

Assembly Newcastle: Tuesday 13 & Wednesday 14 June 2017

For Assembly Newcastle, the fourth of the a-n Assembly events taking place across the UK during May and June this year, a-n has devised a programme of events with Newcastle-based artist Catherine Bertola.

In 2018 Newcastle and Gateshead will host the Great Exhibition of the North, set to be a celebration of the best art, culture and design in the North of England.

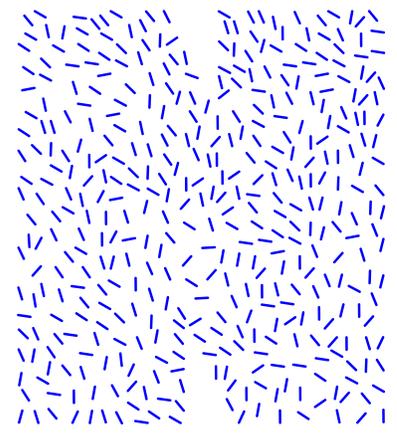
Newcastle is widely promoted as a leading cultural destination, but what relationship and impact do such mainstream public

events - and the institutions behind them - have on the artists who live and work in the city?

Join us for a series of events that examine how artists, their activity and communities help to shape the identity of a city, and how the 'cultural value' artists bring can be better articulated to create stable and sustainable infrastructures for artists in the future. Complemented by a-n professional development sessions, there will be plenty of opportunities for networking and discussions with other artists and the a-n team.

a-n.co.uk/assembly

Tuesday 13 June



Negotiating with confidence

10am - 5.30pm | Vane, First Floor, Commercial Union House, 39 Pilgrim Street, NE1 6QE | Tickets £10 / £7.50 for a-n members. Lunch is provided within the ticket price | **Booking is required**

“I’m not happy with the offer but I don’t want to lose out on an exhibition”

“I want the commission but I’m not happy with paying all of the costs”

Familiar story?

Part of a-n’s ongoing practical support for artists, this workshop has been designed in response to our **Paying Artists** campaign which identified lack of confidence and training in negotiation as a barrier to artists achieving fair payment. This workshop will help equip participants with the communication skills to empower them to advocate for their work and value.

Delivered by **Rivca Rubin** — whose areas of expertise are in communication and leadership development, conflict resolution and change management, and creative thinking and future visioning, this workshop will help you to create clarity around motivations, expectations and outcomes and discuss how to create the right conditions to communicate. You will also explore the role of positive language and action, how to tactfully challenge those you disagree with, and how you can find common ground — knowing when to compromise and find a mutually agreeable conclusion.

Participants will also receive copies of the recently launched Exhibition Payment Guidance and the Artist-Led Manifesto which was launched alongside the guidance to take into consideration the different economies artist-led activities operate in.

Artists, spaces and places

6 - 9pm | Cobalt Studios, 10 - 16 Boyd Street, NE2 1AP | **FREE event but booking is required**

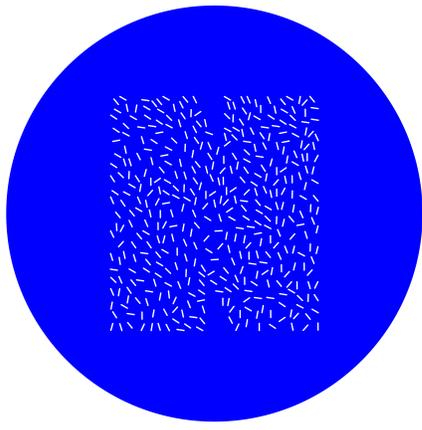
Join us for an evening of conversation, food and drink, served up in **Cobalt Studio’s** new event space. Located in the Ouseburn, where for decades the areas post industrial buildings have been used as creative workspaces, the familiar pattern of regeneration has seen a surge of new developments that are pushing and pricing artists out of the area.

Through presentations and discussion, we will unpack issues around how artists can better articulate their economic and cultural value, and examine the relationship artists have with the places and communities they inhabit.

The session will begin with presentations from artist **Maurice Carlin**, Clore Visual Artist Fellow (2016/17) supported by a-n, and director of **Islington Mill**, whose practice deals with artistic structures and processes; **Kerry Morrison** environment artist and director of In-Situ a not-for-profit artist led organisation embedded in Pendle, East Lancashire; and **Robert Hollands**, a Professor of Sociology at Newcastle University, whose latest research project is studying the role alternative artists groups can play in transforming cities.

Finishing with a discussion chaired by **Dr Emma Coffield**, whose own research looks at the relationship between artists and place, there will also be the chance to chat more informally over food and drink as well as join a guided tour of Cobalt Studios to find out about future plans.

Book tickets online: a-n.co.uk/assembly



Wednesday 14 June

Ask a-n — advice and guidance surgery

2 - 4pm | Ampersand Inventions, Fourth Floor, Commercial Union House, 39 Pilgrim Street, NE1 6QE | FREE event but booking is required

This fast-paced session will help you gain information and tips from artists and experts. Meet and network to find out about a range of strategies to support artists' livelihoods.

Topics include a-n's Paying Artists campaign, fundraising, and social media, alongside Q&A's with Mike McCormack from a-n's insurance partner Hencilla Canworth and artist Maurice Carlin who will be on hand to talk about the Clore Visual Artist Fellowship supported by a-n.

Come and meet the team and tap into a-n's 35 plus years of knowledge and experience, and chat to some of our expert advisors over a cup of tea and cake.

There will also be the opportunity to join tours of the current exhibitions at [Vane](#).

a-n is the largest artists' membership organisation in the UK with over 21,000 members. It supports artists and those who work with them in many practical ways, acting on behalf of its membership and the visual arts sector to improve artists' livelihoods. a-n has a reputation for providing compelling insights and playing a catalytic role in influencing and informing cultural policy.

Here and now

6 - 9pm The NewBridge Project, 1st Floor, Carliol House, New Market Street, NE1 6NE | FREE event but booking is required

Organised in partnership with [The NewBridge Project Practice Makes Practice](#) programme, this event draws together some of the emerging artist-led groups and projects working in the North East today. Introducing who they are and what they do, the event will create a snapshot of this often-fleeting activity and reflect on how these groups shape the cultural identity of the region.

Framing these presentations will be an introduction by Charlotte Gregory, Director of The NewBridge Project, who will talk about how the project, which has been running for seven years, retains an artist-led focus as it continues to expand and develop its programme and activity; and [Kevin Hunt](#), artist and a former director of The Royal Standard, Liverpool who will talk about the ARTIST-LED HOT 100 (version ii), a new publication for a-n that draws together some of the most exciting emerging artist groups, curatorial projects, content publishers and independent exhibiting spaces operating in the UK right now.

Join us afterwards for food and drinks, and to continue discussing the issues that have emerged during the two days of a-n Assembly.

Note: Accessibility — NewBridge Studios has limited accessibility, this event will take place in the Co-Work space on the first floor of NewBridge Studios. We regret, due to the age of our building and its change of use we do not have a functioning lift. Please contact us prior to visiting if you require additional information regarding access and facilities.

Book tickets online: a-n.co.uk/assembly