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# Yonkers' first YoHo art gallery to open

Art, design firm to run Yonkers co-op space

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Scott Tucker and Tracey Brooke moved their company, ISC Studio, from Brooklyn to a 4,000-square-foot space at YoHo Artist Studio in Yonkers. / Colin Gustafson/The Journal News

Written by Colin Gustafson

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**YONKERS** — An arts co-op housed in a former carpet factory is welcoming its first gallery as it seeks to expand and attract more artists to the city.

The YoHo Artist Studio will host a ribbon-cutting from 5 to 9 p.m. today for ISC Studio, an art and design company that recently moved from Brooklyn to the co-op on Nepperhan Avenue.

ISC will run YoHo's first permanent, on-site gallery where nearly 50 studio tenants may regularly display their work, said George Huang of

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The Heights Real Estate Co., which owns the building.

Huang pointed to the historic arrival of artists and, later, galleries in post-industrial New York City neighborhoods such as Chelsea as a precedent for what he hopes will happen in Yonkers.

"We feel this is a milestone in the evolution of YoHo," Huang said. "It is Facebook the natural progression and evolution of an arts district."

The Heights bought the former Alexander Smith carpet mill in 2005 and has invested nearly \$1 million in the building.

It has 50 lofts, and a recent expansion is expected to add another 25 later this spring, Huang said.

ISC's new 4,000-square-foot headquarters at YoHo includes offices, a production workshop for founder Scott Tucker's "Raunjiba" furniture line, and a display area for his and his partner Tracey Brooke's artwork.

The couple will manage and promote events at the new gallery including quarterly art exhibits and educational programs separately from their production space.

After eight years in a carriage house in the Carroll Gardens section of Brooklyn, Tucker said he and Brooke were attracted to Yonkers in part because it enabled them to nearly triple the size of their production space.

"We liked the idea of a growing arts culture in Yonkers and Westchester as a whole," said Tucker, who also works as a painter, sculptor and photographer.

"I miss Brooklyn very much," he added, "but this gives us an opportunity to work from the ground floor in a non-saturated market."

YoHo will host its ninth annual "open studios" exhibition April 21 and 22 that will allow the public to tour the workspaces of about 30 artists. county, as well as for school closings and delays by school district. Sign up now.

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