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dot-art Celebrates 15 years and High-Profile New Board Member!

dot-art is delighted to welcome Roger Phillips, journalist and broadcaster who last year left BBC Radio Merseyside after 42 years, to their board, as they celebrate their 15th birthday. As a social enterprise with artists at its heart, they have paid almost half a million pounds directly to local artists, through sales, commissions and fees.

Founded by Lucy Byrne in Liverpool in 2006, dot-art's mission is to support visual artists and champion art as an integral part of everyday life. Over the past 15 years, dot-art has become a key organisation within Merseyside's arts and culture sector, supporting local artists, working with businesses to put art in the workplace and public realm, running art classes, selling locally sourced, affordable art, and working with schools and community groups in the city region.

dot-art has provided long term support to over **500 artists** through a unique membership scheme which gives access to a package of support and advice, creating and developing artists' careers. They have hosted over **50 exhibitions** of local artists work across galleries, partner venues and other external locations, and rented more than **700 works of art** to local businesses. They have employed **25 artist tutors** and completed over **25,000 hours of teaching**, with artist members teaching classes across a multitude of inspiring local venues. They have engaged over **8000 schoolchildren** and supported over **400 teachers**, working to improve the quality of pupils' art experiences through dot-art Schools, the annual inter-schools art competition. Since the launch of **Liverpool Art Fair** in 2012, it has shown over **1700 local artists work** and welcomed over **50,000 visitors** to the event. dot-art has been instrumental in over **30 public and corporate art projects**, over the last 15 years, including **The Liverpool Plinth**, launched in 2017 and **Flag it Up**, from 2020 onwards.

Lucy said: *"While the pandemic has impacted dramatically on the last 12 months and will continue to do so for some time, there is still much to celebrate. Despite many ups and downs, we have not only survived, but thrived, growing year on year and now sustaining five jobs and a range of temporary roles alongside supporting over 100 freelance artists in their careers. I'd like to thank everyone who has made this possible!"*



Roger Phillips added: *“I’m proud to be joining the board of dot-art because it has a philosophy I’m so in tune with – it is there for everyone: the work in schools is so important; the offering of space for artists; the classes; the support for artists. It’s an all-encompassing offering, unsurprisingly founded by a woman - perhaps helping to alter the balance away from art being often so much a man’s world. In every way, dot-art thinks outside the box.”*

Watch a short film of dot-art’s first 15 years here: <https://youtu.be/YyBL0CP-iN0>

-ENDS -

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High resolution images available on request.

Notes to editors.

dot-art supports visual artists and champions art as an integral part of everyday life.

We do this by selling locally sourced, affordable art, working with businesses to put art in the workplace and public realm, running art classes and working with schools and community groups.

All this is underpinned by our unique membership scheme for artists in the North West which gives access to all the activities above and a package of support and advice, creating and developing artists’ careers.

Find out more: dot-art.com / [@dotart](https://twitter.com/dotart)

