

capitalise

on the arts in the East Midlands.



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Centre for Contemporary Art Nottingham (CCAN)

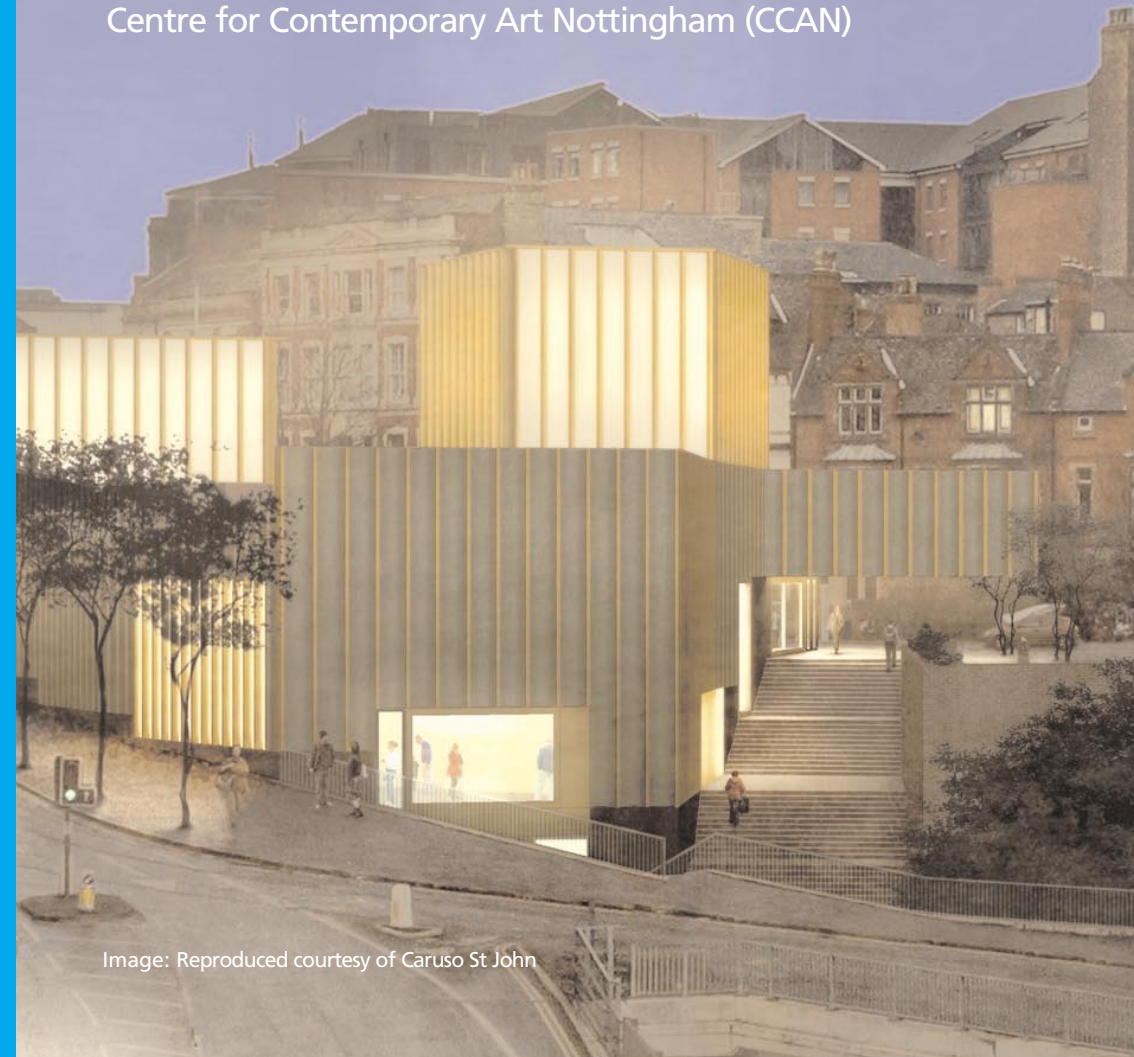


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Alex Farquharson

Centre for Contemporary Art Nottingham (CCAN)

Before coming to the East Midlands Alex Farquharson has enjoyed a varied career and built a strong reputation as a freelance curator, writer and lecturer, mainly working in the contemporary art field. This finds him perfectly placed as the Director of CCAN which opens its doors for the first time in October 2008.

Enticed as child into the world of the arts, Alex says: 'At about the age of six or seven, I saw photographs of mad King Ludwig II's outrageous castles in Bavaria in a biography by Wilfred Blunt on my parents' bookshelves. I think I sensed, even at this young age that there was something pretty queer going on and this was the beginning of my lifelong passion with the arts.'

CCAN will offer the region a major contemporary art space of international standing. Alex explains: 'Designed by architect Caruso St John, a truly outstanding British practice, CCAN's activities will play a crucial role in developing a dynamic and

progressive public sphere in Nottingham, with all the various social, economic and environmental benefits that go with that.

'My biggest challenge will be embedding CCAN into local communities so that they think of it as their cultural and social home. The centre also needs to offer exceptional artwork which will entice people onto trains and planes to check it out, as well as bringing new audiences into the centre.'

For Alex, the most exciting thing about CCAN is the opportunity to forge a new kind of arts centre for the production, presentation and discussion of ambitious art and ideas.

Alex explains: 'Contemporary art, I believe, is the most multidisciplinary of fields. It's a field that potentially encompasses all other fields. This aspect is something we'll pursue with our education projects which we hope audiences of different backgrounds and ages will take part in.'

'Together with local audiences,
I hope that CCAN will become an essential
port-of-call for national and international visitors
committed to the exploration of art and ideas.'

Alex Farquharson, Director of CCAN



Photographer: Alan Fletcher

Partners and funding

Arts Council England	£ 5,080,000
East Midlands Development Agency (emda)	£ 2,000,000
European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)	£ 3,000,000
Nottingham City Council	£ 1,000,000
Private donations	£ 1,500,000
Local transport plan	£ 250,000
NCC/ERDF	£ 100,000
Total investment	£12,930,000

