

NN Contemporary Art is an independent, public art space in the centre of Northampton, UK. NN has an international programme of contemporary visual art and multi-disciplinary events. NN is a registered charity.

### **Audience, Artists and Impact**

NN receives between **150–250 000** visitors annually with an additional **2 000 000** audience through broadcast, print or online. Over **2500** people attend NN events that range from artist talks to family workshops, screenings, creative business support and multi-disciplinary performances.

In 2016 NN exhibited **80** artists in the gallery, Project Space and offsite. NN's curatorial programme is international with artists from **Northampton, Turkey, Armenia, Australia, Iceland, Ireland** and more.

NN is **artist-centred** and supports established and emerging artists through exhibitions, commissions, publishing artist books, editions and professional development.

### **Business, Employees and Volunteers**

NN employs **6** permanent part-time members of staff at **2.5** FTE and over **20** freelancers on an ad hoc basis ranging from designers, technicians, drivers, accountants, electricians, photographers, film makers and educators.

NN provides valuable volunteering experiences. In 2016 NN clocked up over **1000** volunteer hours. **8** board members share their skills and experience within the arts and include business leaders, professionals, consultants and artists.

NN hosts a rolling **ten-week** (one day a week) volunteer programme training future arts workers. Volunteer **destinations** such as further art education including MA Museum & Gallery studies, MFA Fine Art, Foundation studies Art & Design, gallery front of house jobs, art education jobs, duty managing jobs, technicianing, full time artists, curating. NN offers a supportive and nurturing environment encouraging all abilities to volunteer and progress to further work.

# NN's IMPACT

### **Partnerships and Cultural Quarter**

NN moving in to Number Nine Guildhall Road was the catalyst for the development of Northampton's **Cultural Quarter**.

NN frequently work in partnership with organisations to produce projects from **neighbours** Royal & Derngate, Errol Flynn Filmhouse, 78 Derngate, to **further** afield including QUAD Derby, Zagare Lithuania Capital of Culture, EMVAN, Fermyn Woods, Casino Luxembourg and more.

**UK supporters** include Arts Council England, The University of Northampton, Northamptonshire County Council, Northampton Borough Council.

**International supporters** include Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Australia Council for the Arts, Lithuania Ministry of Culture, Northern Ireland Arts Council, Rheine Research Centre, Polish Cultural Institute.

## Education

NN is embedded within the **University of Northampton** School of the Arts' courses with site visits, talks and projects inspired by NN's curated gallery programme. Student groups and individuals regularly use the **Project Space** for experimental interim exhibitions and collaborations.

**School and College** groups use NN for visits and talks ranging from artist talks to careers guidance from NN staff.

Continual Professional Development for **artists** shapes NN's events programme including Crit Groups, Write Club, business support, artist talks and sociable networking. Critical and practical support with both peer and professional facilitators.

Regular creative **family** workshops exploring the exhibitions through making. NN has a dedicated **Education Space** for workshops and can also be hired by other community organisations to run events.

## Sustainability

NN has a broad range of **income generation** from **room hire** for private functions, conferences or parties to long-term hire of **Artist Studios** at affordable rates\* and NN Cafe. **NN Cafe** is an independent creative venture with artisan menu and weekly programme of music, film and comedy.

**NN Consulting** creates jobs and revenue to support NN. **NN Associates** hold arts specialisms in curating, evaluation, project management, public art commissioning, education, risk assessment, design and more. NN Consulting's projects have been shortlisted for the **Marsh Award for Public Sculpture**

**NN assures Quality and efficiency** through continual business and organisational reviews and working smartly.

\* in line with guidelines from the National Federation of Artist Studio Providers

# NN's IMPACT

## Legacy

NN and its previous incarnation at Fishmarket assisted the **start-up** of many creative businesses in Northampton.

NN has **advised** and helped the development of other independent art projects such as Collective Collaborations and Albus 3.

Artists developing new work in NN's **Project Space** have used it to gain Arts Council England grants and exhibition opportunities.

NN is the central **hub** for visual arts in Northampton, creating a safe and welcoming space for new audiences and arts specialists.

**Commissioning** new work has given prominence to emerging artists alongside facilitating risk-taking by established artists.

NN develops long term relationships with former volunteers, freelancers and artists that in turn become **ambassadors** for the future.