

Aberystwyth Arts Centre, Wales

<https://www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk/>

Duration: 8 weeks

Start date: Anytime between September and December 2022

Aberystwyth is Wales' largest arts centre and recognised as a 'national flagship for the arts'. It has a wide-ranging artistic programme, both producing and presenting, across all art forms, including drama, dance, music, visual arts, film and community arts. The Arts Centre is a department of Aberystwyth University and a member of the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. It sits at the heart of the university's campus, with stunning views over the town of Aberystwyth and along the coastline of Cardigan Bay.

1/ FOCUS

Ceredigion's linguistic and cultural heritage, its geographical location, its economies and unique demographic provides an interesting backdrop for this residency.

Ceredigion is a rural county with its main economies being tourism and agriculture-chiefly hill farming, with 60% of the population speaking Welsh as their first language. Historically the county has always attracted newcomers who choose to settle here, and this has created an interesting demographic and discussion between different cultures. Two of the main discussions presently are how can agriculture adapt to the challenges of the climate emergency and rewilding in particular, and how can we overcome the housing crisis where the local population cannot afford to buy property due to the increase in the second home market. There are intriguing levels of enquiry here as to how do we balance the protection of our unique culture while also protecting our environment for future generations.

2/ PROGRAMME RESOURCES

Aberystwyth is providing equal access to resources and services for all users, regardless of any disabilities or impairments they may have.

The residency offers:

- Artist fees of £550 per week.
- Furnished private accommodation on the seafront of Aberystwyth, or in a rural area near the Arts Centre. Suitable for those attending with children
- Access to production or research studios onsite at Aberystwyth Arts Centre.
- Access to the School of Art Museum and the Ceramic Collection, the Ceramics studio, other University departments, as well as the National Library of Wales, the primary research library and archive in Wales and one of the largest research libraries in the UK.
- If needed, access to an exhibition space.
- Curatorial support by Ffion Rhys, curator at the Arts Centre.
- During the residency, the laureate will be accompanied by a local artist for travel and accommodation logistics, facilitating their integration into the local artistic scene.

- Opportunities to share work through inviting specialised audiences to events (studio visit, seminar, talk...) and will have access to networking opportunities with the University, cultural institutions, curators, galleries, and the local community of artists.

- Round trip UK / France and local transports will be covered.
- Access to a car.