

# EAST ST ARTS

## **Brief Background Information**

East Street Arts is a pioneering visual arts organisation. Established in 1993 in Leeds, it supports artists, collectives and arts organisations through: a diverse programme of public activities; working with and in communities; professional support and learning sessions; studio and facility developments and a Temporary Space Programme.

East Street Arts has cultivated strong relationships with artists and arts organisations across Europe. These allow for cultural exchange and showcase diverse talent to an international audience.

Its base, Leeds, is home to a growing and vibrant visual art scene and East Street Arts is a key player, leading on aspects of infrastructure development, support for artists and relationship building with specific communities.

Initially East Street Arts occupied space in a former textile mill in the East of the city centre. The organisation moved into its bespoke flagship venue, Patrick Studios, in 2004, which continues to be its headquarters and is owned by the charity. Since then the organisation has opened new spaces including: Union 105 in Chapeltown; Barkston Studios in Holbeck; Artist House 45 in Beeston; the Art Hostel and Vicar Lane in Leeds City Centre.

East Street Arts:

- Is a charity with an active Board of Trustees
- Has a clear staffing structure including 25 members of staff and supports a range of freelancers
- Is core funded by Arts Council England and Leeds City Council
- Has a good ratio of earned and grant income
- Operates various buildings that include: owned, rented and leased on a temporary basis
- Works across the UK and several European countries.