

7 June, 2013

Dear AHA Friends and Family

After several months of reviewing options, the decision had been made that our much loved and respected organisation will cease to trade as of 30 June, 2013. This was a very difficult decision to make. It is odd to be closing the doors while continuing to be at the top of our game: our engagement with people and place, artists and individuals in the creation of new and innovative artworks has been as strong and forward looking as ever.

The ever-lengthening list of respected arts organisations that have closed over the past year is not one we had anticipated we would be joining. However, the ability to conceive great ideas and the capacity to make them happen doesn't always translate into the funding needed to support them. Despite being fleet of foot and generally ahead of trends, the current economic trend is one AHA couldn't buck.

The website will be revised and refined to serve as a resource for all of the ideas, events, artworks, individuals and places which were linked through AHA over the past sixteen years.

Our heartfelt thank yous and biggest of bear hugs to all of you who helped make AHA the risk-taking, responsive, compassionate, quirky, creative and *hard to define in a single sentence* home that it's been to us all. While AHA is irreplaceable — the combination of people, time and place may never come together in the same way again — it's to be hoped that all of us will bring away some of its magic and find it influencing our new projects and challenges.

So Long

& Thanks for All the Fish! Douglas Adams, Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy

*Sarah, Clare, Jennie, Richard & Nancy*

PS We hope that many of you will want to continue to share conversations about art, people and place. Our AHA email addresses will continue to operate for a while longer; if you want our personal email contacts, please let us know soon.