833sq ft, with the majority of them between 200 and 400sq ft. Some studios are shared by two or more artists.

Workshop equipment includes:

- General: forklift, compressor, benches and kiln
- Woodwork: table saw, band saw, mitre saw, pillar drill, sanding disc, dust extraction
- Spraying and resin area with fume extraction
- Metalwork: Mig welder, arc welder, pillar drill, pedestal grinder, bending rollers, fume extraction and portable filter box
- The Associates Space offers IT facilities including scanning, printing and computers with word processing, graphics and video editing software (for Spike Island Associates members only).

RENTAL RATES AND LEASE

Studio rates are costed per square foot. The 2025 rate is £7.66 per sq ft, including VAT and all services including heating, internet and use of workshops. This is the annual cost, which equates to £0.62 per square foot per month.

Rent is paid monthly by standing order. A deposit of 2 months' rent must be paid in advance. Rents increase by 3% each year.

The notice period for vacating a studio is two months for both the tenant and the landlord. Studio holders wishing to renew their lease at the end of the initial five-year term will be required to undergo a Studio Review:

<https://www.spikeisland.org.uk/our-community/studio-review-process/>

APPLYING FOR A STUDIO

Spike Island's studios are currently at capacity. Applications are being considered to join a waiting list until a suitable space becomes available.

CRITERIA AND ELIGIBILITY

Spike Island invites applications for studios from artists working in a range of media and at any stage of their careers.

Applicants should be able to demonstrate:

- An ongoing commitment to continued exploration of practice
- A clear vision for the development of their work
- How having a studio at Spike Island will support their practice
- A willingness to make an active contribution to Spike Island and its community

Please note we cannot consider applications from:

- Undergraduate students in full-time education
- Repeat applicants who have not waited 18 months since their last application
- Applicants who are unable to commit to a minimum usage requirement of 37.5 hours a month

SELECTION PROCESS

- Applications are reviewed by the selection panel at quarterly meetings.
- The selection panel is made up of members from Spike Island and two external representatives, including:
 - Director, Spike Island
 - Curator, Spike Island
 - Two studio artists
 - Two external artists, curators or critics
- All applicants will be notified of the date when their application will be reviewed and will receive an outcome within two weeks of the meeting date.

25% RENTAL DISCOUNT BURSARIES

Spike Island offers an optional 25% discount on studio rental costs for artists who are currently underrepresented in our community. New studio applicants who are from the Global Majority; identify as D/deaf, disabled or neurodivergent; or come from disadvantaged socio-economic backgrounds are eligible for a studio discount bursary.

If you think you qualify for a bursary, please let us know when applying and ensure you complete an equal opportunities monitoring form. If you are eligible and a bursary is available, we will ask you to re-confirm your eligibility upon contracting. The discount will then be applied to your rent for the full term of your five-year lease.

SPIKE ISLAND ASSOCIATES

Studio holders can join the Associates programme at a discounted rate of £9 per month (usually £13 per month). More information can be found here: <https://www.spikeisland.org.uk/our-community/spike-island-associates>



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HOW TO APPLY FOR A STUDIO

Please submit a single PDF and include the following information as part of your application.

If you have any access needs, or need to ask any questions before submitting your application, please contact studios@spikeisland.org.uk

- Contact details: name, address, telephone, email, website
- A statement split into the following headings (100 words or less each):
 - A short introduction to your practice.
 - How has your practice evolved over the past five years?
 - What are your plans and aspirations for the future development of your work over the next five years?
 - How will a studio at Spike Island support your practice?
 - How would you contribute to Spike Island and its community?
 - Do you have any specific requirements (e.g. light levels, dimensions, access)?
- If you think you qualify for a 25% rental discount bursary, please include a short statement declaring that you would like to apply for this as part of your application.
- Visual information (the panel is particularly interested to see examples of work made in the last two years.):
 - Up to 12 images, including at least two installation views (jpeg format, 1MB maximum per image)
 - If you are submitting moving image work, the panel will limit its viewing time to seven minutes. Please include links to view moving image works online.
- A full list of images and works submitted, including title, date, dimensions and materials. Please describe images where they are not self-explanatory.
- A current CV
- Please ensure your pdf includes the following statement and signature:

I certify that, to the best of my knowledge, all the information provided in this application is true and correct.

Signed:

Date: