



MANCHESTER CRAFT & DESIGN CENTRE (MCDC)

Manchester Craft & Design Centre is the largest provider of studio/retail space and support for designer/makers in the North West of England.

Our mission is to be *the* place to make, see and buy contemporary craft and design in the North West.

We will do this through:

- Providing affordable studio and retail space, to support the growth of successful and sustainable creative businesses.
- Developing new talent by welcoming visits from education groups, offering sales and exhibition opportunities, and providing professional development services for MCAD tenants and regional artists.
- Creating opportunities for diverse audiences to engage with and purchase contemporary craft and design.
- Building the strength of the creative economies and cultural infrastructure of Greater Manchester and the North West.

Manchester Craft & Design Centre is a unique organisation comprising of 18 retail/studio spaces, a café and a rolling programme of exhibitions. Located in Manchester City Centre's Northern Quarter, Manchester Craft & Design Centre is at the hub of a growing innovative and artistic community. Once Manchester's fish and poultry market, this striking Victorian building crowned with a huge glass roof now houses two floors of designers, contemporary craft workers and artists working in a wide range of media including ceramics, textiles, jewellery, glass and furniture. It is home to the North West's finest selection of contemporary craft and design and is therefore the ideal place in which to develop your creative business.

Manchester Craft & Design Centre is one of the few places in the United Kingdom open to the public where designer/makers can produce and sell their work on the premises. The Centre provides a sympathetic working environment, encouraging the development of both new and established businesses. Many of the artists at Manchester Craft & Design Centre exhibit at galleries and trade fairs across the UK and beyond including the Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair, the Buy Art Fair, and Lustre Contemporary Craft Maker's Market. The Centre also presents a rolling

programme of exhibitions providing a showcase of work from emerging, mid career and established designer/makers from throughout the UK and beyond.

In addition to studio space, your business will benefit from our supportive community of artists; promotional opportunities including online sales, and professional development opportunities including reduced rates at our Creative Business Development events.

The benefits you will receive as an occupant in Manchester Craft & Design Centre are diverse and unique :-

- ❑ A combined workspace and retail studio, a facility unique in Manchester and the North West.
- ❑ Competitive rents from around £200 - £600 per month.
- ❑ Studios ranging from approx 120 - 340 sq feet (12 - 33 sq metres).
- ❑ Access to office facilities - photocopier and fax.
- ❑ Marketing and promotion under the Manchester Craft & Design Centre umbrella through the Centre, Arts Council North West, the Audiences Agency, Marketing Manchester, North West Tourist Board and social media.
- ❑ An established customer base with over 80,000 visitors per year.
- ❑ A prime location, 5 minutes walk from Piccadilly Gardens, close to Piccadilly and Victoria Stations, and tram routes.
- ❑ A professional studio in an atmospheric former Victorian market building.
- ❑ A supportive working environment with access to help from organisations experienced in developing contemporary and craft and design businesses. Discounted early-bird rates at our Creative Business Development sessions led by national experts in the field.
- ❑ From early 2014, access to online sales opportunities through our new company website (commission fees apply).

Studio Rental

Rent includes shared costs for the building e.g. management services, heating, lighting, repairs, and maintenance of communal areas plus advertising and promotion of the Centre.

Studios have 24-hour access, an alarm/security system, running water either in or nearby all workshops.

Not included: Water rates, business rates and electricity (this is on a separate meter for individual studios); public liability insurance (n.b. this is mandatory), contents insurance

MCDC Information

The Centre is run by **Manchester Craft & Design Ltd**, a not-for-profit limited company guided by a voluntary Board of Directors. We employ 5 part-time staff members who work towards the company's objectives, including raising the profile of MCDC and our resident artists. Manchester Craft & Design is generously supported by Manchester City Council, who own the premises and enable us to sub-let studios to our tenants.

MCDC is supported through Arts Council England as a National Portfolio Organisation.

Conditions of Occupancy

1. Occupancy to be for the sole purpose of producing and selling nominated goods.
2. A professional retail service must be maintained at all times of the year and during the hours of 10am and 5.30pm, Monday to Saturday inclusive, and Sundays in December (subject to revision).
3. A deposit of two month's rent is required prior to receipt of keys to the studio. Thereafter payment of rent must be paid by standing order on the 15th of the month. Rents are reviewed annually in April.
4. Occupants will be liable for all costs incurred by Manchester Craft and Design as a result of keys being lost or stolen.
5. Occupants must inform the Management of any hazardous materials kept in the premises and abide by all established Health and Safety regulations.
6. Occupancy of the studio space is initially for a provisional period of three months.
7. Occupancy can be cancelled by 2 month's notice in writing from either party.
8. Occupants must agree to abide by Memorandum and Articles of Association of Manchester Craft & Design and any decisions made by the Management and Board of Directors of Manchester Craft & Design.

Application Procedure

- Applications will only be accepted from practising professional craftspeople and designers.
- Applications are welcome from designer/makers producing high quality contemporary craft or design, and we particularly welcome applications from makers in disciplines that are currently under represented at MCDC.
- We welcome shared studio applications.

Information for potential Tenants

- Applicants are asked to submit an application form and images.
- Shortlisted applicants will be invited to submit a business plan and cash flow forecast and will be invited to attend an interview.

For further information or viewing please contact us on;

T: 0161 832 4274

E: director@craftanddesign.com