

Press Release

New Creative Markets Programme Announced

SPACE is pleased to announce the start of the **New Creative Markets Programme**. This initiative is offered in partnership with **Craft Central**, **Four Corners** and **Photofusion** with the goal to assist London-based small creative companies/freelancers in the digital image, design, designer making and visual arts sectors grow their businesses.

The £1m project is co-funded by the **European Regional Development Fund** and will run from October 2012 to November 2014. The New Creative Markets programme will provide tailored sector-specific professional development to 200 creative businesses by offering one-to-one support, workshops, talks and advice from industry experts.

Interested practitioners in the digital image, design, designer making and visual arts sectors are now invited to apply through the SPACE website.

For further information, visit

<http://www.spacestudios.org.uk/whats-on/events-projects/new-creative-markets>

Or contact:

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Notes to Editors:

About SPACE – Founded in 1968 by the artists Bridget Riley and Peter Townsend, SPACE is an arts and education charity that supports artists throughout their careers. Primarily this is achieved through the provision of affordable studios for over 700 artists and other creative, across 18 sites in 8 London boroughs. Alongside is an extensive programme of exhibitions, artists residencies, talks, screenings, performances, professional training, workshops, school and community engagement. Much of SPACE's focus is on supporting emerging practice. Via its MediaLab and now the White Building it has a leading role engaging artists with emerging technologies. SPACE is the lead partner in the New Creative Markets Programmes. www.spacestudios.org.uk



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About Craft Central

Craft Central is a charity that supports and nurtures craftspeople and designer-makers and seeks to raise the profile of craft across a wide audience. Craft Central does this through tailored business training, flexible studio provision, affordable exhibition facilities and an exciting events programme that offers designer-makers the opportunity to meet the public. Craft Central events attract over 6,000 visitors annually.

Craft Central is excited to be working with the three partners on this ERDF project. The programme will bring added benefits to craftspeople through the networking opportunities and specialist training available and enable them to increase sales and develop their businesses further.

About Four Corners

Four Corners is London's centre for film and photography. At the cutting edge of independent filmmaking, training and photography for nearly 40 years, Four Corners is renowned for nurturing the careers of new filmmakers and artists in a creative environment where beginners and award-winning artists work side by side. It provides specialist training, professional development and exhibition opportunities, with access to high-end filmmaking facilities and some of London's best professional darkrooms.

About Photofusion

Photofusion has metamorphosed from a small collective of documentary photographers to becoming South London's largest non-profit photography resource centre, moving from Wandsworth to the vibrant heart of Brixton in 1991. As an NPO of Arts Council England, Photofusion provides a diverse range of photographic services, facilities and vital training to artists working with lens-based imagery including analogue, digital and moving image. The centre houses a contemporary gallery, analogue darkrooms, digital bureau, exhibition production suite, professional photographic studio, film processing service, moving image editing suite, picture library/agency and an active membership scheme. Photofusion also delivers a range of crucial outreach projects, working with socially and culturally marginalised young people, offering photographer-led creative programmes and skills-based accredited courses.

About the European Regional Development Fund

The New Creative Markets project is part-financed by the European Regional Development Fund Programme 2007 to 2013. The Department for Communities and Local Government is the managing authority for the European Regional Development Fund Programme, which is one of the funds established by the European Commission to help local areas stimulate their economic development by investing in projects which will support local businesses and create jobs. For more information visit

www.communities.gov.uk/erdf



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