

## EXHIBITION PROPOSAL FOR OSEANA

**Aim** – To forge stronger cultural links between Scotland and Norway with an exhibition of work by staff and alumni of Leith School of Art, a small but remarkable independent art school that is housed in the oldest Norwegian church outside of Norway, Edinburgh, Scotland.

The exhibiting artists are:

**Kristina Chan** was born in Canada and studied at Parsons in New York and Paris before taking a masters in printmaking at the Royal College of Art, London. Kristina has recently completed our graduate residency programme and has exhibited internationally. Kristina represented the Royal College of Art and Leith School of Art at the Antwerp Academy exhibition that brought together selected graduates from the academies and major post graduate centres of Europe.

**Ginny Elston** was born in Scotland before studying the history of art and French at Manchester University. Ginny then studied painting at Leith School of art before completing a Masters at Dundee University in art and humanities.

**Jenny Martin** was born in Scotland and studied fine art and art history at Edinburgh University completing her studies with an MA and MFA. Jenny joined the staff at Leith School of Art as Development Manager and also teaches on our full-time Foundation Course. Jenny is a painter and printmaker, gaining recognition for her screenprints in particular. Jenny recently made a screenprint of our building, the old Norwegian Church.

**Katie Watson** was born in Scotland and is a graduate from Grays School of Art, Aberdeen, recently completing a graduate residency at the Leith School of Art. Katie was invited to exhibit in the New Contemporaries exhibition held in 2016 at the Royal Scottish Academy and was a prize winner at the Royal Society of Watercolours exhibition , also held in 2016 at the Royal Scottish Academy. and was a prize winner.

**David Henderson** was born in Scotland, studied at Grays School of Art and taught there for 30 years in various roles including Head of Painting and Head of Post Graduate Studies, before joining the Leith School of Art as Head of Painting. David is a painter and printmaker.

**David Martin** was born in Scotland and has an MA Fine Art from Edinburgh University. David is the Foundation Course leader at Leith School of Art. He is a painter and winner of the Salvesen Travel Scholarship. David is also the director of Hidden Door, an innovative festival of contemporary art held in Edinburgh each year.

**Kenneth Le Riche** was born in Scotland, his mother is Norwegian and he is related to the famous Norwegian illustrator Ridley Borchgrevink. Kenneth studied at Leith School of Art, Edinburgh University and The New York Academy of Fine Art. Kenneth is teacher and painter.

**Matthew Storstein** was born in Scotland and is the grandson of the Norwegian artist Aage Storstein. Matt studied at Leith School of Art and Glasgow School of Art. Matt is a painter and tutor at Leith School of Art.

**Nihad Al Turk** was born in Syria and was a well established and recognised artist in the Middle East, exhibiting at the Ayyam Gallery before the civil war. He came to Edinburgh with his family two ago as

part of a group of official refugees. Nihad has been the Artist in Residence at Leith School of Art, successfully re-launching his career.

**Izzy Thomson** was born in Scotland and studied painting at Grays School of Art, Aberdeen. Izzy has recently completed a graduate residency at Leith School of Art and has exhibited regularly throughout Scotland, winning a major prize at the Visual Art Scotland exhibition, held at the Royal Scottish Academy. Izzy has also completed sets and costumes for an opera held in the north of Scotland.

**Philip Archer** was born in Wales and studied at Cardiff, Sheffield and the Royal College of Art. Philip has been the Principal of Leith School of Art for 26 years and is past president of Visual Art Scotland. Philip is a leading painter in the medium of oil pastels.