



## Landscape, Ecology & Environment

### Research Residencies

LEER, 2023

#### *Guidelines for Applicants*

Leitrim Sculpture Centre is awarding up to four Research & Development Residencies to artists during 2023. This residency programme provides artists working in the field of contemporary visual arts, with the space, time and support for the research and development of new engagements with landscape, ecology and/or environmental contexts and themes. Specifically, the programme supports artists wishing to explore new thinking, artistic practices and/or material transformations current within rural, landscape and/or environmental contexts, discourses and settings. It is envisaged that artists will use this work to develop new approaches and methods within their own practice, potentially informing new directions for them and the Centre.

Up to three awards will be granted to artists based in Ireland, including artists from minority ethnic or migrant backgrounds. Up to one award may be granted to an international participant.

The aims of the research residency are to:

- Support artists to develop and expand contexts and themes for their work
- Foster strategic approaches that provide long term benefits to researchers
- Develop new connections, relations and movement between local and global sites of interest
- Inform new projects, research, and archival content for the LSC and beyond

#### **Residency Applications – Research Proposal**

There is no application form and submissions are in the form of a research proposal (max 1 A4) that outlines, in brief; the general area, subject, topic and/or context or theme/s of the research; the kind of site/s or socio-environmental setting/s that interest the artist; suggestive or potential

approaches, methods and/or techniques that will most likely be explored and developed in advancing artistic practice.<sup>1</sup>

In determining the context and scope of the research at this stage artists may choose from a wide range of physical and/or discursive or theoretical sites of interest. In doing so they should note areas of artistic interest and potential development that will be addressed in the research. Suggestive examples of research context might include but is not limited to:

- Research that examines a range of concerns and issues around land use, climate change, bio-diversity, environmental stress
- Research that explores alternative models of social practice and dwelling in the rural context (in the fields of agriculture; the economy; food and energy; innovation and technology; public space and the built environment etc.)
- Research that engages with rural communities in novel forms of collaboration, inclusivity, grass-roots initiative, innovation, cultural diversity, or collective action
- Research that navigates hybrid sites, connecting and developing thematic strands within ecology, human/non-human relations, landscape topologies and/or geographies of nature at different local and global scales
- Research that explores political landscapes, ecologies and/or environments including within art history, theory and recent contemporary practice

Additional application material will include the following:

- 6 images: good quality jpegs of previous work with captions: Artists name; Title; Material, Size, Date, (and description of context if relevant)
- An up-to-date CV (max 2 pages)
- An Artists Statement and Bio

The most preferable way to send proposals is by email with all material included as one pdf document no larger than 20MB to: [apply@leitrimsculpturecentre.ie](mailto:apply@leitrimsculpturecentre.ie). Please put in the subject line of the email: **'LEER Residency (and your name)**

---

<sup>1</sup> As many of these areas will be explored further during the research process itself please attempt at this stage to clarify as much as you can about your central area/s of focus and the various directions that interest you in moving forward.

## Selection Criteria

- Quality of previous work (20%)
  - Innovation within suggested approaches to the materials, ideas, and processes. (30%)
  - The capacity of the proposed project to support the artist-researcher develop new approaches, methods and ideas in the advancement of their practice (20%)
  - Relevance and quality of the project proposal to this residency scheme (15%)
  - Relationship to contexts elsewhere in the world (15%)
- 
- **Application Deadline** 30 April. 2023
  - **Notification by** 19 May 2023.

## Residency Supports

Successful applicants will each receive a research fee of €2,000. Research may take place at the Leitrim Sculpture Centre (with accommodation provided) and/or in other locations in Ireland or abroad. Research time will involve approximately 20 days work over the course of one year. Successful applicants will receive detailed guidelines as to the form and scope of research material required as well as other logistics and these will be explained at a joint one-day meeting held at the Sculpture Centre during 2023.

Residency artists will be expected to present a Research Portfolio as part of a Group Exhibition at the end of the project in the Summer of 2024 and an additional fee will be available for this. Further Guidelines will also be provided for these engagements.



*LSC Landscape, Ecology & Environment Research Residencies are kindly supported by the Arts Council*