# Muir is Tir -Land and Sea



Sail Britain and An Lanntair are pleased to announce a new residency for 2017. 'Muir is-Tir – Land and Sea' is a two-week programme for five artists to explore the cultural heritage and identity of the Outer Hebrides, as well as the extraordinary beauty of the island landscape.

The first week will be spent on a sailing boat exploring the rugged coastline of the Minch, the Shiant Isles and the sea lochs of the larger islands, their stories, language and traditions. Working closely together while learning to sail will provide a different approach to exploring coast and islands, and allow time for reflection, observation and contemplation in a unique environment.

The second week will be spent in the Uig region on the West coast of Lewis, a remote and beautiful place with a fascinating history facing the expanse of the Atlantic Ocean. Participants will have time to develop ideas and material gathered during the first week's voyage, and to undertake further research or creative exploration.

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### Further details about the residency

Dates – 12 August – 26<sup>h</sup> August

There are 5 places available

#### Cost - £575 \*

The residency is subsidised by An Lanntair as part of 'The Bealach Project'

#### Accommodation

Shared use of the Otter bunkhouse in Carishader

http://www.otterbunkhouse.com

#### Application

The residency is open to emerging, mid-career and established artists, photographers, filmmaker's, writers, musicians and craft makers.

### **Application procedure**

Please submit applications to: jon@lanntair.com and oliver@sailbritain.org

A panel from An Lanntair, Sail Britain and ECA will select the successful applicants. All applicants will receive a reply within 10 days of the application deadline.

### What the residency provides

One week of sailing

One week shared accommodation at the Otter Bunkhouse

A guided mountain/coast walk (weather dependant)

A chance to explore the differing island habitats such as moor, machair and mountain.

An opportunity to engage with the culture and language of the Outer Hebrides.

Transfer between the boat and bunkhouse

Other possible excursions and camping opportunities (weather dependant)

A group exhibition at An Lanntair and Edinburgh College of Art 'Tent gallery'

Other trips including to un-inhabited islands and specific guided machair and moor walks are available. These are provided by experienced island guides/skippers and are fee paying – a tariff is available for these opportunities. They offer a window into particular island habitats and their cultural, linguistic and ecological richness.

## What the residency doesn't supply

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- Food for the land based part of the residency
  (transport will be provided to the nearest shop)
- Camping equipment and outdoor clothing
  - Insurance

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Travel to and from the island



### **Application process**

1. An expression of interest outlining the elements you wish to explore on the residency (Up to 500 words)

2. 6 images or sound or video files of previous work – JPEG or PDF Images, preferably no more than 1080 pixels along the longest side. Video formats accepted include: .avi/.wmv/ .mov/ .mpeg/ .mpeg2/ .mpeg4. Alternatively these may be submitted as a link to Vimeo/YouTube, etc.

Images or sound files must be captioned: Number, Medium, Title, and
 Year. Caption numbers must correspond with captions on application
 form

3. An artist/musician statement (Up to 250 words) and CV

4. The successful applicants' work will form a new exhibition at An Lanntair and Edinburgh College of Art 'Tent gallery' at a date to be confirmed by the venues.

Application deadline – 5pm on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July

The successful applicants will be informed by -Monday 31<sup>st</sup>.July

### Sail Britain – Suggested Kit for the week onboard

All kit should be packed into a collapsible holdall. Please do not bring suitcases. Rucksacks should only be brought if they have a removable frame or are reasonably collapsible. All kit should be packed in plastic bags or the holdall lined with a waterproof liner (e.g. bin liner) - hatches have been known to leak sometimes!

The following is a recommended kit list. It is not exhaustive so please feel free to bring additional items if you wish, but do keep valuables to a minimum.

Considerations: At least one (pairs of):

Waterproofs, to include good quality jacket and trousers. Jumpers/Fleeces to wear under waterproofs. Waterproofs do not provide much warmth on their own.

Trousers - pair to wear underneath waterproofs. Quick drying and loose fitting trousers are better than jeans. Base layer clothes. Bring appropriate clothes for the duration of the trip. In addition, include spares in case you get.wet!

When packing remember even in summer it can get cold in the wind. Bring **plenty of layers** as you would for any outdoor expedition.

A stout pair of trainers or deck shoes should be sufficient, preferably with non-marking soles.

Also, don't forget all the other bits and pieces you'll need, such as:

- Sunglasses it can be bright on the water and sun cream
- Warm hat & sun hat to keep the sun off and your ears warm
- Sleeping bag (packed in a plastic bag)
- Washkit (including towel)
  - Camera
- Some cash for shore trips
- Swimming kit if sailing at a favourable time of year
- RYA logbook, if owned

It is normal for some people to experience seasickness from time to time. There are many ways of dealing with this until you get your 'sea legs'. The easiest is 'travel calm' tablets available over the counter, Qwells tablets, or similar medication such as hyocine patches. It would be prudent to include these in your kit. For further advice please see the FAQ's on the website.

Reccomendations for the land based part of the residency:

- Walking boots
- Waterproof jacket and trousers
- Camping equipment
- Water bottle/canteen
- Walking stick/poles

### **Suggested Reading list**

Muir is Tìr – George Macleod (2005)

Sea Room – Adam Nicholson (2002)

Tales and traditions of the Lews -Donald MacDonald and Emily MacDonald (2000)

Crowdie and Cream – Finlay J. Macdonald (1991)

Rathad an Isein/The Bird's Road: A Lewis moorland glossary – Anne Campbell (2013)

The Old Ways – Robert MacFarlane (2013)



