

TE TUHI ARTIST STUDIO POLICY

Te Tuhi is one of New Zealand's foremost contemporary art organisations, known for commissioning ambitious new works by diverse artists. Te Tuhi is renowned for supporting curatorial research, resulting in exhibitions that are locally engaged, regionally responsive and internationally ambitious with a strong awareness of social, political and environmental issues. Te Tuhi also leads the field in delivering a strong programme of community engagement through its public programme.

Te Tuhi provides studios to visual artists who support its values and ways of working. As a supportive, not-for-profit organisation, Te Tuhi plans to keep studio rents as low as possible. This will require occasional fundraising efforts.

Te Tuhi's studio project will provide an environment in which artists can develop their practices and expand their networks. It is intended that the studios will contribute to a vibrant arts and cultural community in Auckland, combining principles of collaboration, experimentation and inclusiveness, and engaging with the wider arts sector and the general public through public programmes including open studios, exhibitions and events.

Artist Criteria

To secure and maintain a Te Tuhi Artist Studio, artists need to demonstrate how they will contribute to the aims and intentions of the studio project.

Te Tuhi is looking for a mix of artists at different stages of their careers and with a variety of visual arts practices.

Studios are prioritised for visual artists who are:

- Committed to critically engaged contemporary visual art practice.
- Either have, or are seeking to build, a career as a professional artist.
- Exhibiting or engaging in opportunities (exhibitions, projects, residencies) locally, nationally and/or internationally.
- Committed to regular on-going use of their studio.
- Committed to constructively participate in Te Tuhi's artistic and education programmes.

Artists who are offered studio space will be asked to provide a brief biography about themselves as an artist and submit some images of their work for the Te Tuhi website.

As a key part of raising the visibility of the studio project and supporting Te Tuhi's fundraising for the project, the studios will be open to visitors up to 4 days each year. Artists will be expected to participate in the open studios and engage with visitors on these days.

Artists will also be expected to participate in Te Tuhi's artistic and/or education programmes and may be invited to contribute to the public programmes in the test/gallery space. Contributions could take the form of presentations, talks or workshops, exhibitions, events or performances, and could be for a specific or general audience.

Artists will be offered shared studios at Te Tuhi's discretion, and Te Tuhi will make every effort to match studios to artists' practices appropriately.

Tenancy duration

The standard studio licence is for 1 year, though longer and shorter tenancies may occasionally be agreed. Studio tenants are subject to annual review meetings with Te Tuhi staff, and licences will be renewed only if artists are able to demonstrate their usage of the studio, their commitment to the organisation and with their alignment with Te Tuhi's core values and objectives.

Licence termination

If an artist wishes to leave their studio before the end of their licence term, they are required to give one month's notice.

If the building becomes unfit for purpose, or if an artist does not adhere to the studio policy and the values and aims of the organisation, the licence will be terminated with one month's notice.

Subletting

Studios may not be sublet without written consent from Te Tuhi.

Studio use

Te Tuhi requires the artist to make regular use of the studio. Under-utilisation of space would be sufficient grounds for Te Tuhi to terminate the tenancy.

Dangerous Goods

No dangerous goods can be used or stored onsite, both inside and outside the building.

Studio culture

The studios aim to develop a culture of mutual respect, generosity, reciprocity and sharing of expertise, underpinned by clear, open communication between tenants, staff and visitors to the space.

Studio meetings

Te Tuhi staff will provide 1 to 2 formal review meetings per year to artists licensing studios. This is an opportunity for critical feedback, professional development and mentoring. One meeting will also include a review of how the studio is being used and (if relevant) discussion of licence renewal.

Disputes

Tenants will respect other users of the facilities and the site. However, if clashes or concerns occur, these should be brought to the attention of Te Tuhi staff at the earliest opportunity. If concerns are in regards to Te Tuhi staff, they should be raised with Te Tuhi's Executive Director. Te Tuhi undertakes to listen and treat all tenants fairly.