

Make Space: KARST

**VISUAL
ARTS
SOUTH WEST**

Make Space

Make Space is an initiative by Visual Arts South West that unlocks spaces within arts organisations for artists to set up, test and reflect on their work.

Make Space is designed to support artists whilst recognising the practical limitations organisations face in facilitating access. The initiative is run entirely in-kind by VASW and its partners. In turn, we ask artists to take responsibility for how they use the opportunity — managing their time, installing and deinstalling work, and working within the agreed parameters of each space.

About KARST

KARST is an independent contemporary gallery and artists studios in Plymouth, recognised internationally for dynamic creative programming. KARST's ambition is for everyone to have the opportunity to engage with, participate in, and experience contemporary art. KARST create space for taking risks and opportunities for artists and curators to provoke, disrupt and innovate.

KARST is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation.

karst.org.uk



KARST EXTERIOR. PHOTO BY DOM MOORE.

About the spaces

FENSTER

Height	Width	Depth
310cm (wall 240cm)	400cm	1040cm

Description	- FENSTER is a project space located at the centre of the studios, comprising one long wall with open floor space - A studio and office look onto the space, which has a ceiling fitted with heating panels, cabling, and lighting
Potential use	FENSTER is well suited to testing small and medium-sized objects, sculptures, paintings, and AV work
Considerations	- The space is surrounded by studios and an office, sound should be kept to a minimum - All building users are required to read and sign an induction and orientation document - Walls are suitable for hanging artworks with screws. No nails / pins to be used without KARST permission
Restrictions	- No flammable, toxic or solvent based materials to be used in the building without prior conversations with the KARST team - Spray paint cannot be used inside the building - Working at height is not permitted. KARST will provide step access - Fixings cannot be used in the ceiling or floor - Heavy items to be moved using trollies or skates provided by KARST. Damage to the floor will incur a £250 make good cost
Access	- KARST gallery is accessed via the office entrance and set of 4 stairs. Once inside the building, KARST is on one level with accessible facilities - Accessible entrance is via the gallery entrance which includes a wheelchair platform lift. This point of entry is limited to public opening hours and by appointment - Lone working is possible, but building users must refer to the orientation document - KARST is accessible during office hours 09:30 - 17:00
Visitors	Make Space artists are welcome to invite collaborators, peers, and external guests to the studios, provided this is agreed with KARST in advance. This requirement is in place to ensure the safety of all building users and to accommodate staffing capacity.

FENSTER



FENSTER, VIEW FROM GALLERY ENTRANCE



FENSTER, VIEW FROM STUDIO ENTRANCE

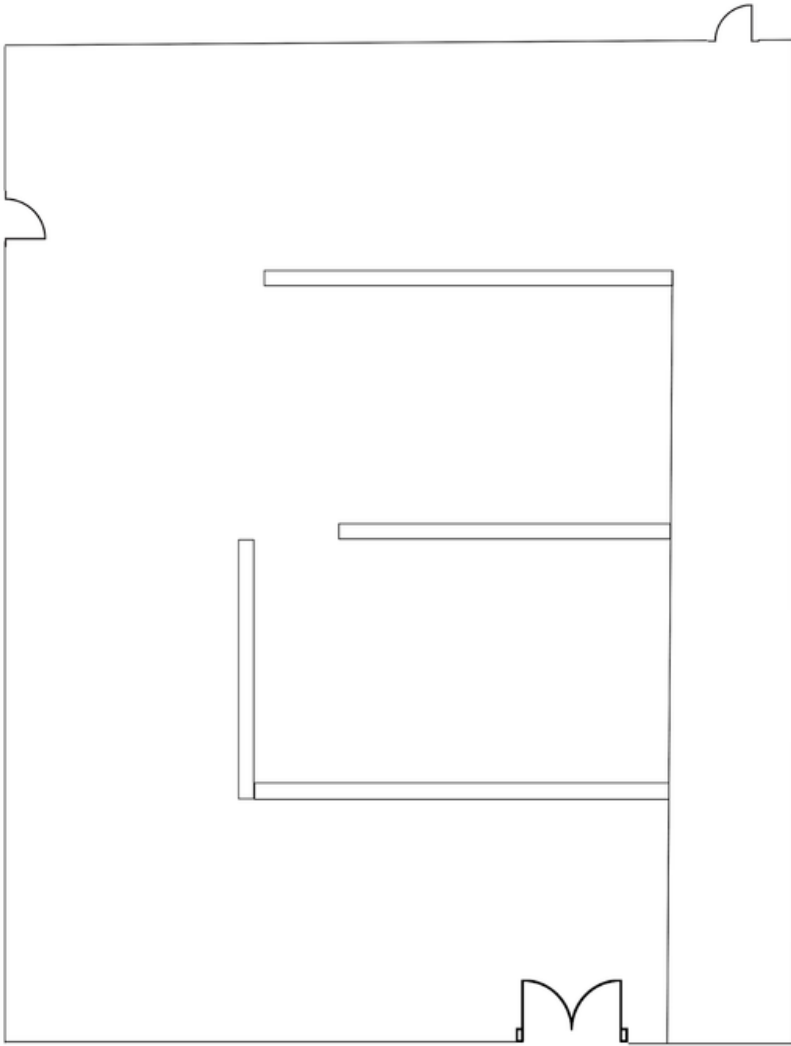
About the spaces

KARST gallery

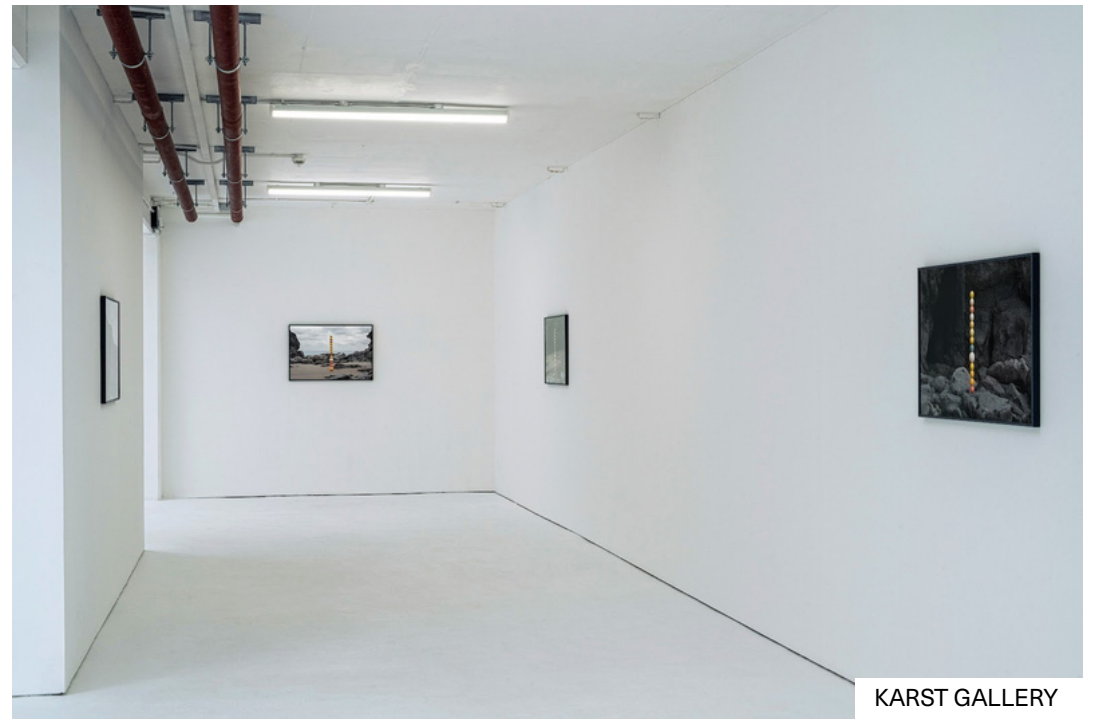
Height	Width	Depth
310cm	1386cm	1787cm

Description	• KARST is a large ‘white cube’ gallery space. The gallery is divided with a series of internal walls and pillars. • The gallery can be blacked out. The gallery has a main double door entrance that opens out on the street.
Potential use	• The gallery is well suited to the presentation of large scale artworks, performance, video and audio.
Considerations	• KARST is a working public gallery • There are some basic limitations to consider when using the space, including no fixing into the ceiling or floor • All gallery walls are suitable for hanging artworks with screws. No nails / pins to be used without KARST permission • All building users are required to read and sign an induction and orientation document
Restrictions	• No flammable, toxic or solvent based materials to be used in the building without prior conversations with the KARST team • Spray paint cannot be used inside the building • Working at height is not permitted. KARST will provide step access • Fixings cannot be used in the ceiling or floor • Heavy items to be moved using trollies or skates provided by KARST. Damage to the floor will incur a £250 make good cost
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KARST gallery



KARST GALLERY FLOORPLAN



KARST GALLERY



KARST GALLERY

About the spaces

FENSTER and KARST gallery

Expectations

Artists should:

- Have their own public liability
- Have their own personal property insurance (laptops etc)
- Bring their own equipment
- Leave the space as it was found
- Fill and sand holes / paint walls - paint and filler will be provided
- Complete a partner risk assessment
- Participate in a safety checks and on boarding process
- Sign a partner contract / MOU

Support:

- Onboarding will be provided by a member of the KARST team prior to use
- KARST will share an announcement about Make Space and the selected artists via their social media
- KARST is unable to offer a technician or technical support, however they have a network of technicians they can connect artists with
- KARST has access to a range of plinths but are unable to offer access to tools or equipment
- KARST are not able to offer feedback on artists' work.

Availability

Space	Dates Available	Duration
FENSTER	4-6 November 2026	3 day period
FENSTER	18-20 November 2026	3 day period
FENSTER	2-4 December 2026	3 day period
KARST gallery	20-22 January 2027	3 days period
KARST gallery	27-29 January 2027	3 days period

Acknowledgements

Make Space is initiated by VASW in collaboration with Plymouth Culture, KARST and Spike Island. The research and development phase was co-funded by Plymouth Culture and Arts Council England's National Portfolio Organisations in the city.

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K A R S T

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