

WORKPLACE

Come Together

Live online from Thursday 18 February

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In the spirit of solidarity between different art forms, Workplace is delighted to announce *Come Together*, an online exhibition featuring works by eleven artists in support of the Music Venue Trust. As a registered charity whose mission is to protect, secure and improve UK grassroots music venues for the benefit of communities and upcoming artists, Music Venue Trust's role has become essential during this pandemic which is threatening the survival of our cultural infrastructure.

Working in a variety of media and with different approaches to their artistic practices, **James Bartolacci, Rhys Coren, Susie Green, Hassan Hajjaj, Rosie Hastings and Hannah Quinlan, Joel Kyack, Laura Lancaster, Hardeep Pandhal, Matt Stokes, David Steans and Sue Tompkins**, *come together* in this online exhibition through their shared connection with the music industry. Even as music, those who make it, and the venues in which it is experienced have a different significance for all the artists in the show, its importance and influence manifests in both tangible and seemingly imperceptible ways in the exhibited works.

Workplace is a long-time supporter of cross artform collaboration, having previously run an alternative exhibition space from 2009 to 2012 in Alt Vinyl an iconic record shop in Newcastle where music and visual art met in a series of shows and events; hosted Tusk, an experimental music festival in Gateshead, and has regularly held gigs and music related events throughout its history.

Come Together, as an exhibition and philanthropic initiative, marks the continuation of the gallery's commitment to working collaboratively and for the benefit of the wider creative community. Thus, part of the proceeds from the sale of works will be donated to the Music Venue Trust to support them in their endeavours to protect grassroots music venues around the UK.

Workplace was founded in 2003 in Gateshead, initially developing out of the artist-led scene in the region. In October 2020, the gallery opened his second space in a beautiful 19th Century red brick building in the heart of London's historic West End and just a stone's throw away from the Mayfair gallery district. The gallery now represents established and emerging artists from the North of England and abroad.

Music Venue Trust is a UK registered charity which acts to protect, secure and improve Grassroots Music Venues. Created in January 2014, we aim to secure the long-term future of iconic Grassroots Music Venues. These venues have played a crucial role in the development of British music over the last 40 years, nurturing local talent, providing a platform for artists to build their careers and develop their music and their performance skills.

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