

EXCLUSIVE!

BIRMINGHAM IS

GALLERY HEAVEN!

BAZ can exclusively reveal that Birmingham has seven commercial galleries dedicated to the selling of contemporary ART. According to The Yellow Pages, these seven galleries are: Whitewall Galleries, St.Pauls Gallery, Number Nine The Gallery, Castle Galleries, Halcyon Gallery, Purple Gallery, The Tiny Gallery. Any doubts that Birmingham isn't a rival to other commercial ART districts such as London's East End are surely disproved by these astonishing figures. BAZ also know of at least one another Gallery - Marcus Galleries in Moseley - and suspect there may be more. ARTISTS wishing to sell work in Birmingham no longer have to do a runner to London on the five pound Chiltern special to look for commercial success.

SPLASH THE CASH

They can now make a living selling their work to Birmingham buyers lining up to splash the cash. Our roving reporter went to investigate one of these establishments to find out what making money in the Birmingham ART World is all about. According to their website, 'Purple Gallery opened in Bournville, Birmingham in April 2005 and promotes the work of local, regional and national contemporary emerging artists. The Gallery holds a fine selection of Paintings, Ceramics, Original Prints, Sculpture and Jewellery'.

CERAMIC THINGS



BAZ had a lovely afternoon there, looking at some ceramic things and watercolour paintings. Apparently some of the pieces we were surrounded by would sell up to and sometimes over £100. BAZ left The Purple Gallery feeling reassured that commercial artistic activity in the city is thriving, despite the credit crunch. ART Lovers are still prepared to spend big in pursuit of the things they love. BAZ couldn't afford the astronomical prices casually spoken about, but they did purchase a nice postcard of a vase. In the Birmingham ART World, money really is beginning to talk.