

artsource

MEDIA RELEASE, 25 October 2012

Artsource unveils a spectacular month of Open Studios featuring over 60 visual artists



A rare glimpse inside artist Kimberley Pace's studio at 'The Ward', Leederville. Photo: Eva Fernandez

Artsource will grant the public a backstage pass when it hosts a series of Open Studios events across three of its major studio venues in November.

A vibrant mix of more than 60 emerging and established Western Australian artists will invite punters insider their creative habitats to absorb, peruse, and share their artistic secrets.

The series of events will kick off at Artsource **Fremantle** to coincide with the *Fremantle Festival* on Sunday 4 November, followed by Artsource **Midland** Studios Open Day on Sunday 11 November; and wrapping up at Artsource's newest complex, 'The Ward' in **Leederville** on Sunday 25 November. Studios will open from 2-5pm and entry is free.

Each Open Studio event will feature a diverse mix of artists including painters, illustrators, sculptors, printmakers, ceramicists, photographers, video producers, textile artists and more.

"Coming to an Open Studios event is a great way to get the inside story on some of WA's most celebrated artists. Whether you're already an enthusiastic supporter of the arts, or if you've never been to an arts event before, this will be an enlightening experience for all", explains Gavin Buckley, Artsource CEO.

“Within the Artsource studios and beyond the usual realm of public access, there is an impressive range of the highest calibre artwork; at all different stages of the creative process.”

In addition to the bevy of artist tenants, each Artsource studio building itself reveals a unique history. Artsource Fremantle Studios are housed at Old Customs House - a heritage-listed property in Fremantle's maritime precinct. The building has been home to the Artsource head office and artist studios for over 25 years.

The Artsource Midland Studio building holds a labyrinth of workspaces inside an early 1900s boarding house. At street level, is the Artist-Run-Initiative *FRONT* studio gallery, driven by local artist Julie Hein. Midland Studio artists will show a collective exhibition at the Open Studios event at *FRONT* gallery. This exhibition will run until 25 November.

The final Open Studios event at ‘The Ward’ in Leederville may well be the public’s final opportunity to meander through the 21 artistic spaces of this former maternity hospital turned inner city creative hub. The City of Vincent granted Artsource a short term lease on the vacant property in February this year, with a view to repurpose the space as artist studios before its planned redevelopment in early 2013.

Collectively, the stable of creative workspaces managed by Artsource make up 80 private studios. Artsource’s additional studio locations include East Perth, Kelmscott, Belmont, Churchlands and Two Rocks.

Artsource is committed to providing affordable studio spaces to artists and see this as a fundamental way to develop visual artists and their practices in Western Australia. Artsource sublease working spaces to artists, keeping the rent low, offering secure tenure of up to 5 years.

EVENT DETAILS: Artsource Open Studios. **COST:** FREE event

Artsource Fremantle Studios - Sunday 4 November, 2-5pm
8 Phillimore Street Fremantle

Artsource Midland Studios – Sunday 11 November, 2-5pm
1 Old Great Northern Hwy, Midland

‘The Ward’, Leederville – Sunday 25 November, 2-5pm
590 Newcastle Street, Leederville

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MEDIA CONTACT

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About Artsource

Artsource is Western Australia’s peak representative body for visual artists. A not-for-profit organisation in operation for over 25 years, Artsource works to expand and improve the sustainability and profile of artists through practical services and support.