

Scotland/Norway ceramics exhibition 2017

Draft proposal

By Joanna Wright, An Talla Solais

Project title

Across Northern Seas

Summary

Across Northern Seas is a project to enable ceramic artists working in Scotland and Norway to collaborate in the creation of new work and an exhibition which will tour four venues. With its origins at An Talla Solais, Ullapool it will move to Caithness (Inverness Museum/Art Galleries), on to Shetland (Shetland Arts) and finally to Norway (Gallery to be confirmed).

The artists are:

BIOENARIO collective (Kjersti Sletteland and Tone Boska, who live in Scotland/Norway respectively but meet for intense periods of creation to make dynamic porcelain pieces inspired by their surroundings. BIOENARIO were awarded An Talla Solais's annual prize in the RSA Open 2016 and are currently making work inspired by Ullapool through a two-phase residency at An Talla Solais.

Siri Brekke is based in Norway. Her work is inspired by the objects and artefacts rooted in a particular place, often with historical significance, from which she makes casts and copies which suggest new meanings and uses.

Ingeborg Blom Andersskog also works in Norway. Trained as a ceramicist her work currently focuses on drawing and performance, in particular through marking trails and paths as she walks through the landscape.

Rebecca Brown is an illustrator and ceramicist based in Inverness. With drawing as her starting point her ceramics are suggestive of curious narratives.

An Talla Solais is committed to the development of contemporary ceramics, through the provision of ceramics working space and facilities and through exhibiting high quality contemporary work. This exhibition will be formed through ATS's 2018 theme of 'process', which works both on the level of inviting the public to engage with the physical process of the creation of the artwork – through demonstrations, open studios and workshops – as well as by working with the artists to develop the show and its activities through the collaborative approach we have been testing in 2017 (through our Curatorial project). In this way the exhibition and connected events will form part of the development of each artist, whether recent graduate or established collective.

This will be a touring exhibition, moving from the NW highland coast to the NE, north to Shetland and across the North Sea to Norway. This maritime route will be celebrated and reflected in the incorporation of boatbuilding techniques and references within the work and the way in which it is transported and displayed – including through plinths and cases made by Ullapool boatbuilders to travel with the show, by sea where possible.

The exhibition will be launched at An Talla Solais in June 2018. ATS will facilitate the process of collaboration, and will work in partnership with the other venues to ensure appropriate funding and support for the work to tour.