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# The Art House

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WAKEFIELD



‘We are delighted to have a community of artists – both disabled and non-disabled – working side by side. The accessible accommodation provided within the building means that artists from across the UK and the world can use this unique facility.’

**LIZ WHITEHOUSE, DIRECTOR**

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**Where:** In the middle of Wakefield, just near Wakefield Westgate railway station.

**What:** A new and fully accessible centre providing workspace and accommodation for visual artists.

**When:** July 2008

**How much:** Arts Council England is the project’s largest funding partner, investing £1.4 million of lottery funds towards the total cost of £3 million.

**Who with:** The other key funding partners are Yorkshire Forward, Wakefield Metropolitan District Council and the European Regional Development Fund.

**Designed by:** Allen Tod Architecture



**LOTTERY FUNDED**

[www.the-arthouse.org.uk](http://www.the-arthouse.org.uk)

The Art House is the first of its kind in England. An innovative and fully accessible centre for visual artists, it has studios and accommodation for artists from the UK and abroad, as well as providing arts facilities for the wider community. The £3 million building is the realisation of a 14-year vision and aims to be exemplary in its access for disabled visitors and artists with its combination of spacious studios and support from technicians.

But more than just space and facilities, The Art House is also a national membership organisation and a support network for artists. This means providing a wide range of accessible opportunities for artists to make, show and sell work: residencies and bursaries, commissions, exhibitions and participatory projects, networking events and training seminars.

And this support is based on the needs and aspirations of its members, whether they're just starting out on their careers or well established.

The Art House has a catalogue of major projects, including its residency project Space for 10, working with high-profile galleries such as Kettles Yard, Arnolfini and Spike Island, and Northern Gallery for Contemporary Arts. Now with its own base, The Art House intends to develop and host a full programme of residencies.

Together with The Hepworth and the nearby Yorkshire Sculpture Park, The Art House is also a significant part of Wakefield's wider cultural regeneration and emergence as a centre of excellence for visual arts.

#### Front Page

Left: Visiting artist Farrah Mahmood Rana. Photo courtesy of The Art House

Right: Abu Jafar's studio. Photo: Jeremy Phillips

#### This Page

Top left: Exhibition opening. Photo courtesy of The Art House

Top right: The Art House.

Photo: Jeremy Phillips

Bottom: The Art House workspace.

Photo: Jeremy Phillips

#### Back Page

The Art House front entrance.

Photo: Jeremy Phillips





**the art house**