HUMcard

Notes from
an artist

Nau mai, haere mai to our third HUMcard *for 2023! These mailouts are produced in collaboration with a contemporary artist or curator from Aotearoa New Zealand, highlighting an international project they're involved in. They're our way of thanking you—our circle of supporters—for backing the work we do at HUM.*

In our last HUMcard, *we had Anh Trần share details from the 58th Carnegie International in Pittsburgh, USA. For this edition, we've invited* ***Miranda Bellamy*** *to reflect on her* ***residency at*** *Cove Park* ***in Scotland****, where she and collaborator Amanda Fauteux spent the month of May, developing their research-based practice that responds to the stories of plants and makes space for the critical revision of human histories.*

In April, the pair were long-listed for Canada's preeminent Sobey Art Award. Now, we're honoured to share with you insights and images from Bellamy's residency sent straight from the artist herself!

From Miranda Bellamy
at Cove Park in Scotland

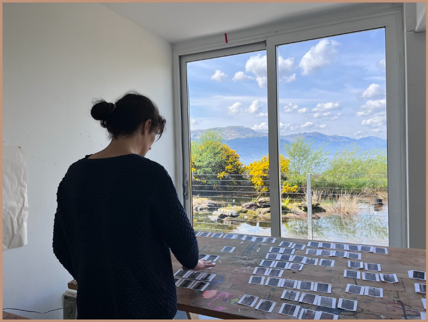


Image: Miranda Bellamy in the studio at Cove Park, May 2023. All images courtesy of the artists, all photography by Miranda Bellamy.

"Cove Park is situated on the Rosneath Peninsula about an hour west of Glasgow, Scotland. It's a hilly area defined by the picturesque lochs that reach in from the firth of Clyde and the Atlantic ocean. The sweeping panoramas, recognisable bird-song, plant species, and place-names make an environment strikingly similar to that of the Otago Peninsula where I'm from: a reminder of how colonial settlers in the south bent and broke that landscape into a semblance of home. It is quiet, peaceful, and calm here: an opportunity to be still, present, and immersed in our practice."

Images: (top, #1) Storytelling workshop and plant walk with local storytellers; **(middle L, #2)** View of living quarters with Loch Long in distance; **(middle R, #3)** View from living quarters at Cove Park; **(bottom, #4)** Improvised storytelling about found rocks as part of storytelling workshop.

"There are inviting spaces everywhere here, inside and out. Our converted shipping container quarters have a living roof and a natural pond out front. In the pond are tadpoles, amphibious newts, and diving beetles. We're frequented by swallows, herons, finches, wagtails, and the Scottish horned sheep that roam the property. The purpose-built Jacobs building contains numerous flexible spaces to complement the private studios and offer community."

Images: (top, #1) Amanda Fauteux in the Monument Trust studio at Cove Park; **(bottom L, #2)** The Jacobs building flexible studio, work space and library; **(bottom R, #3)** The Jacobs building at Cove Park.

"The vision of Cove Park is to respond to the diversity of contemporary practice in all the art forms, providing a supportive environment for new ideas. Since we've been here we've shared space with visual artists, writers, storytellers, curators, activists, anthropologists, researchers, academics, architects, and filmmakers. To be so generously welcomed and supported without expectation has been restorative, productive, and inspiring. This residency has come at a time when we really needed what it has offered and we're deeply grateful for the philosophies and practices at play here.

The main project that we've been developing at Cove Park is a body of new photographic work for an upcoming solo exhibition at the Art Gallery of Grande Prairie, Alberta, Canada later this year. Drawing from a library of observational photographs of marks on trees which we've been building since 2018, we've refined the conceptual framework for our exhibition and narrowed the selection of images for printing. Working toward a 2D outcome when we're more familiar with sculpture, moving image, sound, and installation has been a welcome and challenging shift in our practice. While at first being away from our tools and our usual studio environment was dis-locating, settling in to this quiet time to distill and discuss our images without distraction has been crucial. Upon our return to the East Coast of Canada next month we'll continue to build on and resolve this body of work before accompanying it to Alberta for exhibition."

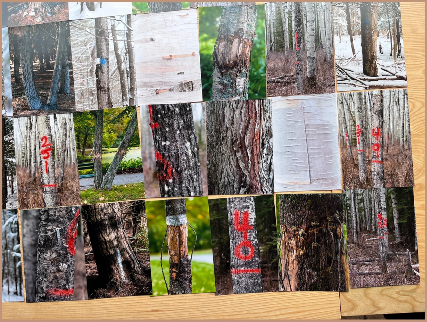


Image: Work in progress towards solo exhibition at The Art Gallery of Grande Prairie.

"This residency has been about being where our hands and feet are, filtering out noise, noticing what's here and now, and reintroducing balance into our practice and our lives. I will miss this place when we go, being here has been a gift and a great pleasure. Thank you Cove Park."

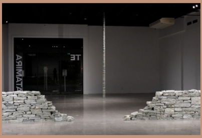
Images: (header) View from the studio at Cove Park with Amanda Fauteux; **(above, L)** The Jacobs building with Loch Long in distance; **(above, R)** Work in progress; **(below)** Miranda Bellamy.

More on the artist

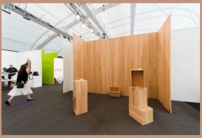
Miranda Bellamy (b. 1987, Ōtepoti Dunedin, Aotearoa New Zealand) has been attending Cove Park for the month of May with her partner and artistic collaborator Amanda Fauteux.

Their collaborative practice extends the stories of plants and rocks through site-specific research and experimentation. By listening to their stories and responding through interdisciplinary projects, they make space for the critical revision of settler-colonial histories. They live between the traditional territory of Mi'kma'ki known as Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada, and Ōtepoti, Aotearoa. Their exhibition *Stone Moves* is now on at Te Atamira in Tāhuna Queenstown, and they're currently long-listed for the prestigious Sobey Art Award in Canada.

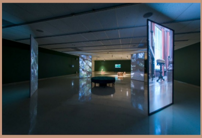
Learn more about the artist here...



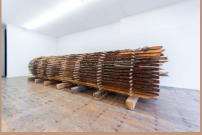
Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux, *Stone Moves* (exhibition view), 2023, Te Atamira, Tāhuna Queenstown, Aotearoa New Zealand



Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux, *slew, slough, slue* (exhibition view), 2022, Aotearoa Art Fair 'Projects', Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland, Aotearoa New Zealand



Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux, *Terrarium* (exhibition view), 2022, Owens Art Gallery, Mi'kma'ki Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada



Miranda Bellamy & Amanda Fauteux, *Radiata* (exhibition view), 2021, Blue Oyster Art Space, Ōtepoti Dunedin, Aotearoa New Zealand

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Last year we sent out HUMcards *from major events including Colomboscope, the 59th Venice Biennale, APT10, and documenta15. This year we're excited to bring you more insights into some of the powerful work being presented by Aotearoa artists and curators around the globe.*

***If you know anyone interested in New Zealand arts, and who might enjoy these mailouts, please consider sharing our Support page with them.** Every donation helps us continue our work championing New Zealand's creative practitioners working in an international context.*

HUM

HUM is the only platform dedicated to the international activity of creative practitioners from New Zealand. In December 2022, HUM celebrated 6 years of documenting and publishing about Aotearoa arts abroad!! Thank you for supporting us over the years.