

PRESS RELEASE



DRILL HALL PREVIEW & DEVELOPMENT LAUNCH
Friday 14th November at 12.30pm, 30 – 38 Dalmeny St, Edinburgh

out of the blue arts and education trust purchased the ex-Territorial Army Drill Hall in the spring of this year with loans from *Triodos Bank & Social Investment Scotland* to develop into a vibrant art space. Resident artists are already at work, whilst renovations are underway - *SAC Lottery* granted £100,000 for basic upgrading. Here lies the foundation of incredible potential.....

Situated in a culturally burgeoning area of Edinburgh, with little arts infrastructure, Leith could soon be the heart of Edinburgh's creative industry. The plans incorporate artists studios, offices, exhibition space, workshops, rehearsal spaces, conference facilities, café, crèche and ultimately a performance space. To realise the next process, out of the blue need an extra £500,000.

'OOTB has no equivalent in Edinburgh or, indeed, Britain.' The New Statesman 2000

For nine years the self-financing out of the blue organisation occupied the ex-bus depot on New Street. Despite constant threats of eviction to make way for the development of 5 Star Hotels, New St was a breeding ground for artists, the base for a grassroots multi - disciplinary arts centre and the birth place of **The Bongo Club**, the cornerstone of out of the blue's independence & financial security.

Imagine 4 times the outcome of out of the blue's achievements at New St! The Drill Hall is almost 4 times the size, and what's more it's a permanent home where sustainable arts development can happen, where creativity can be put to the top of the agenda.

The development launch will put MSPs, funders, local businesses & Drillhall stakeholders together to generate ideas & discuss revenue avenues. The event is also open to individuals who would like to be involved at 'ground level'.

'Out of the blue has been a resounding success, consistently reaching the underprivileged, socio-economic groups that few other arts organisations are willing or able to reach through an array of community outreach work' Scotsman 2003

(ENDS)

INVITATION

You are invited to join us and other interested parties at a buffet lunch on Friday at 12.30pm. **Matthew Rooke** of **Scottish Cultural Enterprise** will give a short presentation followed by a tour of the building. We sincerely hope you will be able to join us for this important milestone.

The launch will followed at 2pm by the 'Site 'n' Sound' project a dynamic mixed media exhibition.

RSVP to **Dana MacLeod 0131-556-5204** or dana@outoftheblue.org.uk