

Artist Residencies

Burren College of Art

BURREN COLLEGE OF ART



Introduction



The purpose of the Artist Residency at Burren College of Art is to provide time, space and the environment for an uninterrupted period of creative work. It has proven to be particularly suited to emerging and established artists and faculty wishing to investigate new areas of inquiry, explore new techniques or develop a body of work for exhibition, entrance or application for grants and positions. More especially, residents at the Burren College of Art benefit from the strong sense of community that underpins this special place.

The Burren has long been a source of inspiration for, and in many cases, an adoptive home to artists of all media. Poets, novelists, painters, sculptors, musicians and playwrights have absorbed its spectacular bare and stony beauty and created, through words and images, music and song, drawing and painting, sculpture and installation, a multitude of rich works that continue to be enjoyed and appreciated.

Among those who have been so inspired are W.B. Yeats, one of Ireland's best known and much loved poet-dramatists; the acclaimed Irish-Australian painter, Sir Sidney Nolan; Richard Long, the English artist; Seamus Heaney, the internationally renowned contemporary poet and Nobel prize winner; James Coleman, contemporary installation artist and British Poet Laureate, Sir John Betjeman, all of whom have immortalised the mystical beauty of the Burren in their work.

“All summer long there was a constant buzz about the place, various artists and students continually arriving and leaving and both faculty and staff, creating a core of support and ideas. I met more artists working in different types of media over the course of the summer than I had at any other time in my life, and my work continued to grow and shift. In the end it was the community that exists within the Burren that brought me so much more than mere time and space. The exchange of ideas and collaboration between artists in a place that seems to be set apart from time created a new passion and excitement for art and how it can be shared.”

Sarah Quick, Summer 2011

“I was continually inspired by the people I met and I felt challenged to push the boundaries of what art can be.”

Sarah Quick, Summer 2011





“The college is in an amazing location, which makes a closeness to the surrounding environment, town and people possible. As a resident I have felt very involved with life here and very free to experiment with materials and the handling of subject matter inspired by my experience here.”

Sandy Singletary, Summer 2011

Facilities

Resident artists at the Burren College of Art may work in the solitude of this inspiring environment while also engaging with a vibrant campus community. During the summer months BCA hums with conversations and ideas-sharing between visiting artists, faculty and students. The academic year, from September to April, takes on a different rhythm where resident artists may choose to work alone or to participate with the college community in discussions, seminars and events.

Resident artists can avail of the spacious facilities, which include:

- Bright, modern, individual studios
- Four floors of installation / exhibition spaces in Newtown Castle
- Well-equipped darkroom
- Photographic Lighting Studio
- Digital Lab with large format printer (max 24inch)
- Sculpture Workshop with metal and woodwork hand and machine tools
- Comfortable lecture theatre

- Accessible library comprising current periodicals, slides and core reference books
- Relaxing cafeteria
- On-campus art shop with good selection of art materials
- Dedicated computer room with Wifi available throughout campus

Residents can also avail of single room accommodation in Burren College of Art housing, subject to availability. All housing is offered on a self-catering basis, with each house having full kitchen and laundry facilities.

In addition to museums and galleries in Dublin and Belfast, Ireland's location at the gateway to Europe permits easy access to other art centres. The Burren College of Art organises field trips to London, and Berlin for regular semester students, which resident artists may join at cost.



“I would recommend this residency program to any of my artist colleagues – regardless of his/her concentration. Out here in the Burren you really feel free to experiment and explore.”

Erin Robinson, summer 2009



“The studios have the most wonderful light and there is a sense of inclusiveness in the whole environment of the college.”

Gillian Turner, Summer 2009

“I found a stillness in which to explore my work and the direction it is going. I was very taken with the variety of people when I was here, all friendly and interesting and there if you wanted to interact. The College is a unique place.”

Carole Shubotham, Summer 2009



“This has been an inspirational and reinvigorating trip. I came here looking for a place where I could renew my commitment to making art...to truly find what I wanted and needed to do and why...I found all of this and more.”

Denis Routhier, Summer 2011

Admissions

Application forms for the Artist Residency programme are available online at www.burrencollege.ie where you will also find information on fees, housing etc. We accept applications on a rolling basis and all application forms must be accompanied by a portfolio of images on CD and sent to the following address:

Artist Residency Programme
Burren College of Art
Newtown Castle
Ballyvaughan
Co. Clare
Ireland

We are available to answer any queries you may have about this programme at residency@burrencollege.ie or by telephone at +353 65 707 7200

We look forward to hearing from you.

Acknowledgements

Burren College of Art would like to thank its former residents for the images and commentaries used in this booklet. Particular thanks go to Robert Ellis, Andrew Downes and Joe Ryan for the use of their photographs.

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