

Wysing Arts Centre, Cambridge, England

<https://www.wysingartscentre.org/>



Duration: 8 weeks

Availabilities: Between early December 2025 and the end of April 2026.

Please note that Wysing Arts Centre will be closed over the Christmas and New Year period.

About Wysing Arts Centre

Wysing Arts Centre is a progressive organisation in a rural setting that was established in 1989. We enable artists and publics to engage their imagination freely and take creative risks; we believe that everybody has the right to time and space for creativity, away from the distractions of daily life.

The site is ten miles from Cambridge city. It holds 20 subsidised studios for artists in our region, accommodation for up to 80 visiting artists annually, recording and ceramics studios, flexible space to experiment, present and learn, fields, woodland, and several outdoor outworks. Work made at Wysing is seen worldwide. An accessible digital offer increases reach and archives our work; our youth programme empowers future generations. In 2025, Wysing's fully funded capital project will see restored pathways across the site, green energy installed, increased biodiversity measures put in place, and moderations to several buildings to improve accessibility for visitors and residency artists: this includes, for the first time, a fully accessible 'live / work' space.

Wysing invites artists from across the world to stay and reflect on their practice without the pressure of producing new work: time spent without a plan can often be when the best new ideas emerge. We take a proactive, intersectional approach to equity and inclusion.

Wysing engages people of all ages through artist-led workshops, events, online projects, gatherings and an alternative art school called *The Syllabus*. Our young people's programme has a focus on reaching marginalised people from rural areas; it is centred around our Creative Youth Council, who have decision-making powers in the organisation.

1/ FOCUS

We are happy for the selected artist to use the time as they wish, however here are some of the team's current research interests:

- The land and its potential at Wysing, including our entangled relationship with diverse ecosystems, and how to collectively create environmentally sustainable futures;

- Intersectionally equitable practices and alternative support systems;
- Generosity and collaboration; hosting and sharing our resources through communal activities;
- Knowledge distribution: publishing and printed matter.

2/ PROGRAMME RESOURCES

The residency offers:

- Artist fee of £800/week.
- Accommodation in Wysing's grade-two listed farmhouse or accessible live/work space.
- Production budget if required.
- Shared access to Wysing studio facilities: making space, recording studio and ceramics studio.
- The opportunity to share work through a public-facing event.
- Support from Wysing's team including curatorial, technical and environmental expertise.
- Introductions to Wysing's extensive networks across the UK, including cultural institutions, curators, writers, thinkers and activists.
- Research budget for UK travel and accommodation.
- Round trip France / UK and local transports will be covered.

3/ ACCESS

Wysing team is committed to making residencies as accessible as possible. We invite residency artists to begin a conversation about adjustments through an access document (<https://www.accessdocsforartists.com/homepage>) or whatever means is preferable. The residency is open to artists who wish to come with their families.

Our site is located in a rural area and includes a number of old buildings, which means that while we are working throughout 2025 to improve access across the site, it is currently only partially wheelchair accessible.

As part of our capital development project, Wysing's live/work accommodation is being redesigned to be fully accessible. This includes step-free access, an accessible bathroom, and improved kitchen and working spaces. Once complete in August 2025, this will provide an inclusive environment for residents.

Currently:

- The main project space, reception building, open studio, window room, live/work studio, ceramics studio and recording studio are accessible.

-There is free onsite parking, with designated disabled bays and easy access to key buildings.

-Although many pathways around our site have recently been resurfaced, some outdoor paths are uneven or gravelled, which may present challenges for wheelchair users or those with limited mobility. This includes pathways to: the farmhouse (our shared accommodation), the strawbale studio, and the amphis building.

-The operations office which has our printing facilities has a step at the entrance.

-The farmhouse building is not wheelchair accessible.

-The new block studios include accessible ground floor facilities with a shared toilet and sink for art materials. These also include laundry facilities for residents in the live/work accommodation to use.

-The first floor of the new block studios does not currently have lift access.

We are in the process of developing access at Wysing. Our capital redevelopment is set to take place from July-December of 2025. If there are any delays or changes to this schedule, we will communicate this with residency artists and support them to share their needs without pressure.