

# The Ship of Fools

A project/residency with the vacuum cleaner.

## Anti-Section 1 of the vacuum cleaner's Mental Health Act; 2011

- i: From now (10th May 2011) and for the next 28 days, artist/activist the vacuum cleaner has committed himself to the self-made mental health institution the Ship Of Fools (his flat in Hackney, London).
- ii: The Ship Of Fools will function as an inter-section between mental sanctuary and creative liberty. As part of this time the vacuum cleaner seeks creative residencies at the Ship Of Fools: both artist and non-artists alike in an attempt to find creativity in madness. Artists can use the residencies for making, researching, reflecting or anything else that they need time and space for. The only condition is that the residencies must involve the vacuum cleaner in some way – as material, as collaborator, as helper, as observer or as anything else that is creative and useful to both/all.
- iii: During this time the vacuum cleaner will also attempt to create work and you are invited to join this process, should you wish.
- iv: The Ship Of Fools will offer a small honorary fee, space to work, computers, fast internet access, stills camera, video camera, screen printing facilities, cake and cups of tea, maybe even some lunch. Residencies can last anywhere from one day to the full twenty-eight.
- v: What happens at the residency is totally open but is dependent on a mutually beneficial relationship between the vacuum cleaner and the resident. Material from the residency may be collected and presented in some form in the future.
- vi: Participants of the residency should be aware that this may be a challenging experience and willing to work with the artist to find mutually respected boundaries.
- vii: Applications, however small or large, mental or not are welcome. Submissions are open from now until the 24th of May. Include a brief description of what you would like to do, some form of documentation of previous work and a timeframe for when you would wish to undertake the residency. Submissions can be in any format, digital, hard copy or in person.  
[fools@thevacuumcleaner.co.uk](mailto:fools@thevacuumcleaner.co.uk) (email to arrange in person submission)

the vacuum cleaner  
Toynbee Studios  
28 Commercial St  
London, E1 6AB  
(Don't post anything you want back)

[www.thevacuumcleaner.co.uk/shipoffools](http://www.thevacuumcleaner.co.uk/shipoffools)

This project is supported by Arts Council, Artsadmin and Live Art Development Agency.