

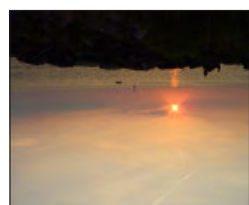


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Membership and support of ArtSpace/Cleveland provides artists with an opportunity to be a part of the economic vitality and revitalization in the city. All dues and donations are tax deductible.

**FOURTH ANNUAL ARTIST LIVE-WORK STUDIO TOUR**  
JUNE 24TH, 2006

ArtSpace/Cleveland  
1400 East 30th Street, 4th Floor  
Cleveland, OH 44114  
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# Artist Live-Work Studio Spaces Are a *HOT* Market in Chicago

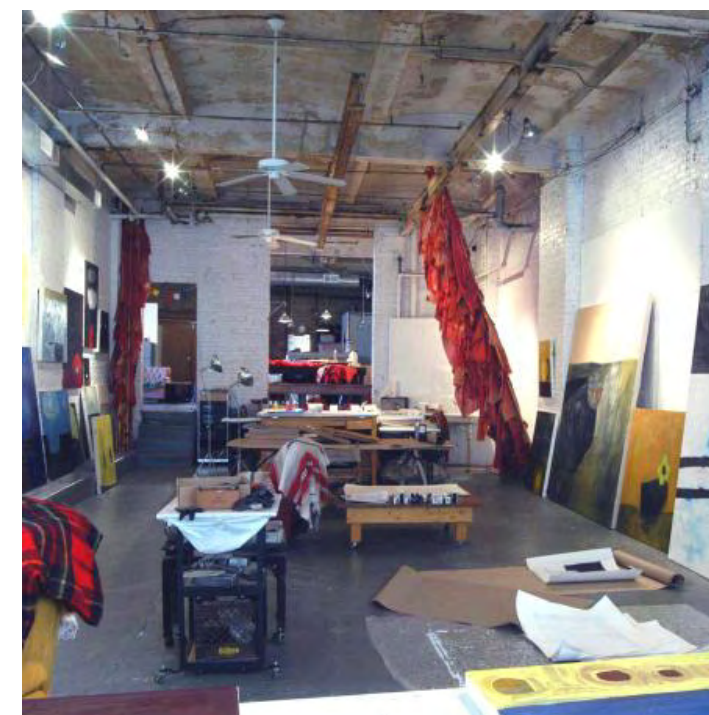
By William A. Gould

On April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2006, ArtSpace-Cleveland (Harriet and Bill) went to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Space, Housing + Business Resources for Artists Expo in Chicago. WOW! We were impressed with the number of people seeking information and the number and kind of services offered to the artist community. Chicago is a big city - 7,000,000 people with approximately 30,000 active artists. We wondered if what we saw would translate to Cleveland's 400,000 residents and ±3,500 active artists. People are always comparing Cleveland to other cities and wishing Cleveland would be like other cities. We liked what we saw in Chicago, and believe that a Space + Housing + Business expo would be enthusiastically received in Cleveland, specifically for Artist Live-Work spaces. Artist Live-Work lofts are a *hot market* in Chicago and they could be in Cleveland for investors, bankers, developers, non-profits, and the artists/owners.

### Highlights

Zoning and building permitting was a key component of the Expo. Although Chicago's laws and approaches were different than ours, their intent and purpose is the same.

Ownership and financing was of major interest. Cleveland's National City Bank had a booth, along with many other funders, institutions and mortgage bankers. Developers and realtors were present with projects and spaces including new live-work studios with land donated by the city for ownership for less than \$100,000. (Note: in a city where market rate condominiums begin at \$350,000 for 1,000 sq.ft.) The projects ranged from converted office buildings and warehouses to two-story (live above or work above storefronts) and new live-work big space lofts.



Artist's Studio in Chicago

Neighborhood non-profits were everywhere to promote, identify live-work lofts and to attract artists to their neighborhood. There are many arts districts in Chicago. Lawyers for the Arts provided helpful advice on zoning, ownership, and rentals; architects and developers were also giving design direction.

A major effort by artists is to own their space. Since real estate speculation is a major industry in Chicago, owning your own space offers some protection when neighborhoods become gentrified.

(over)

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**Artist Live-Work Studio Spaces Are a  
 HOT Market in Chicago (cont.)**

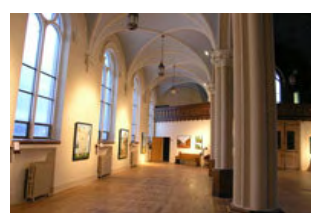
We met several people from northern Ohio who are active in Chicago's art scene that would like to move back to Ohio. Although Chicago is not as expensive as New York City, it certainly is more expensive than Cleveland. The big concern – the high costs of space and living in Chicago makes it difficult to make a living in the arts. Cleveland still has it good.

**Next Steps** - So, what can Cleveland do? Put on our creative caps?

- 1) Get a meaningful commitment from the Mayor and key councilmen: this means financial help. Chicago has a Commissioner of Arts and Culture with a budget, staff, and building.
- 2) Secure a meaningful commitment from the business community. Abby Maier of COSE, along with CPAC, are a good beginning of business support.
- 3) A **Spaces, Housing and Business Resources Expo** in Cleveland would be excellent start – as was explained to us in Chicago – it has taken three expos to start a dialogue or network between business, banks and financial, real estate developers, non profits and artists.
- 4) ArtSpace-Cleveland needs help to assist with grant writing to seek funds to kick-start this expo idea. Who? National City Bank; Foundations; FCE, American Greetings?
- 5) Ownership of artist live/work lofts is important to stabilize art districts. There should be many art districts and all working together with agreed agenda like common zoning, building permitting, advertising, etc.; each with a unique specialty (Detroit Shoreway, Theater, Superior-St. Clair, Visual Arts, Tremont, Galleries). We meet monthly so, please join us to contribute your thoughts and time.

**Fourth Annual Trolley Tour of Artist  
 Live-Work Studios**

**Saturday, June 24th - 1:00-5:00 p.m.**



ArtSpace/Cleveland has organized an exciting tour of artist live-work studios located in Cleveland's Art District, providing art lovers an opportunity to see what *zero commute* is all about.

Tour begins at ArtSpace/Cleveland, 1400 East 30<sup>th</sup> Street.

- Free parking available
- Payne Avenue Lofts
- Hodge School

Refreshments and tour of Convivium 33 Gallery located in the former St. Josaphat Roman Catholic Church, [www.josaphatartshall.com](http://www.josaphatartshall.com).

**ArtSpace-Cleveland 2006 Membership**

- Laura Noble, *Downtown Cleveland Partnership*-  
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 Suzanne DeGaetano, *Mac's Backs*  
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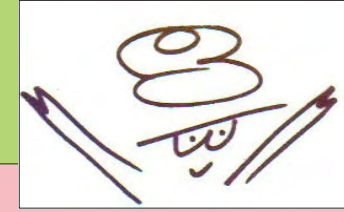


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