

NINE TRADES OF DUNDEE

The 'Nine Trades of Dundee' project gets underway this month with a website launch, three projects starting and a special call for artists.



The project will commission nine UK/EIRE artists with second non-art trades to lead collaborative art projects with workers from that particular trade in workplaces across Dundee from July 2009 – July 2010.

Three artists, all of whom have strong links to the city, have already completed the proposal stage and are about to start their projects. One of these is Alan Grieve, a hairdresser for 25 years who graduated in 2008 from MFA at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. He will be working with staff and customers of Nori Hairdressing Salon, Dundee. Grieve will work a day a week in the city centre salon as a part-time hairdresser. He will have a 'comment of the week' wall in the salon where he can start a dialogue with colleagues and clients alike, offering a weekly insight into his thoughts in the form of one or more drawings and illustrated texts. From this exchange he will create a magazine with his colleagues that can be distributed through salons throughout Dundee.

We are now advertising this month for a further 6 artists across the UK and EIRE to register their note of interest with us. The criteria is that the artists should have second non-art trades they support their practice with; have ideas how their practice would link to their particular trade; and be available to take up the commission at a workplace in Dundee in late 2009. We have advertised this opportunity through several online publications and artists information services in England, Wales and Ireland as well as in Scotland. Artists can learn about the opportunity on www.ninetrades.com and the deadline for applications is the 24th August. A panel will select 6 artists to develop their proposal further with a £500 development fee and curatorial assistance.

The commissions will be developed to fit the individual artists practice and the working environment and the artist will receive curatorial and peer support as part of the larger 'Nine Trades of Dundee' project. For each of the nine projects there will be an artists fee awarded as well as a separate production budget. The project team are aiming for this to be a significant opportunity for the artists and will make professional development and project management support available to enable ambitious and sensitive projects to be achieved.

The project 'Nine Trades of Dundee' received substantial funding from the Scottish Arts Council's Inspire Fund established to promote 'more, better and wider' participation in the arts. 'Nine Trades of Dundee' aims to increase arts access and encourage more participation for non-arts audiences in Dundee by bringing art activity and creativity to the heart of the workplace. A shared trade with its language, skills base, and working experience is the common factor that brings artist and group together overcoming that initial barrier of what art is and preconceptions of who can be an 'artist'. The project then develops through engagement and experimentation with the artistic process to create a significant, inspiring and ambitious exchange and collaboration for both parties. The output of each may be a jointly produced artwork; a shared strategy for the workplace; an artwork multiple distributed through wider trade; or a permanent intervention in the work environment.

The project is inspired by 'The Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee'. This organisation, operating since the 1800s, represents nine trade groups in the city including the Bakers, Hammermen, Dyers and Weavers. Originally involved in the commerce and standards of the

city it now functions as a charity and is involved in the preservation of heritage.

This project has been devised by Exhibitions Department at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design. For more information, images or to interview the artists please contact Jenny Brownrigg or Laura Simpson: 01382 385330 ninetrades@dundee.ac.uk

<http://www.ninetrades.com/newsandevents/callforartists.htm>

Notes to Editors:

1. Nine Trades of Dundee is a project devised by Exhibitions Department, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, University of Dundee, and funded by The National Lottery through the Scottish Arts Council's Inspire Fund.
2. The outputs of the 'Nine Trades of Dundee' will include nine core collaborative commissions; two 'scrivener' commissions, visually documenting the collaborative commissions; two essay commissions; a 'Nine Trades Final Gathering' event bringing together the artists, participants and wider audience; two 'open door' tours to see the work in situ; nine 'Nine Trades Apprenticeships' for Duncan of Jordanstone students; one 'Nine Trades' workshop for a Dundee school; an Edinburgh International Festival musical performance co-presented with The Space of 'Experimentum Mundi', an Italian orchestra of artisans; and a linked Creative Learning Resource to accompany the 'Nine Incorporated Trades of Dundee' display at McManus Galleries.

3. OPEN CALL TEXT:

Open Call to Artists with Non - Art Jobs

We are looking for 6 contemporary visual artists to develop project proposals for Nine Trades of Dundee. The criteria is as follows: The artist must be a practicing contemporary artist and must currently also work in another non - arts related trade or industry to economically sustain their practice.

Nine Trades of Dundee is a project aiming to bring trade and art together. In total we will commission 9 contemporary artists with second non- arts trades to lead collaborative art projects with workers employed in that particular trade, to take place in the city of Dundee, Scotland in 2009/2010.

Three artists have already finished the proposal development period and we are now looking for 6 more projects to develop (these would happen between December 2009 and July 2010).

To apply please register a note of interest on the form provided. A panel will then select 6 artists to develop their proposal further with a £500 development fee and curatorial assistance.

To register your note of interest please submit the following: Artist statement, Up to 5 images, or dvd Current cv Short Application Form (please download from <http://www.ninetrades.com/newsandevents/callforartists.htm>)

Exhibitions Department, Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art and Design, 13 Perth Rd, Dundee, DD1 4HT.

For further information please www.ninetrades.com or phone Jenny or Laura on: 01382 385330 email: ninetrades@dundee.ac.uk

Deadline: 5pm, Mon 24 August 2009

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