

# Artists in Residence 2017



Sumburgh Head's Artist-in-Residence programme now moves into its third year and continues to attract a diverse and impressive range of international artists. As in 2016, we have some artists who are returning for a second residency.

The 2017 programme includes writers and artists, with several visiting with their partners, either as a joint residency or artistic husbands and wives coming along to share and enjoy the experience.

The dramatic views and inspiring natural heritage and wildlife which abound at Sumburgh Head create a perfect working environment for all our visiting artists. They are able to develop new works which are quite often continued when they return home to their own studio spaces.

During each residency, public workshops or displays are arranged to allow the artists the opportunity to engage with the public and show their work. Details of each event will be published on the Sumburgh Head website and Facebook page each month.

**January:**

**Paul and Christine Czainski**

Paul and Christine work independently and collaboratively across a broad range of art disciplines. They have high technical expertise in a range of media and have previously exhibited "Guillemots at Sumburgh Head" at Shetland Museum and Archives



Paul is particularly interested in working on some Sumburgh bird etchings using the drypoint technique during the residency. Christine will be continuing her research and works linked to Shetland's historical/cultural connections, creating works using detritus.

**February:**

## **Sam Douglas and Baccara Smart**

Sam has travelled widely to gather material for paintings, often on foot or bicycle as a way of experiencing the landscape more closely and as a counterpoint to the static nature of his studio practice. While in Shetland, he is particularly keen to paint seascapes direct from the studio view as this was something he started to do on a previous residency and which he would like to develop further. He is also keen to experience stormy weather which he hopes there will be plenty of in February, and the exposed position of Sumburgh Head is ideal for this.

Baccara has previously been on a number of trips/residencies visiting circuses (India) and Circus museums/archives (the Bolshoi Circus and archive in St. Petersburg). While at Sumburgh, she aims to continue with this interest in fairs and performances and to add to her ongoing series. She is keen to find imagery of more present day activities and to speak with people regarding these traditions.



**March:**

## **Alison Craig**

Alison's practice as a visual artist is grounded in observational drawing and the experience of the rural environment.

Much of her work has been derived from walks in the countryside near her home in rural North Wales. Drawings made on the spot are developed and manipulated in an attempt to evoke a sense of place: the exhilaration of the changing seasons; mapping the memories of journeys made; a sense of belonging and of time passing. The scale of the work varies according to the experience: from metres-long rolls of paper holding monochrome drawings of remembered walks, to tiny, bright canvases encapsulating a single moment.

Living "on the spot" at Sumburgh Head will allow Alison to immerse herself in the landscape, and experience the environment more fully, extremes of weather and all.

**April:**

## **Constance Willems**

Constance Willems is a Dutch knitwear designer currently working in Germany who writes about the history of knitting. While in Shetland, she will research connections between Marken and Shetland and is keen to meet people to share information.

For her recently published book Dutch knits, Constance comprehensively researched knitting in the Netherlands during more than 3 centuries. This cultural history is mainly told through paintings, drawings and later on in pictures. The book takes the reader from the Dutch Golden Age to the end of the 1960s.



**May:**

## **Eeva Simola**

Eeva is a Finnish travel writer who first came to Scotland in 1975 and has adopted it as her second home.

During the residency she will be collecting material on Shetland and Orkney for her next writing project on Scotland.

Eeva's work has previously been displayed at Shetland Museum and Archives when she put together the 'Aland Women at Sea' works as part of the Nordic House exhibition in 2016



**June:**

## **Liz Myhill and Lara Scouller**

Artists Liz Myhill and Lara Scouller were resident at Sumburgh Head in August 2016 where they completed a body of work in sketchbooks and on location to observe landscape, surroundings and wildlife. They will return in June 2017 to develop more resolved work and fine art prints.

For Lara the Sumburgh Head Lighthouse residency will play an integral part in a wider initiative she is undertaking which will take place over a year and involve practice-based research trips to different Scottish seabird colonies in the Inner and Outer Hebrides, Shetland Islands and the Firth of Forth. Work was recently exhibited at the Kinblethmont Gallery in Arbroath.

Liz is also working towards exhibitions in 2017 and made many works on site, both in the sketchbook as a visual diary and larger scale pieces in a variety of media including printmaking, watercolour and mixed media. An integral part of the process for her is the gathering of natural fibres which will later be used to construct textural printmaking blocks, as will the collating of additional text based information, found objects etc.



**July:**

## **Kate Walters**

Kate is based in Cornwall but of Scottish ancestry, and is very keen to spend more time in the beautiful unspoilt wildness of Scotland and the Shetland Isles.

Kate's life as an artist is about becoming a gatherer of the archaic and an explorer of what is hidden. She works with monotype, watercolour, gum Arabic, pencil and oil on gesso-prepared surfaces as her tools to track the subtle marks of certain fugitive phenomena.



**August:**

## **Oddvar Wold**

Oddvar is from Stavanger, on the west coast of Norway. After 4 years at art schools in Norway and Denmark, he worked as a Graphic Designer, Illustrator and Photographer before retiring to become a full time artist in 2004.

From a young age, he has spent time walking in the mountains in western Norway and developing an interest in landscape painting. Oddvar works only with watercolors, as he feels this medium gives him the most thrilling experiences using wet-on-wet and wet-on-dry on paper.

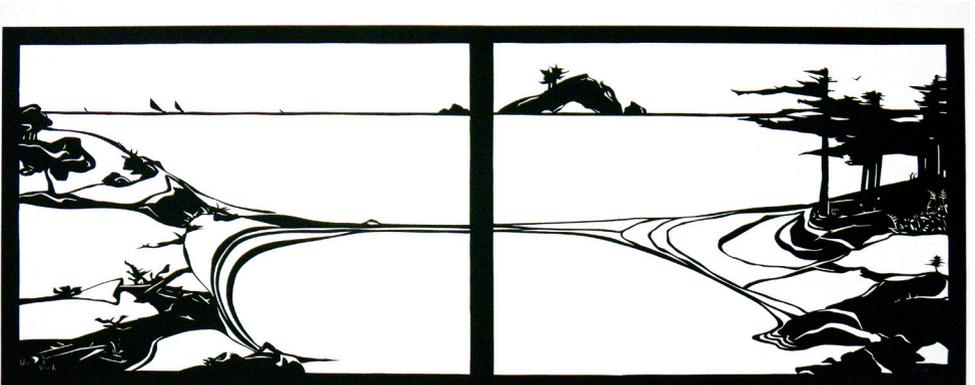


**September:**

## **Hannah Viano**

Hannah is an artist, author, and adventurous educator focusing primarily on cut paper artwork depicting landscape, regional scenes and flora/ fauna. She has written several children's books and works with school children and adults on projects that foster appreciation for the natural world.

Hannah will come to Shetland with the intention of creating a series of images and simple (or complex) story thread relating to the landscape and history surrounding a light house and its neighbours. She will take the images and words that jump out at her along the course of getting to know the people and environment, and once back at home, make a limited edition book with her own hands.



**October:**

**Laura McLeod**

Laura has spent the past ten years teaching and developing her own practice. She enjoys sharing and discussing creativity with others and works with community groups for people with dementia and memory impairment all over the country. She feels this is a dream job as she gets to have this connection and dialogue with others, while supporting and encouraging them to express themselves through art.



Laura feels it is important to be close to the sea, feeling that painting it both frustrates and energises her. She says that painting the sea forces her to respond differently, make quicker decisions, go with her gut. She would hope to develop this at Sumburgh Head, generating a body of work to share with others.

**November:**

**Brian Cheung**

Brian will come to Sumburgh following a month's residency at Bressay lighthouse and intends to carry the momentum of his work there down to Sumburgh.

During a previous residency in Iceland he began to impulsively document his surroundings. This led to him "obsessively" painting a series of 60 paintings depicting the view of the sea from the studio. He says it was fascinating to observe the constantly changing weather and ever-shortening days moving towards the winter solstice. The series became not just a recording of time, but also of his progress and abilities during the residency.



For Brian, Scotland feels like a logical next step from the previous residency, with its cultural and geographic ties to Iceland and the Faroes. Staying in such dramatic locations of Sumburgh Head and Bressay will allow him a perfect vantage point to observe and illustrate the constantly changing moods and movements of the sea. This subsequent series of paintings will be another rigorous examination and reflection of his practice; an attempt at grappling with the notion of awareness and completeness.

# Sumburgh Head

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Lara Scouller

July: Kate Walters

August: Oddvar Wold

September: Hannah Viano

October: Laura McLeod

November: Brian Cheung

To enquire about future Artist-in-residence opportunities please contact  
Angela Hunt: [angela.h@sumburghhead.com](mailto:angela.h@sumburghhead.com)

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