

DIEU
DONNÉ

Dieu Donn 's next step forward

The entire experience working here was inspiring! I hope that what we made together will attract even more people to this laboratory where ideas and materials mix in a sloshy slippery world of possibilities

- Jim Hodges, Artist

Throughout four decades Dieu Donn ' has collaborated with artists from a wide range of disciplines to provide them with a new visual language and to create cutting-edge works of art. As artists, entrepreneurs and makers, we have a deep knowledge of the craft of hand papermaking, and a conviction that applying innovative methods to traditional materials makes handmade paper particularly relevant to contemporary artists working today. Through intensive collaboration with expert studio staff, our supportive environment and multidisciplinary approach foster artistic discovery while expanding the definition of art on and in paper.



This year we have a unique opportunity to grow by relocating to the **Brooklyn Navy Yard**. Key attributes that make this location integral to our future include:

- Joining a dynamic hub of "makers". The Navy Yard's tenants view the area as "a cross between an artist colony and Silicon Valley".
- A 30% reduction in rent, allowing us to expand our studio footprint in response to growing needs.
- The ability to develop three dedicated studios, vastly expanding the number and diversity of artists and community groups we serve.
- A location that brings us closer to many of our artists, and just 30 minutes from downtown Manhattan.

Top right: Entrance to the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Bottom left: Jim Hodges "Anymore" 2010. Bottom right: Jim Hodges and Artistic Director Paul Wong in the studio.



Left: Ann Hamilton's residency project 'page sounding' at MASS MoCA in collaboration with Bang on a Can. Right: Ann Hamilton in the wet studio at Dieu Donn .

Responding to Artist's Needs

A recent artist survey and round table discussions have guided our planning. Our new home will allow us to:

Serve more artists by expanding our studio footprint and developing dedicated studios for artist needs.

- *83% of our artists found residencies and studio rentals the most rewarding aspect of our program*

Develop a "key holder" residency for hand papermaking – the first of its kind available to artists in this country.

- *74% of our artists said they would like to continue to work in the medium in an independent "key holder" style studio*

Provide more economical options for artists to work in our studios.

- *64% of our artists said that cost was the most challenging aspect in continuing their work at Dieu Donn *

Be in closer proximity to the artists we serve.

- *75% of our artists said they will be as or more inclined to utilize our studios at the Brooklyn Navy Yard*



Firelei B ez and Studio Collaborator Amy Jacobs in the wet studio at Dieu Donn 

Responding to Education and Community Needs

"At the conclusion of our trip last year, when we reflected on our experience, the class agreed, it was their best trip 'ever'! ... I witnessed a student who I had been trying to interest and reach all year, completely focused and driven while he was creating paper. I saw a side of him, truthfully, I had rarely seen in the classroom."

- Gina Beavers, Art Teacher, PS 66, Brooklyn, NY

Dieu Donn e has partnered with Expressive Therapies Summit to teach art therapists to make paper with repurposed fibers that transform negative experiences into therapeutic moments. This unique collaboration extends beyond the studio and places hand papermaking in local communities. The art therapists return to their clinical practice worldwide and engage clients in the transformational hand papermaking process"

- Amy Bucciarelli, Board Certified Art Therapist, Gainesville, FL



"Selfie" project by fourth grade students exhibited in the Dieu Donn e gallery.

Over the past 4 years we have piloted new education and art for social justice programs in our studio. With the support of The Ford Foundation and NYC's Department of Cultural Affairs, among others, we have utilized the creative tool of hand papermaking to reach underserved populations and students of all ages. Our new home will allow us to:

- Construct an 850 sq. ft. dedicated education and community studio to support these programs.
- Provide process based learning opportunities to a diverse range of schools and community groups.
- Train educators and art therapists to utilize papermaking in cross curriculum and STEAM learning.



Above: Student from P.S. 66 creating art in paper. Below: LOVE POSITIVE WOMEN, collaboration with Visual AIDS and Fire Island Artist Residency in support of women living with HIV.

The Future of Art in Paper



It has been a thrilling experience, and I am telling everyone that I have discovered artistic gold—a completely new material and set of processes. When I'm at the papermaking studio, everything is possible. ... I'm so encouraged by this opportunity at this point in my career: the limits we are pushing with material and scale would not be possible anywhere else.

-Jarrod Beck, Artist

Works of art created at Dieu Donn  are held in renown public collections including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, The Whitney Museum of American Art, the J. Paul Getty Museum, and The British Museum. Dieu Donn  works are included in artists' retrospectives, exhibited in museums internationally, and presented at venues such as the Venice Biennale and the Basel Art Fair.

We are committed to providing artists with an opportunity to utilize papermaking in their contemporary studio practice while working with critics, curators, and collectors to understand and appreciate contemporary paper art. We are confident that "Art in Paper" will be recognized in the 21st century as never before, and that Dieu Donn  will be leading the way.

We are grateful for your enthusiasm for our work, and as we look to our exciting future we ask for your support. Please consider a gift to help us realize this exceptional opportunity and create our new home. To make a contribution, please contact Kathleen Flynn, Executive Director at 212-226-0573 ext. 202 or kflynn@dieudonne.org, or visit <http://www.dieudonne.org/donate>.

