

# Students

A new place for art and design students to locate and discuss their practice

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## Postgraduate focus

### University of Sunderland MA Fine Art

A programme at a new university which draws on a rich historical inheritance and links with the contemporary arts infrastructure of the North East region that includes Baltic, MIMA, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art and Workplace Gallery.

Although the University of Sunderland is a modern, new university and leader in widening participation, Fine Art has been studied there since 1860. This long tradition gives today's programme, on a purpose-built site, a rich inheritance and connection to the proud history of art education in the UK. The University of Sunderland's Faculty of Arts, Design and Media is part of the arts infrastructure of the North East region that includes Baltic, MIMA, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art and Workplace Gallery.

There are three main reasons why artists choose to undertake MA Fine Art at the University of Sunderland: to develop their personal practice -individual student's concerns and projects are at the of centre the programme; to extend their professional experience and expertise through the range of live projects that the programme offers and to engage or re-engage in debate about contemporary art and design.

In addition to the continued development and testing of students' own work, a unique feature of the MA Fine Art programme is the focus on a range of issues relating to professional practice. Professionals including curators, artists, gallery managers and arts entrepreneurs give talks and practical workshops on a range of topics from fundraising to self-presentation. As part of their ongoing studio work students devise and complete an individual professional practice project that reflects their future career aspirations.

From 16 -21 July 2012, the work of the MA Fine Art Students will be shown in an exhibition entitled 'One to the Power of Ten', which will mark the closure of Ashburne House. Fine Art and Performing Arts will now be housed in the historic Priestman Building in Sunderland city centre as part of a £10m renovation programme across the three buildings, bringing new opportunities around provision and practice in fine art, art and design foundation, glass and ceramics, photography and performing arts. The new layout will include new studios and a new art gallery. The distinctive St Mary's Building on the city centre campus will accommodate new photography studios.

[www.sunderland.ac.uk](http://www.sunderland.ac.uk)



[enlarge]

'Cindy Robinson-Begg and Eleanore Ditchburn's MA Studios at Sunderland University'



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'Bob Lawson's MA Studio'

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