# Shoreditch Arts Club: Inspiration through Art and Design

Shoreditch Arts Club
06 Redchurch St, London E2 7DD
www.shoreditchartsclub.com

Buckley Gray Yeoman has recently opened Shoreditch Arts Club - creating a home to an eclectic, rotating mix of art and design; offering a space of community and collaboration; and redefining the experience of a members' club.

Designed to evoke the environment of an avid art collector's home, the club celebrates the East End's defiant energy and rich cultural heritage, by working with local galleries, artists and creatives to assemble an extensive programme of events evolving with the seasons.

Shoreditch Arts Club brings together the visions of architecture and interior design firm Buckley Gray Yeoman, a studio inspired by their long standing work incorporating art within architecture. Buckley Gray Yeoman - based in Shoreditch for over 25 years - sought to create a club for those in the creative field that challenged the identity and appearance of existing members' clubs and provide a space to foster relationships between art and architecture.

The result is a collaborative design brought together by Buckley Gray Yeoman's architecture and interior design studios, and in close exchange with local artists. The club is the transformation of a 5000 sq ft former loading bay that fronts onto Redchurch Street and is spread across three floors to create a flexible space and highly sensory environment.

## A versatile space

The studio seeks to support the immediate arts community and so the layout was conceived to serve as a home for an active events programme, encompassing visual arts, design, film, music, theatre, installation and performance, often blurring distinctions between the mediums through immersive experiences. The team's aspiration is to create a club that is a continuously developing space - where the menu, art, design and resident artists continually evolve - and where crossovers and collaborations can be had with the wider built environment. The versatile space cultivates a genuine sense of curiosity and imagination while serving and can serve as a place to meet, work, unwind or celebrate.

The double height lobby is framed on one side by a large projection wall enabling a rotating programme of moving image artworks and events, while three further projection walls define the first-floor space. Rich colours and fabrics layer throughout the space.

In contrast, a 24-seat surround-sound cinema at the back of the space is fitted with soft and relaxed furniture characterised by warm tones, soft lighting and restrained materials. In the upper level there is a chill out space and a meeting/dining room catering for up to 20 people in which curtains concealing screens can be drawn to aid private presentations, video conferences and roundtable events.

## A space where all kinds of art coexist

The club's team and Buckley Gray Yeoman collaborated with local galleries, artists, collectors who have produced or loaned artworks specifically for the space. These include unique commissions by emerging artists that respond directly to the space itself, major sculptural installations worked around existing structures, and a collection of wall-based artworks in diverse mediums: from large scale moving-image projections, to sculptures, sound, performance, films, drawings and installation.

Collaboration is at the heart of Shoreditch Arts Club, ensuring its programme remains vital and relevant to the communities it serves. The club works with East End galleries such as Chisenhale, Hales Gallery and Kate McGarry, in addition to collectives and publishers, on its events programme. Regular collaborator Girls in Film presented a summer cinema season, while ArtReview are hosting a series of talks. Then there are the countless collaborations with London-based artists, designers and musicians, including George Henry Longly, Joe Ellwood, Loshh, Lulu Wang, Maxim, Patrick Goddard, POiSON ANNA, Slowfoam, and Zethu Maseko.

## The events programme

The events programme is updated frequently and all details can be viewed on Shoreditch Arts Club's <u>events</u> page; while the club's online <u>Journal</u> includes interviews and articles documenting and providing insight into the club's collaborators, artists, guests, events and the artworks it's honoured to exhibit.

During the London Design Festival, Buckley Gray Yeoman supported the club to present '<u>The Localist Café</u>', an installation by Six Dots Design bringing together over a dozen local designers. Design enthusiasts were able to sit within an eclectic cafe on chairs made in Peckham, handle cutlery made in Walthamstow, and eat off crockery made in Elephant and Castle, getting a taste of what London's local makers have to offer, including objects made by Common Design, Matan Fadida, and Kaymet.

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### Membership and opening hours

Shoreditch Arts Club opened its doors in March and is accessible to members from Tuesday to Saturday, 8am to midnight. Applications are open to become a member with preference given to art professionals. For full details about the club, its facilities, people and the membership visit: <a href="mailto:shoreditchartsclub.com">shoreditchartsclub.com</a>

#### **BUCKLEY GRAY YEOMAN**

Buckley Gray Yeoman are Shoreditch originals. Based in east London since the practice was established in 1997, we create architecture and interior design that balances depth and delight. This year we were awarded AJ100 Practice of the Year 2023 – this is an accolade awarded by peers to acknowledge strength in design and diversity of projects, sectors, and practice.

We describe ourselves as agents of opportunity. We take what we find – on the ground and in the brief – and uncover unanticipated possibilities. The changes we deliver are executed with a strong sense of responsibility to our clients, but we never forget that design must also make you feel good. Our work is sensitive, thorough and authentic, but it is also unapologetically joyful and surprising.

Our family has grown from a group of three friends to a team of a hundred and thirty, which now has collective ownership of the practice. We have also spread our geographical wings, delivering projects across the UK, Europe and Asia, each carefully tuned to its own specific place and time.

Making buildings and interiors with both depth and delight demands a very special kind of studio culture. Ours promotes trust, cultivates talent and celebrates independent thought because, like all Shoreditch originals, we enjoy sitting just the right side of unconventional.