

Immediate Territory

IMMEDIATE TERRITORY is the first exhibition organised at Magdalen Road Studios which is not only themed but also curated, reaching beyond Oxford for participating artists. The goal of the exhibition is to showcase works that take the perception of the multi-faceted, often disparate realities of the city as their subject matter, either directly or metaphorically. We hope that the resulting art event will be a complex and contradictory, therefore surprising and intellectually challenging reflection of the city.

The visual arts are, unsurprisingly, on the periphery in the city of academia and romantic longing. In an attempt to divert the gaze of the city from abstract or distant territories of inquiry onto itself, onto its own complex layers of socio-political reality, we seek the participation of artists who will explore this city with a fresh and innovative eye, and investigate its many physical, visible, established as well as psychological, invisible and unmentionable boundaries. We are looking for artists whose work either directly engages its immediate environment (site-specific and/or audience specific art works) or reflects upon any aspect of living and working in Oxford.

The specific location of the Studios on Magdalen Road is an ideal place to stage such an exhibition. Different realities merge in this street, affordable rent bringing together enterprising locals, immigrants, students, artists, a theatre and 3 pubs, a recently folded flower shop, a bicycle repairs shop, a Buddhist temple, a church, and several fascinating small businesses like Sylvester's hardware store, a piano tuner, a taxi cab company, just to name a few.

The artist community of the Studios, the 25 artists working in its buildings and the numerous artists who has some kind of past or present connection to it, will be the creative core of the event, together with artists from in and outside of Oxford. We plan to showcase a wide range of works that are innovative models for production and display of contemporary art.

Our buildings and their immediate surroundings will provide the location for non-site-specific work, and we hope to engage a large number of people and businesses and mitigate the potential use of their space for the one day event of Immediate Territory.

We are seeking project proposals in all media, including poetry, performance, dance, music/sound art, video, installation, sculpture, drawing and painting.

Final deadline for receiving applications is 15 June 2011. Please email a CV, a project proposal (single A4 sheet maximum) and visual support material for your project (documentation of past projects - no more than 5 photographs; and/or sketches or plans - no more than 5 images) to katalin@magdalenroadstudios.com . We only accept applications in an electronic format.

Please check our website http://www.magdalenroadstudios.com/immediate_territory.php for upcoming details!