



# Yorkshire Artspace

## Annual Report 2009-2010



Robert Casselton Clark's artwork at Persistence Works, Sheffield

Photo; Mir Jansen



---

## Contents

### Page

2	<i>Introduction</i>
3	<i>Foreword</i>
4	<i>Our Highlights</i>
5	<i>Organisational Development</i>
6	<i>Premises</i>
7	<i>Programme</i>
12	<i>Finances</i>
13	<i>Statement of Financial Activities and Balance Sheet</i>

---

## Introduction

Yorkshire ArtSpace Society was established in Sheffield in 1977 to provide **affordable workspace** for artists and craftspeople. The membership is made up of a wide variety of artists and makers and 68 members have studios at Yorkshire ArtSpace's purpose-built premises, Persistence Works with a further 16 at our temporary Porter Brook Studios.

As well as workspace the Society offers a **professional development** service to visual artists in covering many different aspects of visual arts practice and addressing the needs of artists and makers at various points in their careers.

The **Artist in Residence** Programme, launched in 2005, forms the heart of a wide-ranging programme of activity that encompasses professional development as well as community outreach, education and public events.

**Public access** to the studios and artistic product is enabled through the annual Open Studio event and a dynamic exhibition programme.

The Society is run by a Board of Directors and seven members of staff.



---

## Foreword

Welcome to Yorkshire Artspace's Annual Report for 2009/10, a period that saw great changes in the economic climate for the arts in this country. I am pleased to say that our organisation was well prepared to weather the storm as our long term plans to increase earned income to offset potential funding reductions started to bear fruit this year. Even so, in common with many in the arts and beyond, we had some hard decisions to make.

In July we opened **Porter Brook Studios**, a temporary studio space adjacent to Persistence Works accommodating 16 artists and makers for a minimum of two years and **Manor Oaks Studios**, in partnership with Green Estate, went on site.

At the same time we continued to make **successful funding bids** to support our Professional Development Programme which was re-modeled to extend across all our new studios. Funding secured included £30k from Arts Council England – Yorkshire through the G4A scheme to support the new Starter Studio for Emerging Ceramicists at Manor Oaks, £20k from the Foyle Foundation to equip the studio and launch the programme and £75k from Paul Hamlyn Foundation to establish a three year Starter Studio for Engaged Practice at the planned Knutton Road Studios.

The Thrive! Organisational Development Programme, funded by Arts Council England enabled us to continue to improve our systems and supported the completion of a **Public Benefit Survey**, our first for ten years, looking at the individual activities of the Persistence Works studio holders and producing staggering results. We were also able to launch a new **corporate identity** including print, signage, website and e-newsletter to aid communication both within and outwith our organisation.

And finally, it was a very proud day for me when I was asked to formally 'open' the wonderful new artwork by **Robert Casselton Clark** that now graces the front wall of Persistence Works. Good things are worth waiting for.

**Narendra Bajaria, CBE**  
Chair  
Yorkshire Artspace

## **Our 2009/10 Highlights!**

### **Kate Dore, Director**

2009/10 was memorable to me as a year of forging partnerships. Our new partnership with **Green Estate** resulted in the studios at Manor Oaks receiving funding and going on site. Our partnership with **SOAR** continued to develop space for artists in the north of Sheffield as part of their planned mixed use development. Our partnership with **Sheffield Assay Office** and **Museums:Sheffield** resulted in another Little Gems commission for exhibition at the Millennium Galleries and played a part in the Galvanize festival.

### **Rachael Dodd, Programme Manager**

A significant part of my year was the project which began as a way for us to reach new audiences and resulted in our re-branding and new look **website and e-newsletter**. Our e-newsletter now contains all of our news, opportunities, exhibitions and studio updates and is proving to be a great form of communication with studio holders and the wider public. The vastly increased website visitor figures and extended mailing list for our monthly e-newsletter show how effective this has been. The rest of this year was taken up mainly with fundraising and one of the key successful funding applications was an award of £75k over 3 years from **Paul Hamlyn Foundation** to support residencies and collaborative engagement activity in Parson Cross.

### **Mir Jansen, Programme Manager**

My highlight was the Arts Council funded curatorial trip to the Nordic Countries where curators from across England met with some amazing artists and arts organisations. As a result we were able to get Swedish artist **Albin Karlsson** in residence at Yorkshire Artspace for 4 weeks. And, of course, another big highlight was that we managed to complete the front wall of Persistence Works which now features the work created by **Robert Casselton Clark** during his residency in 2009.

### **Anita Lloyd, Finance Administrator**

The hire of **Project Space** and **Meeting Room** brought a great variety of people into the building as well as much needed earned income. The Charlotte Vincent Dance Company brought a bohemian feel with live music spilling out into the atrium during their 3 months with us in the summer. In the autumn Martin Bedford's exhibition 'Trust' showcasing the posters he created for the Leadmill during the '80s reminded everyone of the cultural quarter's vibrant past. Meanwhile the meeting room was well used on an almost weekly basis for regular training courses.

### **Stuart Wright, Operations Manager**

My highlight was the opening of our second site, Porter Brook Studios. This involved converting ex-office space into usable area for artists at a minimal outlay, advertising the spaces and ultimately filling every studio.



---

## Organisational Development

2009/10 saw the continuation of the Thrive! Organisational Development project. The following activity took place during 2009/10;

- The launch of **Porter Brook Studios**, a temporary studio space opportunity adjacent to Persistence Works accommodating 16 artists and makers
- Continued development of **Manor Oaks Studios** with Green Estate (opened August 2010)
- Continued development of **Knutton Road Studios** with SOAR, due to open Summer 2011.
- Completion of a **Public Benefit Survey** looking at the individual activities of the Persistence Works spaceholders in 2008/09 (available on our website).
- Completion of the new **Business Plan** which encompasses the development of the organisation post-Thrive!
- Continued organisational development in all aspects of **HR**
- Launch of a new **corporate identity** including print, signage, website and e-newsletter

### **Staff and Board**

One member of staff made a successful return to work from maternity leave and a second began a phased return to work following a health-related absence. We were able to bring in temporary staff to support the organisation through these difficult times supported by the Thrive! programme. One vacancy arose on the Board in late 2009 and steps were taken to recruit a new member in line with the Job Description. We held a Board Development event on November 2009 which was both entertaining and informative. Pre-Board meetings continued to take place quarterly with specific areas of discussion.

### **Membership**

The pre-Board meetings offered a forum for constructive discussions around key developments including new website, Business Plan and studio developments.

### **Advocacy**

The Director remained an active Trustee of NFASP, the National Federation of Artists' Studio Providers [www.nfasp.org.uk](http://www.nfasp.org.uk)



---

## Premises

### **Persistence Works**

**Glass Wall** - Robert Casselton Clark's residency in 2008/09 resulted in designs for a vinyl installation for the front wall. Planning permission was granted for the work to be in situ until October 2014. Installation of the work was completed in March 2010 (see front cover).

**Building Maintenance Fund** - a 7 % increase in studio rents continued to contribute to the Building Maintenance Fund supporting confidence in our ability to maintain a high quality building.

### **Porter Brook Studios**

Porter Brook Studios opened in July 2009 offering 16 new studio spaces to artists for a minimum of two years. Part of the AVEC building owned by Sheffield City Council, the short-term lease was negotiated while the larger site awaits redevelopment allowing us to build up a pool of artists that may be interested in relocating to the longer term studio developments. New financial systems enabled existing staff to manage the additional studios with no increase in hours.



Porter Brook Studios from Persistence Works, Sheffield

Photo; Yorkshire Artspace



---

## **Programme**

2009/10 in numbers;

- 5 Commissions
- 2 Residencies
- 10 exhibitions over 215 days with 2,726 visitors
- 12,963 e-newsletters
- 3,887 unique visitors to our website
- 84 studio spaces
- 13 education sessions delivered with 771 participants
- 142 professional development training sessions delivered to 835 artists

### **The Residency Programme**

Our Residency Programme offers selected artists working in a variety of visual arts practices access to space, time and money to research and/or develop new work. The aims of the Programme are to build a regional and national profile for the organisation, to provide a regular influx of artists to be based at Persistence Works for shorter periods – bringing new ideas and dynamism to the creative community - and to work in partnerships with other organisations in Sheffield in order to pool resources and enable more ambitious projects to come to fruition. We ran 2 residencies in 2009/10.

### **Albin Karlssen**

Residency focus: **Applied Art/Design**

This residency was held in conjunction with an Arts Council funded Craft Research project: 'Forming Ideas' which took programme manager Mir Jansen to the 5 Nordic Countries in 2009.

Albin trained as a silversmith in Stockholm but became known for his quirky technological inventions which focus on clocks and time passing. We invited him to spend 4 weeks in Sheffield, with access to the Starter Studio for Silversmiths at Persistence Works where he worked on a new project which used sound to cause movement. He developed the work further once he was back in Sweden and teamed up with a Stockholm based choreographer to create a performance 'Fragemented' which will be taking place in March 2011 during the Display Dance Festival at Moderna Museet, Stockholm. We are in discussion with Albin to bring the performance over to Sheffield for the opening celebration of the new artists' studios at Parson Cross in late Summer 2011.

Albin gave a talk about this work on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2009 for an audience of 25 people. A symposium event around 'Language in Craft' was held at the Birmingham School of Jewellery on 13<sup>th</sup> July, organised by Mir Jansen, Liz Cooper, curator at Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, Deirdre Figueiredo, Director at Craftspace Birmingham in partnership with Arts Projects & Solutions, managers of the Forming Ideas project. 50 makers and curators attended the event.

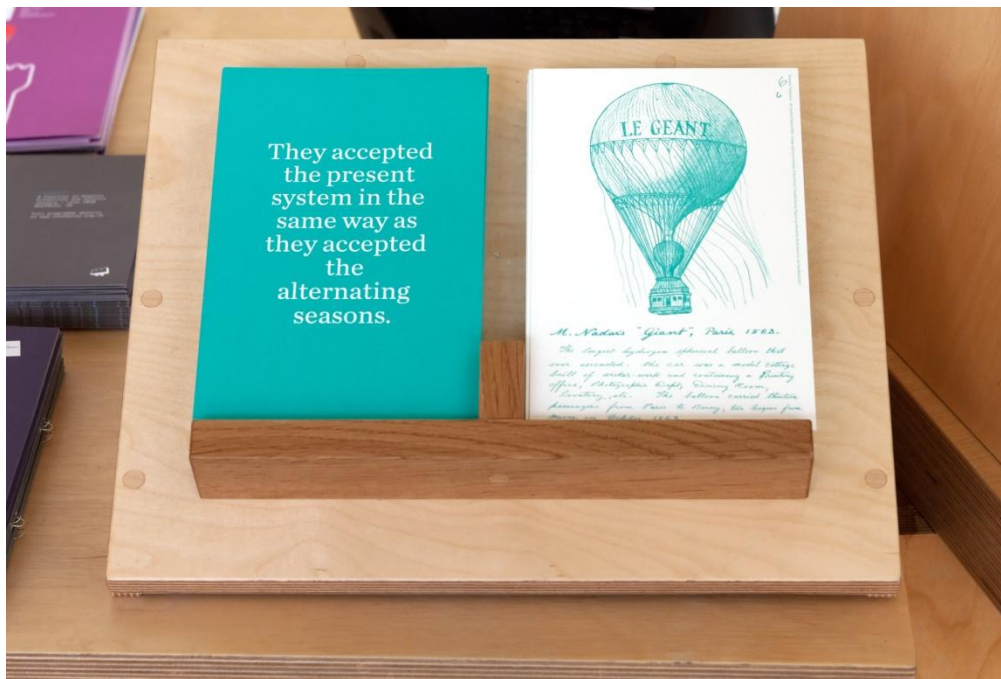


## Ruth Ewan

Residency focus: **Contemporary Visual Art**

In partnership with Sheffield Contemporary Art Forum we selected artist Ruth Ewan for a much shorter research-focused residency in Sheffield and to show new work developed from the residency during Art Sheffield 2010's *Life: A User's Manual*. Art Sheffield 2010 was co-programmed by Dutch curators Annie Fletcher and Frederique Bergholz and took place in various venues across Sheffield City Centre.

Ruth used her residency to undertake research of the Sheffield's Archives where she found a reference to Robert Tressell's world famous novel 'The Ragged Trousered Philanthropist'. Ruth's new work 'Moderately Wrathful' consisted of a series of six different A5 cards with images and text, cross referencing polemic extracts from Tressell's novel. These were on display in all six major venues of Art Sheffield 2010.



'Moderately Wrathful' by Ruth Ewan  
Photo; Mir Jansen

Ruth was in conversation with Tressell expert Marion Wells on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010, at Museums Sheffield. An audience of 25 people attended the event. Over 60,000 people visited the Art Sheffield 2010 event. The Yorkshire Artspace exhibition by artist Rachel Koolen attracted 800 visitors.



### **The Starter Studio Programme for Silversmiths**

Over the last 9 years we have supported 17 ambitious and talented designer silversmiths to kick-start their careers in a fully equipped silversmith workshop at Persistence Works. Andrew Sutherland started in September 2009. Stefan Tooke, Charlotte Tollyfield and Anne Davis will complete their programme in September 2010. They showed new work in the Little Gems 4 exhibitions during Galvanize Sheffield 2009 at the Millennium Gallery. The programme is supported by Sheffield Assay Office and Sheffield Church Burgesses Educational Foundation.



Octagonal Napkin Rings by Charlotte Tollyfield

### **New Programmes**

#### **For Ceramicists at Manor Oaks Studios**

In December 2009 we were awarded £25k from Arts Council England's G4A funding programme to establish a new **Starter Studio Programme for Ceramicists** combined with a residency programme at Manor Oaks Studios from October 2010. In April 2010 we were awarded £20k to kick-start the development of the programme at Manor Oaks Studios by the Foyle Foundation.

#### **For Engaged Practice at Knutton Road Studios**

In December 2009 Paul Hamlyn awarded us £75k for a 3 year programme of year long artist residencies, collaborative projects and community engagement activities involving the artists on the new **Starter Studio Programme for Engaged Practice** at Knutton Road Studios. In the lead up to the new studios opening we are running a neighbourhood engagement project supported by Sheffield City Council with an award of £3k.

#### **1-2-1 Advice Surgeries**

Our experienced staff and Board members offer free monthly surgery sessions to visual artists/makers with advice on funding applications, marketing strategies, portfolio and career development, general business health checks and on matters relating to working in the education and outreach sector. A total of 38 artists were supported this year.



### **Exhibitions and Events**

The exhibition programme at Persistence Works is overseen by a voluntary Curatorial Committee. The programme of exhibitions showcases work by emerging and established visual artists and makers based at Yorkshire Artspace and beyond. Six exhibitions took place in 2009/10, representing around 13 artists with 2,726 visitors in total.

***Reworking***- Emerging artists and curatorial collective grown out of Goldsmiths, London.

***On Nature*** - Work by an established ceramist Hanne Westergaard around themes of nature.



***White*** - Collaboration between printmaker Neil Woodall and ceramicist Penny Withers.

'White' exhibition at Persistence Works  
Image; Viv Mager

***Rosemary Watson*** - Drawings, paintings and books around the theme of memory.

***Exit 4***: Sarah Stevenson & Christina Spencer - Work by two young silversmiths coming to the end of their time on Persistence Works' starter programme, part of the Galvanize Sheffield Festival.

### **Space hire**

The Project Space was extensively used in 2009/10 and included:

- 'The City Gates' Sheffield Hallam University Fine Art Degree show
- 'A Show of Hands' Sheffield City Council's Children's Festival Exhibition
- Vincent Dance Theatre for rehearsal space
- Nordic Residency Exhibition
- 'Hybrid' Group Exhibition
- Sheffield Hallam University – course exhibitions
- 'Trust' - Martin Bedford's Leadmill Poster Exhibition

### **Open Studios**

Yorkshire Artspace artists opened their doors to the public for two Open Studios events in 2009/10. The first was as part of 'Open Up Sheffield and South Yorkshire' in April 2009 attracting 385 visitors. Our own Open Studio event took place on the evening of Friday 20 November and Saturday 21 November daytime, when we once again supplemented the open studios with events and activities in Persistence Works' Atrium. The November event also encompassed Porter Brook Studios, so took place across two sites for the first time and attracted a total of 873 visitors.



Ceramics workshop with Sarah Villeneuve at Persistence Works Open Studios  
Image; Dan Sumption

### **Website and e-newsletter**

Our new website and e-newsletter were launched to enhance our profile and improve communication. In July 2009 the e-newsletter was sent to 588 individuals per month, the mailing list is now 1,224. We also had a total of 3,887 unique visitors to the website since we began recording stats, starting at 190 in November 2009 rising to 1,032 in March 2010. The average time spent viewing the site is 3 minutes.



---

## Finances

Below in table form is a summary of the Management Accounts for the year of the report. These are based purely on income and expenditure (excluding any building depreciation) to aid understanding of our day to day finances. These accounts look at the separate areas of our activity – Premises, Programme, Organisation and the Thrive Organisational Development Programme. This enables us to see how each of these areas is meeting its costs.

	<b>Receipts(£k)</b>	<b>Payments(£k)</b>	<b>Difference(£k)</b>
Premises	£147	£141	£6
Programme	£80	£80	£-
Organisation	£29	£29	£-
Thrive	£49	£49	£-
<b>Total</b>	<b>£305</b>	<b>£299</b>	<b>£6</b>

### **Stuart Wright, Operations Manager**

*The following summary of financial statements on pages 13 - 14 has been extracted from the statutory report and financial statements of Yorkshire ArtSpace Society Limited, which were approved by the Board and signed on its behalf by Narendra Bajarria. The full financial statements were given an unqualified audit report by the company's auditors Messrs. Allotts, Chartered Accountants. The full financial statements have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission. These summarised accounts are not statutory accounts and may not contain sufficient information to allow for full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information the full annual accounts, the auditors' report and the directors' report should be consulted: copies of these can be obtained from the company's office.*



**Yorkshire ArtSpace Society Limited**

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**For The Year Ended 31 March 2010**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2010 Total funds £	2009 Total Funds £
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>					
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>					
Investment income	2	8	-	8	468
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities</b>					
Support and promotion of arts and crafts	3	148,454	161,283	309,737	323,794
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>148,462</u>	<u>161,283</u>	<u>309,745</u>	<u>324,262</u>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>					
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
Support and promotion of arts and crafts	4	143,957	267,877	411,834	410,342
<b>Governance costs</b>	5	<u>1,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>2,620</u>
<b>Total resources expended</b>		<u>145,857</u>	<u>267,877</u>	<u>413,734</u>	<u>412,962</u>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES</b>					
		2,605	(106,594)	(103,989)	(88,700)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		<u>(21,520)</u>	<u>4,403,932</u>	<u>4,382,412</u>	<u>4,471,112</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>(18,915)</u></u>	<u><u>4,297,338</u></u>	<u><u>4,278,423</u></u>	<u><u>4,382,412</u></u>



**Yorkshire ArtSpace Society Limited**

**Balance Sheet**  
**At 31 March 2010**

	Note	2010 £	2009 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible assets	9	4,303,222	4,411,287
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year		16,591	20,103
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>91,935</u>	<u>63,274</u>
		108,526	83,377
<b>CREDITORS</b>			
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(133,325)	(112,252)
<b>NET CURRENT (LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>(24,799)</u>	<u>(28,875)</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>4,278,423</u>	<u>4,382,412</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>4,278,423</u>	<u>4,382,412</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>			
Unrestricted funds	14	(18,915)	(21,520)
Restricted funds		<u>4,297,338</u>	<u>4,403,932</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>		4,278,423	4,382,412



---

Yorkshire Artspace Society Limited  
Persistence Works, 21 Brown Street, Sheffield, S1 2BS

**0114 276 1769** ( tel and fax ) **info@artspace.org.uk** (e-mail) **ww.artspace.org.uk**  
Registered Charity No. 1049370 Company Registration No. 303 4923 VAT No. 737719009