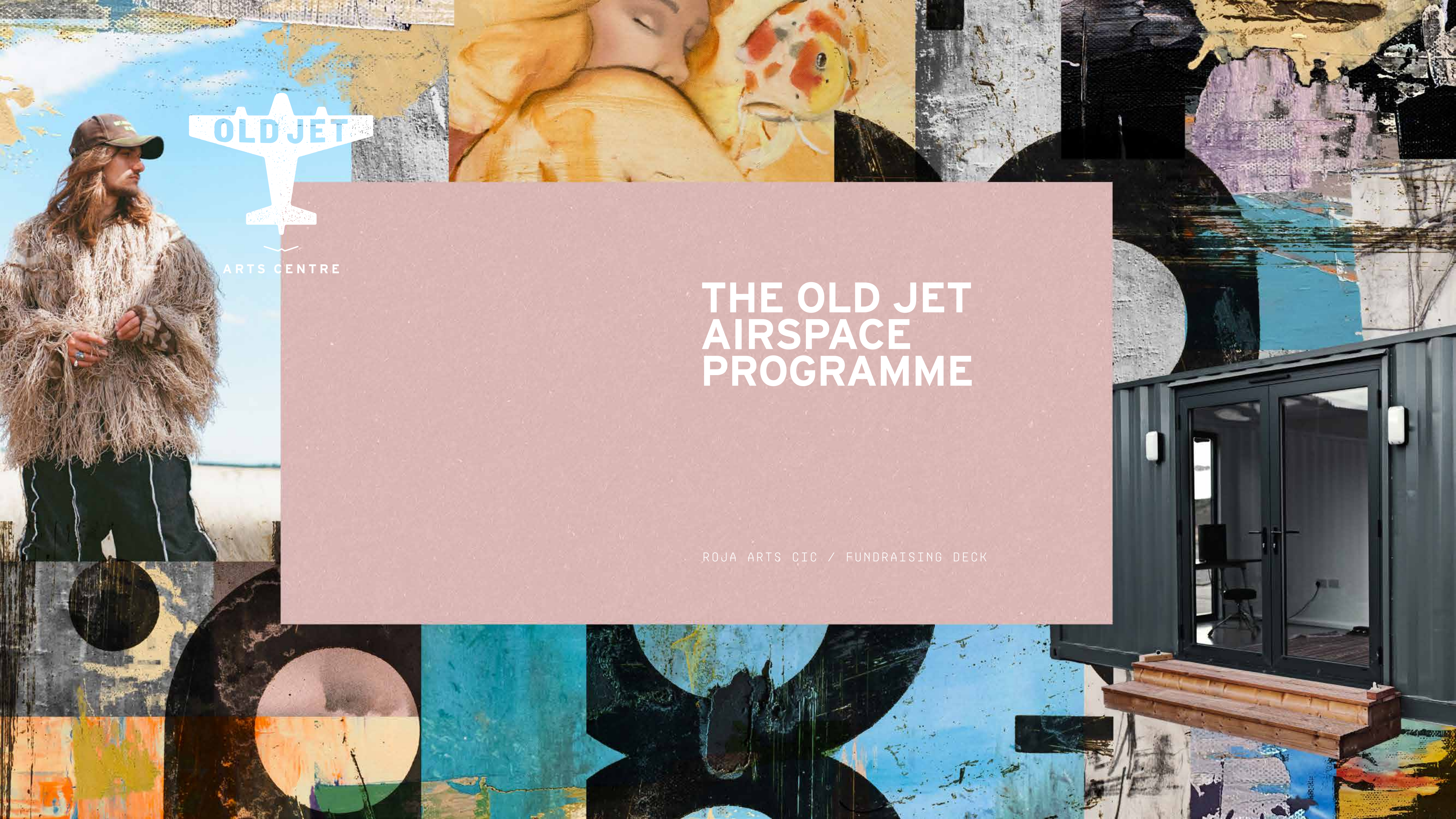




ARTS CENTRE

# THE OLD JET AIRSPACE PROGRAMME

ROJA ARTS CIC / FUNDRAISING DECK





# WHAT

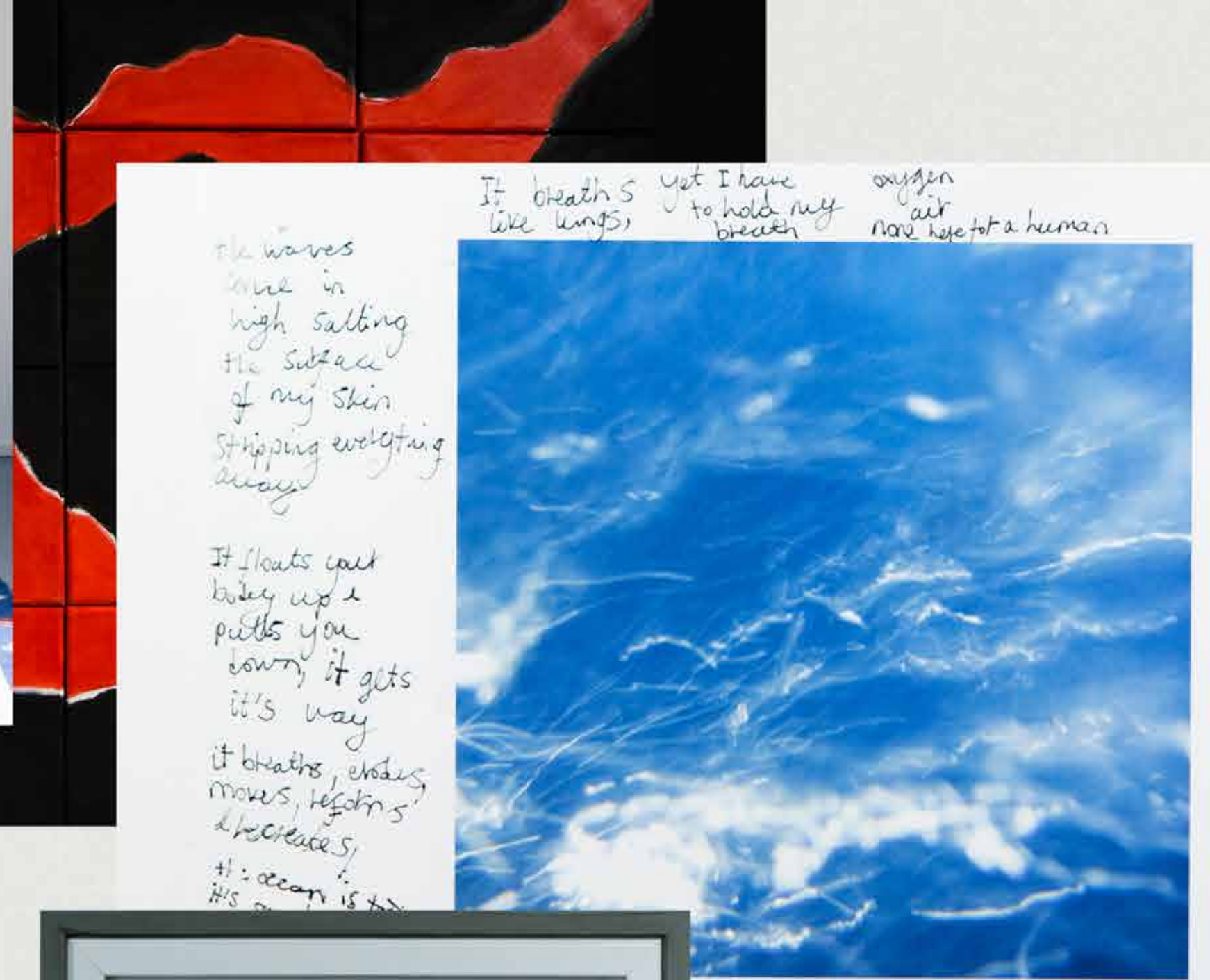
The Old Jet Airspace Programme is a comprehensive six-month incubation programme that provides carefully selected artists, musicians and writers with...

free studio space

bespoke mentoring

professional development programmes

...all within the supportive and inclusive environment of Old Jet Arts Centre.





# WHERE

The programme is staged out of Old Jet, a professional arts centre that provides studio space and support to a wide mix of celebrated and award-winning creatives.

Old Jet is housed in a 12,000 square foot converted military office block, sited within the 1,000 acre former US airbase at Bentwaters, Rendlesham, Suffolk.

Facilities include:

15 studio spaces

Commercial recording studio

Dark room

Gallery spaces

Live events

Live drawing classes

Artist workshops

Artist residences





# WHERE

Old Jet also supplies commercial storage solutions for international touring musicians and leading theatre companies.

Clients include

Adele

Lady Gaga


Keane

Mumford & Sons

Andrew Lloyd Webber's Really Useful Group







*“Access to gear, advice and mentoring is something we wouldn’t have had without the programme.*

*It broke down the barriers between wanting to do something and knowing how to do it.”*

Esme Lee Scott  
of Esme Emerson



# WHY

Jesse Quin, the Suffolk-born founder of Old Jet, has enjoyed a long and successful career as a member of the multi-platinum selling British band, Keane.

In the spirit of collaboration and mutual support, Jesse founded Old Jet in 2014 to bring together a variety of artistic disciplines under one roof.

The success of this endeavour inspired Jesse to extend Old Jet's facilities and talent pool to those with artistic promise but not the resources or opportunities.







*“The Airspace programme is a shining light for grassroots artists like me. Airspace has helped me develop as a musician by providing the tools and knowledge to deepen my understanding of production and composition, and the care and support to grow as an artist.*

*It is incredible that it exists and I really hope that it continues to champion young creatives in the future.”*

Emma Sampson  
AKA Flores Blue



# THE STORY SO FAR

Since launching Old Jet in 2014, Jesse has supported emerging artists and musicians who have faced career barriers by providing free studio space and integrating them into the Old Jet community.

Inspired by the success of this support, Jesse formalised this initiative by setting up the non-profit organisation, ROJA Arts CIC, in November 2021.



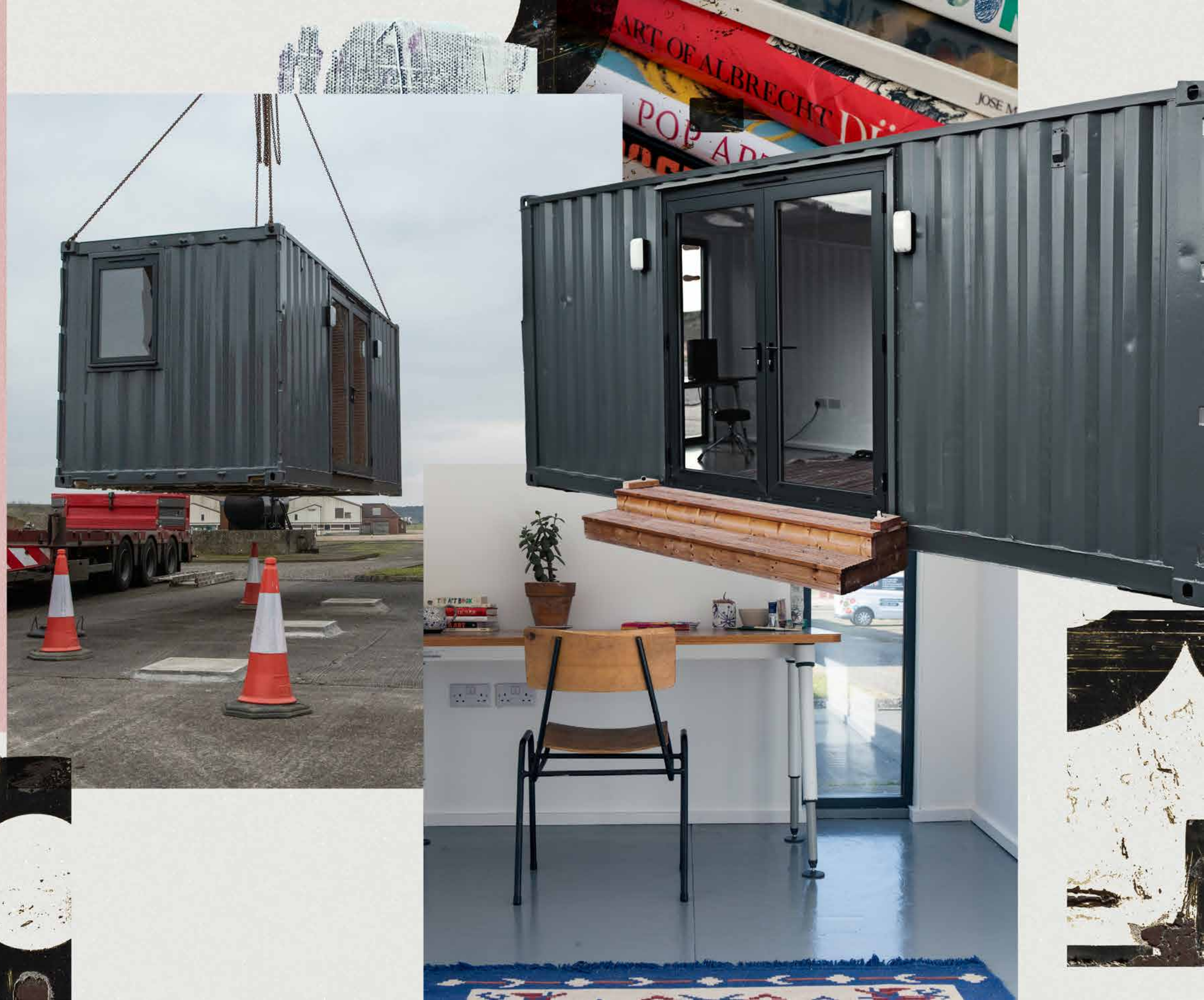


# THE STORY SO FAR

The CIC's first initiative, the Old Jet Airspace Programme, raised over £10,000 through a proactive crowdfunding campaign within two weeks of its launch in June 2022.

In addition to their own fundraising, over £31,000 in grants were secured from national organisations and local Trusts and Foundations.

With additional backing from Youth Music and the Post Code Lottery, the first open call for participants launched in October 2022.



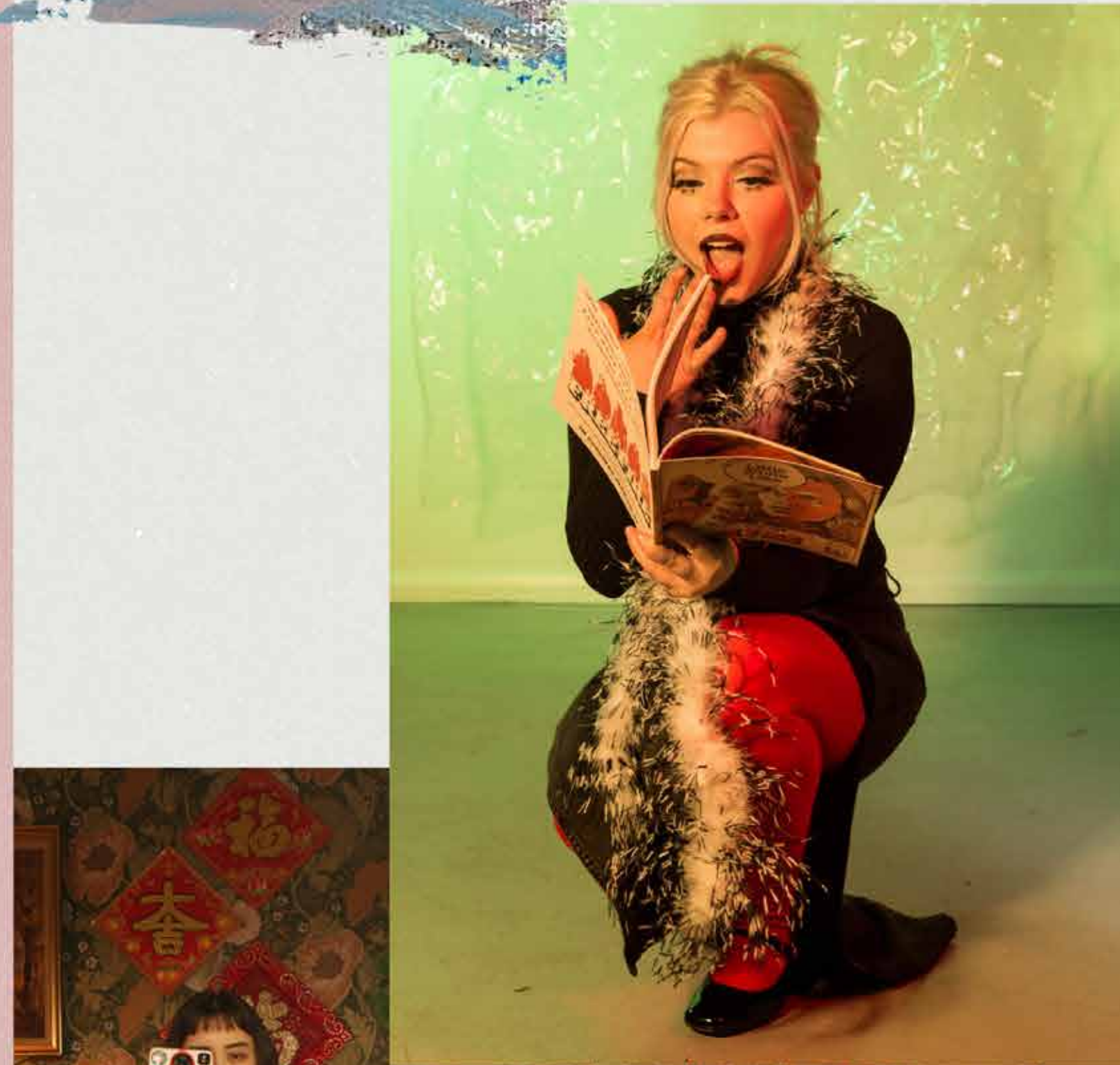


# THE STORY SO FAR

To date, three musical acts and three visual artists have completed the Old Jet Airspace Programme.

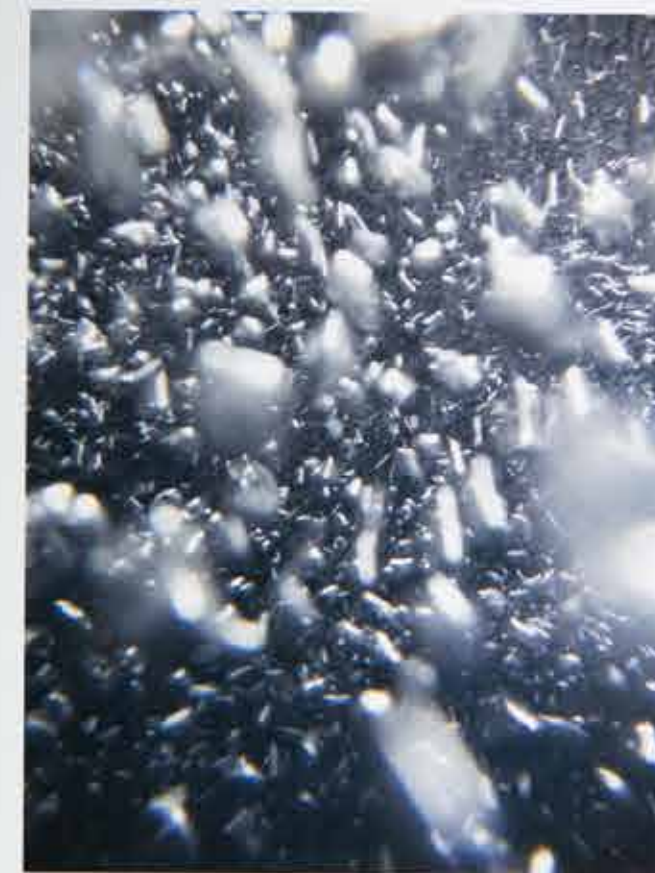
Esme Emerson, the first band to undertake the programme, has since landed a significant recording contract and a major sponsorship opportunity with Dr. Martens. The young sibling duo are soon to embark on their first headline UK tour.

Early participant, the fine artist Darren Lynde Mann, saw his work featured in the Marlborough Gallery's 2023 exhibition, 'A Celebration of Portraiture', alongside works by Lucien Freud, Francis Bacon and Maggi Hambling.





Mel Perkins  
Fine artist





# PARTICIPATING ARTISTS



Esme Emerson is a British-Chinese brother-sister duo whose music, according to Dazed magazine, is “redefining indie pop”.



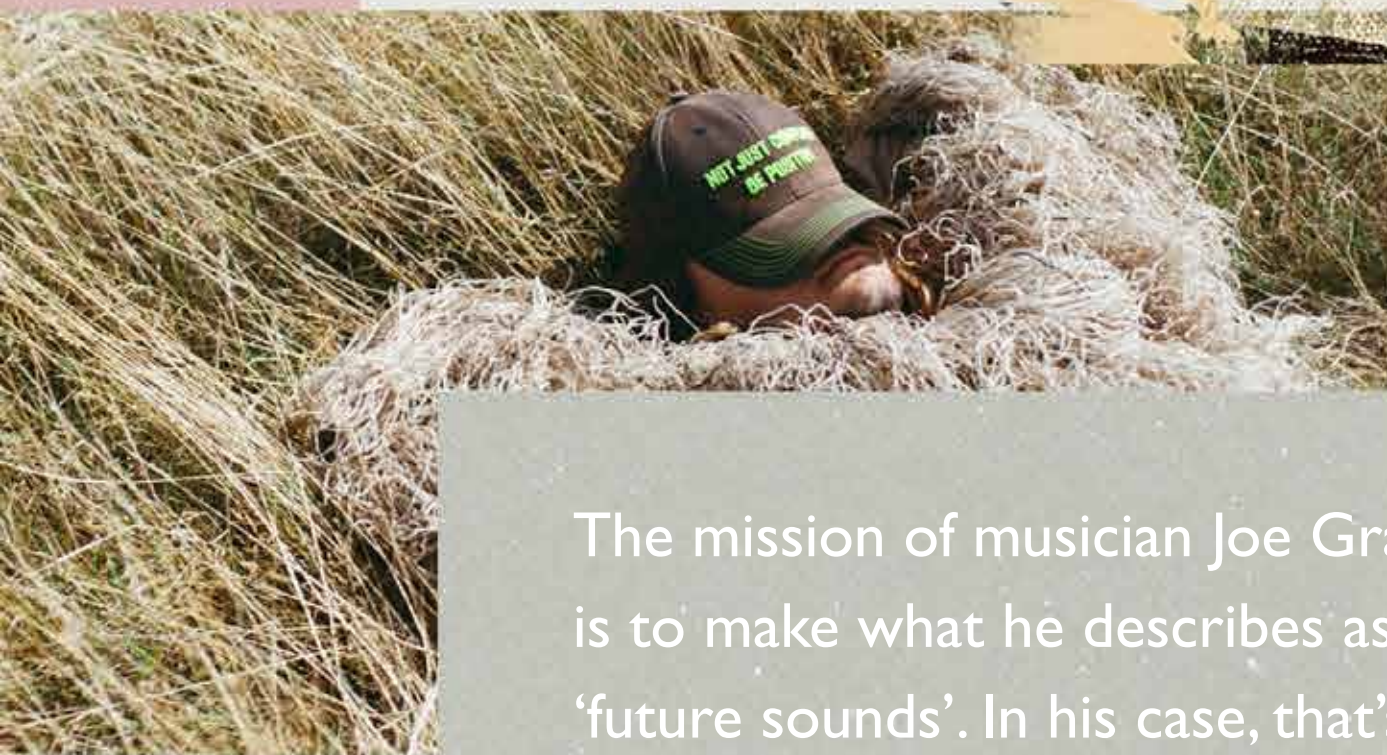
Emma Sampson, aka Flores Blue, is a singer-songwriter who creates indie dream-pop inspired by 90s alternative rock.



Alice Crane is a visual artist who explores ideas around trauma and disability.



Mel Perkins is a multidisciplinary artist whose work sits between sculpture and painting, questioning the relationship between two and three dimensions.



The mission of musician Joe Gray is to make what he describes as ‘future sounds’. In his case, that’s ‘next generation R&B and dubstep’.



Denise Atkinson is a multi-faceted, experimental artist eliciting visceral, visual responses to her work.



# CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

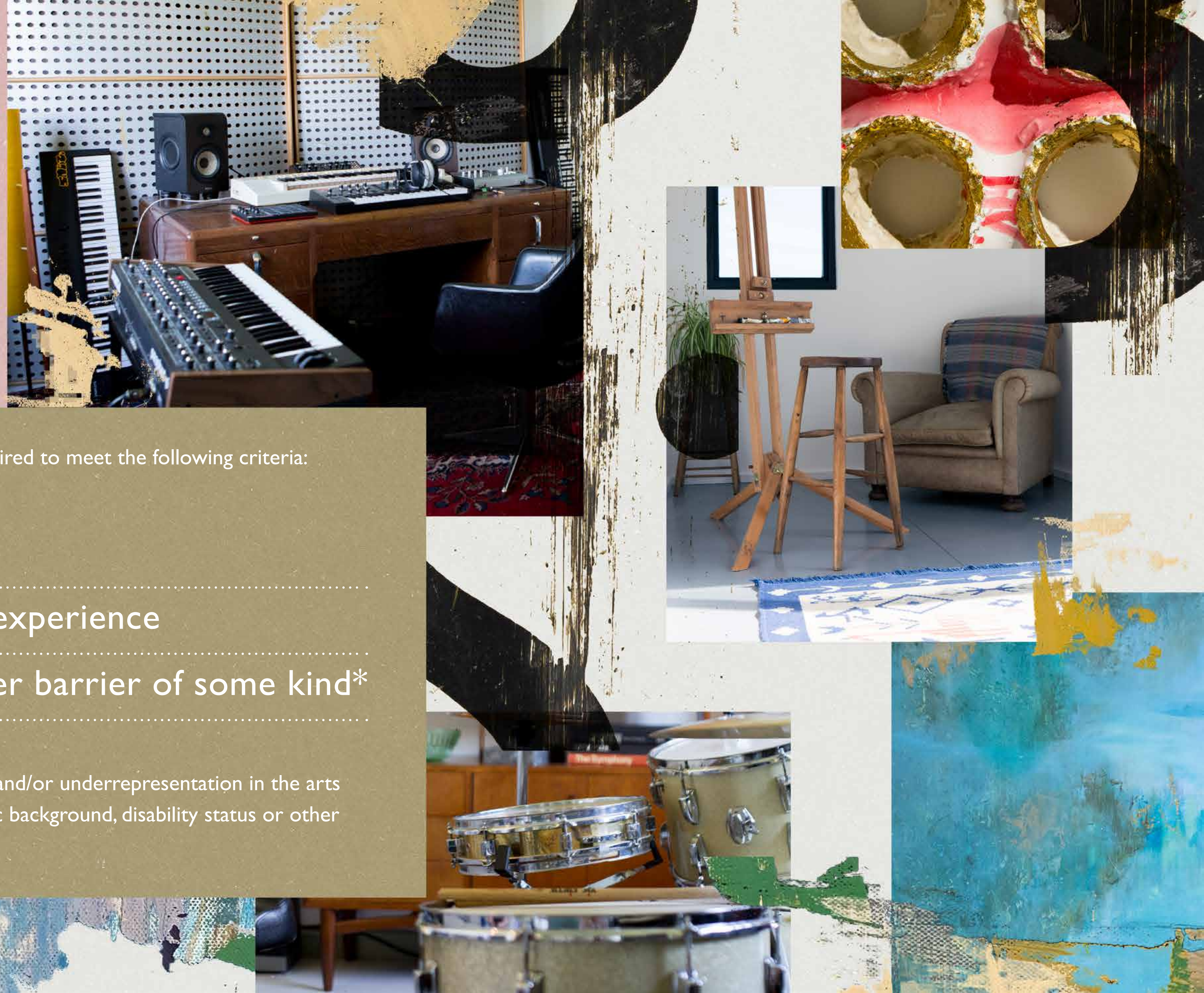
Artists applying for the programme are required to meet the following criteria:

Be a UK resident

Have a BA or equivalent experience

Feel that they face a career barrier of some kind\*

\* Including financial hardship, rural isolation and/or underrepresentation in the arts owing to ethnic background, socio-economic background, disability status or other protected characteristics.





# SELECTION PROCESS

The initial selection decision is made on the basis of:

## 1. Online application with

*Five examples of work to date*

*Description of practice: tell us about your work as if you're telling a grandparent!*

*Description of what you would like from the programme: tell us what you'd like to do as if you're telling a 5-year-old!*

## 2. Thirty minute, in-person interview

## 3. Eligibility check

The final selection decision is made on the basis of:

The quality of the applicant's work to date

The commitment to succeeding as a professional artist

The value the Old Jet community can add to the applicant's need and development





# PROGRAMME EXAMPLE: MUSIC

1:1 mentoring with established musicians,  
artists and industry professionals

Professional development activities, including  
financial planning, fundraising and marketing

Free use of a large writing/recording room,  
equipped with a wide range of instruments

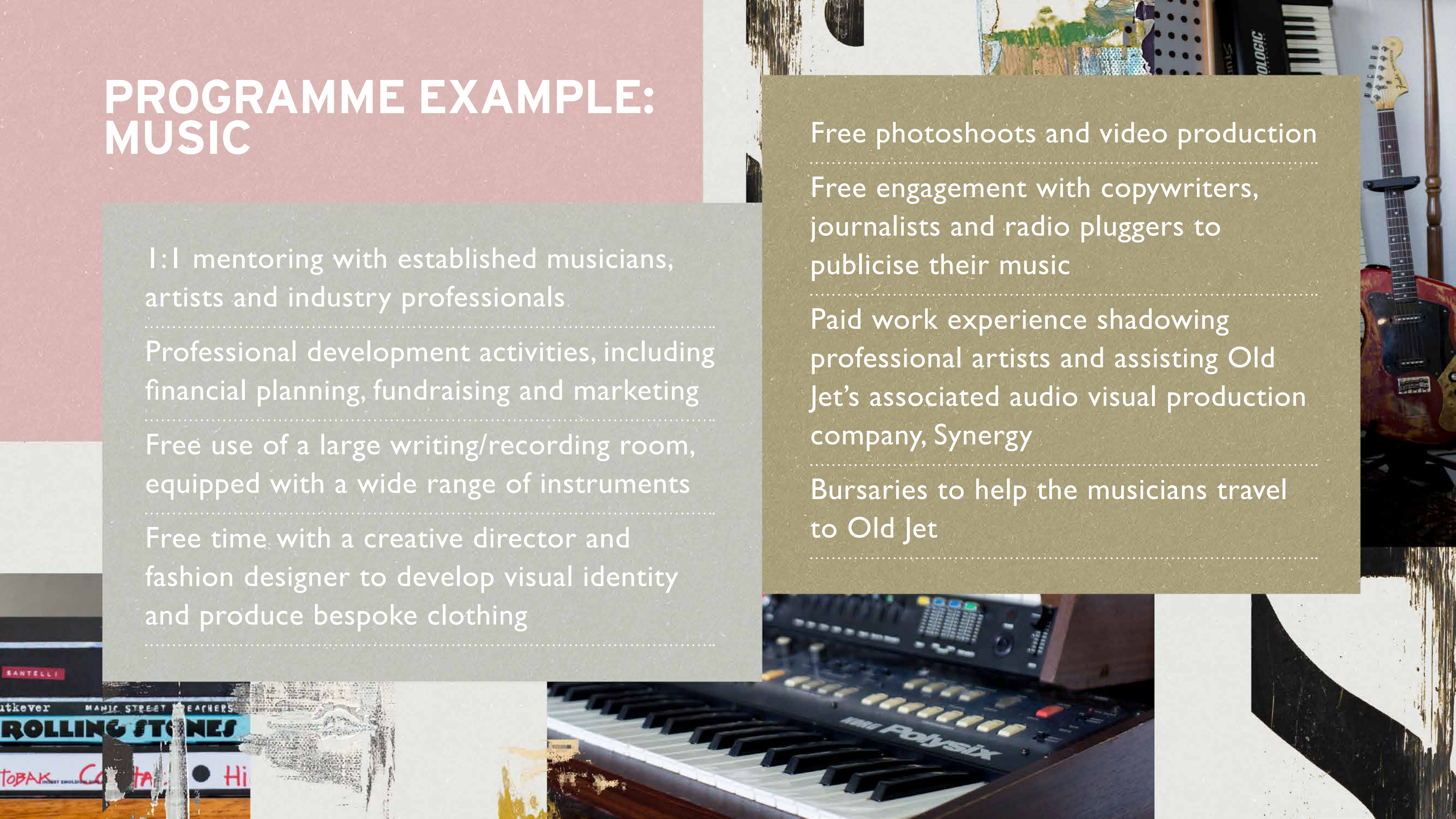
Free time with a creative director and  
fashion designer to develop visual identity  
and produce bespoke clothing

Free photoshoots and video production

Free engagement with copywriters,  
journalists and radio pluggers to  
publicise their music

Paid work experience shadowing  
professional artists and assisting Old  
Jet's associated audio visual production  
company, Synergy

Bursaries to help the musicians travel  
to Old Jet







*“Becoming part of the Old Jet family has been really important to my growth as an artist, in particular, having my work recognised as good by other established artists has helped my confidence and my own belief in what I make. Old Jet has already supported me in many aspects of my career, from personal growth to providing support for bigger projects and helping them go as smoothly as possible. It feels like a place that I can always go back to for support and guidance.”*

Visual Arts participant



# AIRSPACE STUDIOS

Having piloted the programme with seven new artists, the next step was to complete work on the first dedicated Airspace Studio.

The need for an exclusive-use studio space for the Airspace programme was derived from the high demand for participation in the scheme and a lack of permanent available space within Old Jet's premises.





# AIRSPACE STUDIOS

To address this need, we consulted with a steering group of local artists and BCR Infinity Architects to identify the most impactful and cost-effective solution.

The vision is to construct a number of new studios from repurposed shipping containers that will sit adjacent to Old Jet.

The units are both affordable and adaptable to accommodate a variety of artistic disciplines, and will also stand a testament to Suffolk's shipping history.





# AIRSPACE STUDIOS



Thanks to the funding from East Suffolk Council, the crowdfunding campaign and a number of donations from local Trusts and Foundations, the first unit was built and delivered in May 2025.

This first Airspace studio will support the careers of multiple visual artists and musicians over the coming years by providing beneficiaries with free working space and community integration at Old Jet.





# NEXT STEPS AND COSTS

Having piloted the programme and built the first studio, the next steps are to:

Secure funding to deliver more Airspace programmes to new visual artists and musicians.

The mentoring and professional development costs start from £4,345 per artist.

Secure funding to build more Airspace studios.

The cost of building each new studio is £29,938.

the first  
studio  
the first  
studio  
the first  
studio

the first  
studio  
the first  
studio  
the first  
studio





# HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

There are a number of ways you can support the programme, including:

Making a donation: A donation of any amount will help Airspace work towards its goals and continue serving its community. Additional financial benefits can be explored by donating through the Charities Aid Foundation.

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Becoming a friend of the programme: Receive exclusive quarterly insights from the programme, place your logo or name on our Friends area of the website and choose an open edition print from one of the artists. £250 / year.

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Purchasing or leasing original artwork from Old Jet Gallery: Browse and collect exclusive work by established artists. 100% of sales commission goes to funding the Airspace programme. Prices range from £30 - £10,000

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# HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT

There are a number of ways you can support the programme, including:

Developing your art and music portfolio by paying to engage with the Airspace programme: Receive bespoke mentoring, arrange time in the music studio with a producer, engage with photoshoots or hone your marketing and sales strategy. Prices range from £250 to £4,950.

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Sponsoring an artist, studio or project: Meet participating artists to follow their process and progress first-hand, explore press release and photo opportunities, receive brand exposure to our 10,000+ online community of artists, musicians and professionals from across the arts, collect original artwork or equivalent from participating artists and gain access-all-areas invitations to the artist's exhibitions and gigs. Sponsorships start from £2,500.

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Please contact [oliver@oldjet.co.uk](mailto:oliver@oldjet.co.uk) to explore further.



# THE TEAM

ROJA Arts CIC is a not-for-profit organisation, constituted as a Community Interest Company limited by guarantee.

The organisation was incorporated in November 2021 and has three unrelated directors: Jesse Quin, Rowan Swanson and Andy Stone.

All ROJA Arts CIC activities are undertaken within Old Jet's facilities, which the company provides to the CIC free of charge.





# THE TEAM

## JESSE QUIN FOUNDER AND MANAGING DIRECTOR

Jesse is a musician who grew up in Suffolk, and is best known for his work with the multi-platinum selling British band, Keane.



## OLIVER SQUIRRELL AIRSPACE MANAGER

Oliver is a professional artist manager and mentor with over 10 years fundraising and management experience.



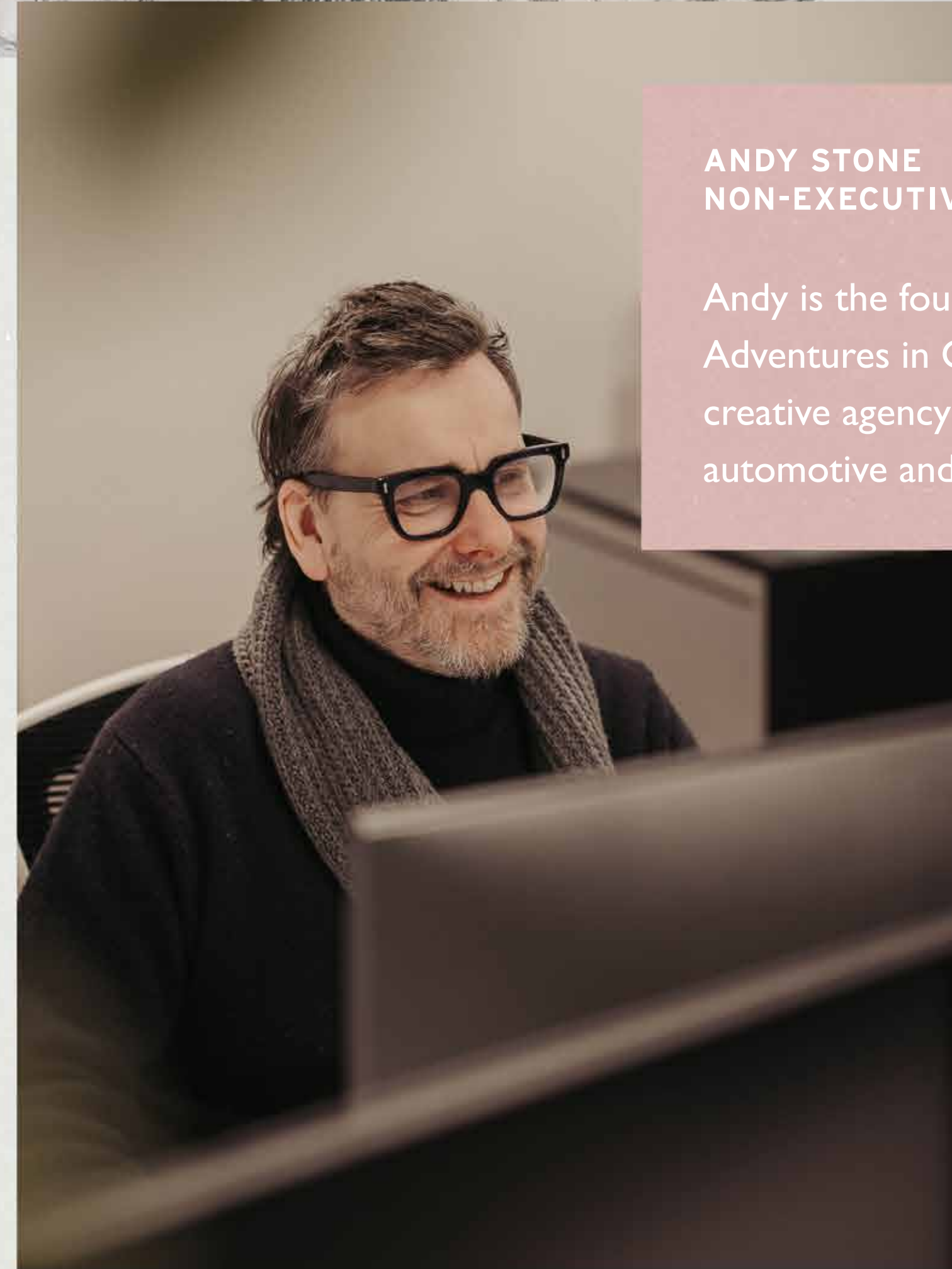


# THE TEAM



**CONSUELA FONTAN**  
**OLD JET GENERAL MANAGER**

Consuela is former headhunter in the not-for-profit, arts, educational and commercial sectors.



**ANDY STONE**  
**NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Andy is the founder of Adventures in Content, a Suffolk creative agency working in tech, automotive and entertainment.



# OUR NATIONAL FUNDERS

Youth Music

Arts Council England

Innovate UK



# TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

The Scarfe Charitable Trust

Ganzoni Charitable Trust

Lord Belstead Charitable Settlement

Alfred Williams Charitable Trust

Geoffrey Watling Charity

Festival Bridge

Simon Gibson Charitable Trust

East Suffolk Council

KFC Foundation

Joanies Fund

Nuclear Restoration Services



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Lisa Berkshire  
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David Pink  
15+ Anonymous Donors



# IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

Suffolk Mind

BCR Infinity Architects

Larking Gowen

Affinity PR

Yeseo

# CONFIRMED EDUCATIONAL SUPPORTERS

University of East Anglia

Norwich University of the Arts

University of Suffolk







Contact Oliver at Old Jet to discuss supporting the programme

**OLIVER@OLDJET.CO.UK**