

JSA 20

**JAMAICA
STREET
ARTISTS**
1993 - 2013

Jamaica Street Artists celebrate 20 years in Stokes Croft

JSA OPEN STUDIOS

Friday 5th July 2013 6-10pm

Saturday 6th July 11am-5pm

Sunday 7th July 11am-6pm

A lot can happen in 20 years. Especially in Stokes Croft.

This summer, all 36 Jamaica Street Artists - print makers, illustrators, film makers, sculptors and fine artists - welcome you into their studios to celebrate this special anniversary in the heart of Bristol's Cultural Quarter.

Step into the Grade II listed former carriageworks for a view of life at the studios. Meet current artists, from photo realist painter Philip Munoz to Argentinian artist Romina Berenice Canet who makes circus inspired art dolls, and discover the impact Jamaica Street has had on artists and the community over two decades.

Since the studios began in 1993, this colourful area has seen riots, redevelopment, rocketing house prices and Banksy, but its cutting edge character endures and continues to lure artists from around the world to this creative haven.

There'll be artwork available to buy for all budgets, as well as a Mini Canvas Auction on Sunday evening (4-6pm) to give you the opportunity to help preserve one of Bristol's most cherished art establishments.

JSA illustrator Emma Dibben says:

"It's exciting to think Jamaica Street has been housing artists and designers for twenty years, when I look at all the careers that have started and flourished here and all the things people have gone on to do.

For me, getting a studio space here the year after I graduated was integral to my career as an illustrator. The informal mentoring and support from fellow artists makes Jamaica Street such a special place to work and it is amazing to see people's work develop and careers take off.

I'm really excited about this year's Open Studios, everybody here is busy preparing and it promises to be a really special weekend."

EDITOR'S NOTES:

For details on Jamaica Street Studios and resident artists, visit: www.jamaicastreetartists.co.uk.

For artist interviews and to request images, call Hannah on **0780 884 1313**.