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## Essex Summer of Art goes Virtual

Due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the Essex Summer of Art, an event which has supported over 160 art trail and open studio exhibitions in the county during the last decade, will this year be held online for the very first time.

With over 50 artists involved, the Essex Summer of Art gallery will showcase unique and inspiring artworks ranging from visual art to sculptures and jewellery.

Virtual visitors can explore the exciting and eclectic collections on the Explore Essex website, discovering beautiful Essex-inspired landscapes, still lifes, and even pieces inspired by the current lockdown.

The artworks, which range in price from £20 to £1,500 can even be purchased direct from the artists.

Susan Barker, Essex County Council Cabinet Member for Customer, Corporate, Culture and Communities, said: "Due to the ongoing Covid-19 crisis, art trails and open studios will not be taking place during 2020.

"Because of this we decided to launch the inaugural Essex Summer of Art Virtual Gallery so that we can continue to promote and support the county's talented artists.

"The online gallery will offer the artists the opportunity to engage with Essex residents in a way that they haven't been able to do before. At the same time, it allows us to showcase the vibrant and creative culture sector that exists within our fantastic county."

For more information or to view the Essex Summer of Art Virtual Gallery visit the [Explore Essex](#) website.

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### Notes for editors:

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**Explore Essex:** Explore Essex brings together a unique group of parks and heritage venues which are owned by Essex County Council. Its mission is to deliver a broad range of exciting facilities and events for the people of Essex.