



**Media release**

**April 2024**

## **Two Crows Arts Studio**

### **The Met announces an exciting new creative hub for Bury**

#### **Launch event, The Met, Thursday 2 May, 5pm-7pm**

This May, The Met will open its doors to a brand-new creative concept when Two Crows Arts Studio will be moving into a fantastic ground floor space.

Based in the space which formerly housed Automatic café bar, this new venture will open up the building to local communities and creatives. The artists will be building a multi-functional creative space that will eventually become home to six resident artists, providing a range of activities for the community to enjoy. Initially running for a pilot period of 8 weeks, the intention is that this project will become a permanent fixture at The Met.

As well as making and selling their original hand-crafted work, the artists will deliver regular weekly workshops suitable for all ages and abilities.

Activities will include: Figure Drawing, Urban Sketching, Zine-Making, Collage and After School Arts.

The space will also provide an important social hub where visitors can enjoy a delicious cup of coffee, and maybe a slice of cake while they browse the fantastic art on display.

A team of talented artists are onboard to deliver this exciting new initiative:

- **Alison Erika Forde** is a Visual Artist/illustrator practising in and around Greater Manchester for the past 14 years. Specialising in painting, inspired by anything from high art to the sub-cultural with disarming playfulness, exhibiting Internationally and co-founder of Yiiikes! Art Collective. Alison

believes art brings people together, she has always been passionate about making Art more accessible as well as sustainability! [ABOUT | ALISONERIKAFORDE](#)

- **Lee Crocker** is also a firm believer that art is for everyone and for over 20 years he has shared this belief via workshops, exhibitions and events. He has worked at Bury Art Museum as well as co-founding successful collectives Bury Collective and Gang of Five along with Alison and Bob Nutts Jr.  
[INTRODUCING... LEE CROCKER \(YOUTUBE.COM\)](#)
- **Bob Nutts Jr** is an illustrator, artist and producer concentrating on inclusivity in the arts, communication and subcultures in the creative industries. Over the past 15 years he has produced and delivered an array of creative projects, educational activities, arts events, exhibitions and publications [BOB NUTTS JR](#)

**Victoria Robinson, CEO, The Met** comments:

*'The Met exists to provide development opportunities for artists and the new space is an extension of our work that makes Bury so unique. We're proud to welcome Two Crows Studio into the building and their programme of events and workshops. We're working closely with partners to ensure this is an exciting opportunity for the whole of Bury and adds to the already brilliant cultural offer we have here.'*

**Two Crows Arts Studio** also comments:

*"It is extremely exciting to be creating a pop-up base for Two Crows Arts Studio with The Met, where we can channel all of our experience into creating a vibrant DIY art space, something we've been dreaming of for quite some time. We are grateful for the opportunity, this is only the beginning!"*

You can contact Two Crows Arts Studio at [twocrows.artstudio@gmail.com](mailto:twocrows.artstudio@gmail.com) or on Insta [@two\\_crows](#)

The space will also host pop-up food events, serving a variety of local and international cuisines over the coming months.

More activities are being planned and regular updates can be found here or via The Met's social media channels.

**Supported by GMCA & Bury Council**

Ends

Press information: Shelagh Bourke, [she@we-r-lethal.com](mailto:she@we-r-lethal.com) 07971 819016

The Met:

**To book:** online: [themet.org.uk](http://themet.org.uk) by 'phone 0161 761 2216, The Met, Market Street, Bury, BL9 OBW

**Listings information:** <https://themet.org.uk/whats-on/two-crows/>

### **Opening times**

From Tue 7<sup>th</sup> May, Two Crows Arts Studio' opening hours will be as follows:

Tuesdays 10am – 2pm; Wednesdays 10am – 2pm; Fridays 11am – 4pm

Saturdays 11am – 4pm; Sundays 12pm – 3pm

The Met's downstairs bar Malt will also be open during these opening times for teas, coffees, wines & spirits or a slice of cake.

### **Programme**

#### **Sketchbook Shindig**

Tue 7<sup>th</sup> May: 5.30pm-7.30pm, £5

Join us for a monthly social for creatives to gather together and catch up.

Ages 12+

#### **Pen, Paper, Pose!**

Fri 10<sup>th</sup> May: 6pm-8pm, £13

Join Lee Crocker for a lively figure drawing event for all levels of experience with a great playlist and random prizes. Basic materials available & the bar will be open!

Ages 12+

#### **Cut it out collage club**

Wed 15 May: 5.30pm-7pm, £5

Led by Alison Forde, why not try our monthly collage club for a creative way to relax.

Ages 12+

#### **Life Drawing with Two Crows Arts Studio**

Tue 21 May: 5.30pm-7.30pm, £13

Develop your drawing skills with our monthly life drawing session for all levels. Basic materials available and the bar will be open.

Ages 12+

### **After School Arts**

Thu 23 May: 3.45pm-5pm, £4

This child friendly session is a chance to get creative after school and stretch those creative muscles. Please note parents must be present at the session.

Ages 5+

### **Mono Printing**

Tue 28 May: 10.30am-12pm, £6

Led by Lee Crocker, join us for this fun introduction to mono printing.

Ages 12+

### **Zine-Making**

Thu 30 May: 1.30pm-3pm, £3

Led by Alison Forde, this is a zine-making workshop for everyone. Ages 12+

### **Rainbow Doodle Disco**

Sat 1 June: 2pm-4pm, £4 per family

Join us for this fun family event as Bury celebrates pride. There will be open decks and plenty of rainbow doodling for the whole family.

Ages 5+

### **Sketchbook Shindig**

Tue 4 June: 5.30pm-7.30pm, £5

Join us for a monthly social for creatives to gather together and catch up.

Ages 12+

### **Draw your Place**

Sat 8 June: 10.30am-1.30pm, £21

This inspiring workshop will take you through urban sketching to get you inspired by your surroundings.

Ages 12+

### **Cut it out collage club**

Wed 12 June: 5.30pm-7pm, £5

Led by Alison Forde, why not try our monthly collage club for a creative way to relax.

Ages 12+

### **Pen, Paper, Pose!**

Fri 14 June: 6pm-8pm, £13

Join Lee Crocker for a lively figure drawing event for all levels of experience with a great playlist and random prizes. Basic materials available & the bar will be open! Ages 12+

### **Life Drawing with Two Crows Studios**

Tue 18 June: 5.30pm-7.30pm, £13

Develop your drawing skills with our monthly life drawing session for all levels. Basic materials available and the bar will be open. Ages 12+

### **After School Arts**

Thu 20 June: 3.45pm-5pm, £4

This child friendly session is a chance to get creative after school and stretch those creative muscles. Please note parents must be present at the session. Ages 5+

### **Start Sketchin' with Crocker Art**

Sat 22 June: 10.30am-1.30pm, £25

Artist Lee Crocker is renowned for believing drawing is for everyone and inspiring and encouraging you to give it a go in these lively relaxed sessions for everyone to enjoy. Ages 12+

### **Cut it out collage club**

Wed 26 June: 5.30pm-7pm, £5

Led by Alison Forde, why not try our monthly collage club for a creative way to relax. Ages 12+

### **Comic Con Pen, Paper, Pose!**

Sun 30 June: 1pm – 3pm, Children £7 / Adults £13

Join Lee Crocker for a lively figure drawing event that is Comic Con inspired for all levels of experience with a great playlist and random prizes. Basic materials available & the bar will be open! Ages 5+