



ARTICA

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



Cover Photo: Tom Warner, Contents Photo: Charlotte Hewthorington

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INTRODUCTION

As I walked to the Artica workshop today, I turned to look back towards the Longyear glacier to see a pale blue glowing sky, the beginning of light returning to Svalbard after months of darkness. This incredible moment is something I witnessed for the first time in 2021 and I have been waiting for it again since the last sunset. It is a moment of pure joy, of optimism and quite literally light at the end of the tunnel. Last year was another strange year for many with the continuation of the COVID-19 pandemic, where we all looked for that feeling, that light in the dark. During 2021 at Artica we hope to have created a place for our residents, local community and growing global community to experience a place of reflection, understanding, discussion and knowledge sharing alongside outstanding art, research, talks, workshops and activities.

The residency programme continued with an inspiring group of incredible artists and writers, each bringing a new perspective to, but leaving with a better understanding of Svalbard. I was delighted to launch a new monthly meet-up: *First Friday Coffee Club* which provides an opportunity for our local creative community to meet and share ideas. Alongside this we hosted resident talks, print workshops, site-specific installations, youth events, community walks and a book launch.

This report reflects a remarkable year in which we can be proud that creativity has continued to grow here in Longyearbyen. This has only been possible because of the commitment of our staff, freelance team, key partners and our loyal, curious community. My thanks to every one of them, and to all of our funders. Your support makes everything happen and will be ever more vital as we welcome new residents in the future.

- **Charlotte Hetherington, Director**



Main Photo: Charlotte Hetherington, Portrait: Tom Warner



Artica resident Elida Høeg om Platåfjellet. Photo: Charlotte Hetherington

ART IS PRESENT WHEREVER
IMPORTANT QUESTIONS
ARE BEING ASKED.

SVALBARD IS SUCH A PLACE
IN OUR TIME.

The purpose of the foundation is to facilitate artistic and cultural activities on Svalbard, and to support the development of Norwegian and international art and culture. Artica offers the opportunity to reside: to observe, participate, immerse, rethink, create and present art from all genres. The foundation aims to raise awareness of and ask questions about the polar regions' relevance to fields such as culture, climate change, ecology, geopolitics, migration and minorities.

Our growing local and international community will challenge the way in which the Arctic is seen, organised and managed, setting the ground for the possibility to affect change; our understanding of national identity and rights connected to resources – at sea and on land – now and in the future.

Artica Svalbard was founded in 2016 by the Norwegian Ministry of Culture, Fritt Ord (the Freedom of Expression Foundation) and the Cultural Business Development Foundation of the bank SpareBank1 Nord-Norge. The work of the foundation has been made possible by their on-going financial support.

ARTICA SVALBARD



Artica residents Ramona Salo Myrseth and Katarine Skår Lisa in Bjørndalen, Photo: Tom Warner



Svalbard Parish Priest Siv S. Limstrand with Artica resident Sanaa Aoun, Photo: Didrik Paulsen



OUR RESIDENCY PROGRAMME IN 2021

Artica Svalbard's aim is to become one of the world's foremost trans-artistic residency programmes. With the participation of engaged international residents from all fields, Artica will stimulate a wider exchange of critical and philosophical ideas, research and artistic expressions, across the circumpolar regions and internationally.

The residency programme offers the time and space to try out new ideas and research, there is no pressure to present a finished outcome, this is a chance to experiment and acknowledge that failure may be a vital part of that process. Discussions and engagement with the local community via a public programme also offers opportunities to further develop, test and share knowledge.



Our Key Partners – Norwegian PEN, Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA) and the Queen Sonja Print Award – are responsible for nominating artists, writers, researchers for the residency programme in dialogue with the Artica team. Joining us as a fourth key partner in 2022 Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum.

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OUR RESIDENTS IN 2021:

Nominated by Norwegian PEN

Maja Lunde, Sanaa Aoun
Elida Høeg, Beate Heide

Nominated by the Queen Sonja Print Award

Line Prip, Petter Buhagen
Andreas Siqueland

Nominated by the Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA)

Ramona Salo Myrseth, Katarine Skår Lisa
Jessica MacMillan

MAJA LUNDE

NOMINATED BY NORWEGIAN PEN

(b. 1975) is the most successful Norwegian author of her generation and one of the country's most prominent advocates for the climate cause. Her books are published in more than 40 languages and have sold more than 2,5 million copies worldwide. Lunde's debut novel *The History of Bees* (2015) was an instant hit and sold to several territories before Norwegian publication. It won The Norwegian Bookseller's Prize as well as multiple international awards and was the bestselling book in Germany in 2017. As part of the author's planned Climate Quartet, the stand-alone sequels *The End of the Ocean* (2017) and *Przewalskis Horse* (2019) has been published to equal acclaim.

Lunde has written several books for children and young adults. The children's Christmas book "The Snow Sister" (2018) illustrated by Lisa Aisato, was a record-breaking success in Norway and is translated into 27 languages. Several of Lunde's works have been, or are in the process of being adapted for the screen.

"My stay was used for research into my new novel 'The Dream of a Tree', which takes place in its entirety in Longyearbyen. This is my third trip to Svalbard in connection with the novel, but my first as a guest at Artica. I used my time for activities that were relevant to my research.

I went on a trip to the old hunting lodge in Fredheim, went dog sledding, visited an ice cave and walked a lot around the local area. I was also with acquaintances on Svalbard, and talked a lot with them about this place. I want to thank Artica and Norwegian Pen for the opportunity to stay as a resident and have only good things to say about both Artica and Longyearbyen.

Can't wait to come back!"

- Maja Lunde





Photo: Charlotte Hetherington

SANAA AOUN

NOMINATED BY NORWEGIAN PEN

Sanaa Aoun is an author and teacher from Damascus, Syria and came to Tromsø, Norway as a free city author in 2016. Aoun has published two collections of short stories in Arabic, *Red Lifelines* (2007) and *To Where the Compass Points* (2018), and continues to be a regular contributor to Arabic online newspapers. In Norwegian, her texts have been published in *Klassekampen* and in the anthology *For Folk Flest* (2017). In June 2018, her monologue *A Half Woman* was performed at Hålogaland Theater. Several of her texts have been translated into English and German.

Aoun's writing is characterised by the sense of the absurd, the unexpected and a constant stretching of the boundary between fantasy and reality. In her stories, Aoun examines gender roles and artistic roles against a cosmopolitan background ravaged by war.

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"The residency on Svalbard was not just residency for me, it felt like discovering a very special world and a very special city. I was amazed by the landscape, the birds, the mountains and the old abandoned towns like Pyramiden. In my synopsis for the book I'm currently writing, I wrote that it would cover an important geographical area that had not been written about in Arabic before. This residency offered me the opportunity to research and live the experiences I will write about. Artica helped me a lot with this research, Charlotte and Didrik showed me the city, took me for walks and introduced me to some of the people who live there, including the local priest Siv Limstrand who interviewed me for a podcast. The finished book will be available in Arabic and Norwegian."

- Sanaa Aoun

Listen to the interview between priest Siv Limstand and Sanaa Aoun here:

<https://soundcloud.com/user-335325196/sanaa-aoun-in-conversation-with-longyearbyen-parish-priest-siv-s-limstrand>

ELIDA HØEG

NOMINATED BY NORWEGIAN PEN

Elida Høeg (b. 1990) lives and works between Oslo and Barcelona. Journalist and researcher, she investigates transnational political issues such as the climate crisis, technology and territorial conflicts through text and sound.

In 2015, she completed the Master Program of Experimentation in Arts and Politics (SPEAP) at Sciences Po, Paris, and founded Coyote, a cross-cutting collective working on print, film, lectures and other experimental forms. Høeg is also a graduate from the master program in International Studies on Media, Power and Difference at Pompeu Fabra University in Barcelona. She contributes regularly to Norwegian media outlets. In 2021, she released the non-fiction book 'Håpet er i gatene. Historier fra Barcelona' with the publisher Fanfare.

During her stay, Elida wrote an article about the Russian settlement of Barentsburg that was published in Morgenbladet:

<https://www.morgenbladet.no/aktuelt/2021/10/01/balanserer-pa-iskanten/>

"I came to Longyearbyen on the 9th of September and stayed until the 15th of October. During the stay I tried to learn more about this part of the high Arctic, in order to be able to cover it more as a writer and journalist. I wanted to get a broader understanding of the archipelago and the challenges met there in relation to climate change and geopolitics. It has been an enriching experience, and I feel very grateful to have been given the opportunity to stay for five weeks. I had a very thought-provoking time getting to know Svalbard, and the residency has sparked an interest for the high Arctic that I will take with me into future work."

- Elida Høeg





Photo: Charlotte Hetherington

BEATE HEIDE

NOMINATED BY NORWEGIAN PEN

Beate Heide (b. 1959) is a Norwegian writer and storyteller working in fiction and non-fiction. Having been on residencies in both Iceland and Greenland, Beate finds inspiration from the places she visits, the nature she encounters and from local stories:

Beate has a masters degree in non-fiction writing from the University of South-Eastern Norway and as a professional special educator, she writes articles about understanding children.

Beate also writes fiction for children, her last book *Nammalávlla /Navnesangen* was published by Idut and was brought into all libraries in Norway. As a Sámi, her books have been published in both Norwegian and Sámi.

Oral storytelling is very close to Beate's heart, during her residency at Artica Beate hopes to not only share stories but also hear many of the untold tales from Longyearbyen. As an active storyteller in Trondheim and with Midtnorsk Fortellerforum, she is working on many different projects including Penn&Øre and contributes to the Digitalt museum.

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"Staying at Artica gave me many opportunities to work on both my writing projects for children and the chance to test out some storytelling workshops for preschool children. I found the peace I needed to immerse myself in my own writing in the polar night. Narrative and writing are closely related to me, and one is only complementary to the other art form. Since the reason I am so fascinated by Svalbard is a meeting with Hilmar Nøis as a child, I also spent some time immersing myself in his life at Villa Fredheim. I wrote an article for Andøyposten's Christmas issue about Hilmar, and borrowed pictures of the Svalbard Museum. The stay at Artica Svalbard was fruitful in every way, and the "space" provided a lot of inspiration for future work, so thank you for a brilliant stay with good accommodation. I would encourage other writing people to apply to stay here."

- Beate Heide

RAMONA SALO MYRSETH

NOMINATED BY THE OFFICE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART NORWAY (OCA)

Ramona Salo Myrseth is a clothing designer currently based in Gáivuona suohkan / Kåfjord in Northern Norway/Sápmi. She has a master's degree in fashion design from the Oslo National Academy of the Arts. As both an artisan, fashion designer and storyteller she explores materials, textures, cultural and personal memories, and try to navigate between different perspectives and landscapes with needle and thread as traveling tools. Her practice is influenced by her upbringing in Sápmi, where these forms of expressions are woven into the esthetic, but also philosophical aspect of her work. Ecology and sustainability are important anchor points in her practice.

Ramona Salo Myrseth was nominated with her collaborative partner Katarina Skår Lisa. Together they explore a common yet personal enquiry in contemporary arts through their Sea Sámi heritage. Themes they are occupied with is the ecology of creations, relations, culture, and care. Their aim is to investigate ways of learning and practise with a Sea Sámi cosmology and their landscapes.

“When we arrived for our stay we shared the print studio with artist Petter Buhagen, who was also nominated to the programme and it went very well. We had good communication, and as long as the work was not large scale, it was fine to share the studio space and we had a great time. The social atmosphere at Artica was very good. Coffee Club on the first Friday of the month is a great way to meet other creatives in Longyearbyen and there were also other social events we could take part in. During our stay we attended Pride and a bit of the literature festival. There was always something going on in the city that added to our experience.

There is a lot about Svalbard that I will never forget. The spectacular scenery, wildlife, well-run studio, the tours and fun events, but it is the people we met that we will always remember and miss the most. Thank you for our wonderful stay and the opportunity to do research in our practises at the top of the world.”

- Ramona Salo Myrseth





KATARINA SKÅR LISA

NOMINATED BY THE OFFICE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART NORWAY (OCA)

Katarina Skår Lisa is a moving artist, choreographer and teacher that concerns her art practise as a fundament to build good relations. Through her artistic enquiry she is looking at her own heritage as Norwegian, with sea Sámi roots. Specifically, she looks at the intertwined relation between nature, culture, human being, and how the landscapes can be our teacher, guide and co-creator of our process and work.

Lisa's work can be placed in the intersection between performing arts and performance art. Her expression highlights interdisciplinary collaborations as an important visual, relational, artistic and social method of working. In this way she feels that the artworks not only relate to the artworld but also the nature of our society, raising voice (hopefully) to multiple perspectives of the heard- unheard, the seen- unseen.

Katarina Skår Lisa was nominated with her collaborative partner Ramona Salo Myrseth.

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“Ramona and I have been working a lot with the material of archiving experiences, dialogues, or impressions through material such as lino print on both textiles and paper. The workshop facilities at Artica made this process available for us. It was an exciting process to be in!

Our aim was not a specific destination, but to be on a journey of process and to see where it could lead us. Since Ramona and I live in different places in Norway, residencies become a space to work together, at the same time. They offer an opportunity for dialogue and reflections on important matters that are not so easily communicated otherwise. With a cup of coffee or tea, the dialogue becomes closer. As much as I want to thank Artica for having been there for us, helping us to understand the workshop place as well as Longyearbyen in general, I also would like to thank Artica for having taken us on journeys to the landscape that is also outside the ‘centre’. I think this possibility is highly relevant and important for residents. In some ways, I could wish we had the chance to go on more travels like those we did to the Longyear glacier and to Bjørndalen.”

- Katarina Skår Lisa

JESSICA MACMILLAN

NOMINATED BY THE OFFICE FOR CONTEMPORARY ART NORWAY (OCA)

Jessica MacMillan (b. 1987, New Hampshire, USA) is an artist and amateur astronomer based in Oslo, Norway. Through kinetic sculpture, 3D animation, and installation, MacMillan's work investigates concepts in astronomy and planetary science. Using optical instruments, geophysical orientation, and ordinary found objects, she focuses on bridging the gap between our everyday lived experience and the context that contains us: on a tiny and fragile planet, in a massive solar system, within a galaxy among billions.

MacMillan holds an MFA in fine arts from the Academy of Fine Art in Oslo (2016), a BFA in sculpture and art history from the Massachusetts College of Art and Design, Boston (2010), and has studied astronomy through Arizona State University. Her works have been exhibited at BOA Galleri in Oslo, Norway; Galleri 54 in Gothenburg, Sweden; Skaftfell Center for Visual Art, Seydisfjörður, Iceland; Atelier Nord ANX, Oslo, Norway; Kunstneres Hus, Oslo, Norway; and Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen, Denmark; among others. Previously, she has also participated in residencies at ÖRES: Öro Island Residency Program, Finland; NBK Ny-Ålesund research station residency, Svalbard; and Skaftfell Center for Visual Art, Seydisfjörður, Iceland.

"My residency at Artica, and making Time Line a reality, has been the most important event of my career thus far. I have never worked so hard in my life to make such a large-scale thing happen before, and it would not have been possible without Artica's support. Even in the earliest stages of the project, it was clear that I could give Artica my full trust. The focus for the residency was to make my project happen, of course, and this was a success. In an absolutely perfect world, the project would have gone without a hitch, and I could have also had time to process, think, read and research. That said, the short breaks I was able to take, and the incredibly fascinating people I met, have made lasting impressions. I am still in contact with 3 of the people I met there, and are making future plans to meet again in Oslo, and possibly have an exhibition in Berlin."

- Jessica MacMillan





LINE PRIP

NOMINATED BY QUEEN SONJA PRINT AWARD

At the core of Line's artistic practice is her interest in how we are affected by other people and by the context in which we are situated. Human relations are permeated with what we cannot see, and in her spatial works she is materialising the invisible mechanisms that underlie our human existence by translating them into a physical, sensual experience.

The body plays an essential part in the encounter with her works as they mirror the way in which we experience the world through physical presence. Prip received her MFA in medium- and material based art from Oslo National Academy of the Arts in Norway 2020. She now lives and works in Viken.

"It is an important part of this stay that there is no pressure to have to perform, produce and deliver. It is valuable to have time for presence and reflection so that new ideas and thoughts can form. Svalbard is so unique that you are taken out of your daily routine, and it opens you up to look at new ways and think new thoughts. The people I have met on Svalbard have been a big part of the experience and I have had exciting and rewarding conversations with people who reflect my own tendency to contemplate the things around me. The residency has also been a personal journey where I have developed a greater self-confidence as an artist through these conversations."

- Line Prip

PETTER BUHAGEN

NOMINATED BY QUEEN SONJA PRINT AWARD

Petter Buhagen (b. 1983) is an interdisciplinary artist who, through his practice, is concerned with human-made systems and translations of information between digital and analogue formats. By emphasising specific aspects in our relationship to technology, his works invites reflections on topics such as intimacy and publicity, temporarily and archiving, tactility and immateriality, nature and machine.

Buhagen has taken part in several solo and duo exhibitions in Norway as well as numerous group exhibitions in Norway and abroad. He has also been central in operating the artist-run exhibition venue Noplace, Oslo since its establishment in 2011. Buhagen lives and works in Trondheim. Educated at Oslo National Academy of the Arts and The Arts Institute at Bournemouth.

"I was lucky to get nominated by The Queen Sonja Print Award for a residency at Artica in July and August 2021. The two months were spent in a good combination of experimentation in the printmaking studio and exploration of Svalbard's unique nature, history and culture. A main part of my ongoing research is based around how new technology influences how we live and experience the world. Therefore it was especially interesting to recognise the complex relationship between the proud tradition and hard labour of the coal mining industry and the future prospect to close down the mines for environmental reasons. All in all staying at Artica was an enriching experience from where I brought several series of etchings produced in the studio, ideas for new works and insights from this very peculiar and important place in the arctic."

- Petter Buhagen





Photo: Charlotte Hetherington

ANDREAS SIQUELAND

NOMINATED BY QUEEN SONJA PRINT AWARD

Andreas Siqueland (b. 1973) was educated at Haut École de Design et Art in Genève and Kunstakademiet in København. In 2013 he finished his scholarship at Kunstakademiet / Kunsthøgskolen in Oslo. In addition to his own practice he collaborates with Anders Kjellesvik in the artist duo aiPotu. Humanity's relation to the landscape and nature are central elements in the works of Andreas Siqueland. It is a free and open, but rhythmic dialog he conducts with his surroundings; the forest, the mountains, the ocean. A direct presence - as close as you can get - seems fundamental. He is inside the motive, observing and looking for the essence. Siqueland lives and works at Grindvoll, Hadeland.

“Through the media you become somewhat exposed and you start to make up your own picture of what a place could be. However, I found my visit in many ways much more emotionally disturbing than I had anticipated. The landscape is extremely sensitive and vulnerable. The pristine nature is in stark contrast to the history of human activities: First the whale and seal hunting, then the mining and now the upgrading of the settlement for tourism and scientific research. As a visitor you are exposed to all this and it makes you think. The question is whether the call of the wild lives better in the imagination. I think the value of artists coming here is that it makes you question your own position in the world and the impact you have on your environment. For me it was very much a hands-on type of experience and an emotional one. I became acutely aware of the necessity to be more sensitive to my surroundings.”

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- Andreas Siqueland



Creative Lino Printing Workshop hosted by Ramona Salo Myrseth and Katarine Skår Lisa, Photo: Tom Warner

PROJECTS, EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

During 2021 we hosted four large scale projects, 11 workshops, 7 talks and 9 Coffee Clubs with our residents, community and wider network. Reaching a total of 1540 people. These events offer an opportunity to engage with our residents and audience in a more focused way, and a chance to share and test ideas gaining feedback and knowledge to build upon in future.





Photos: Tom Warner



ARTICA LISTENS 2021: HARD BODY DYSPRAXIA BY IGNAS KRUNGLEVIČIUS

18 - 25 SEPTEMBER 2021

Once a year, Artica Svalbard hosts one of the Arctic's most significant art events, highlighting urgent issues related to the polar regions and their global influence.

For Artica Listens 2021 artist Ignas Krunglevičius presented HARD BODY DYSPRAXIA, a sonic installation inside a disused power plant in Longyearbyen, Svalbard which closed its doors in 1983 and has remained virtually untouched ever since.

Krunglevičius brought into play his response to the architecture of the power plant, the sounds already present in the building and the wider context of its industrial history. Working with his own versions of rhythms and markers, Krunglevičius used 24 audio channels to create an immersive installation, which manipulated the ambience and acoustic reverberation of the space.

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You can watch a short film about the project and an interview with the artist here:
<https://vimeo.com/644369089>

ART NIGHT 2021

For the opening event we collaborated with Kunsthall Svalbard and Longyearbyen Folkebibliotek to present Art Night - One night, three events. Starting with the preview of HARD BODY DYSPRAXIA and an exhibition by American artist Sean Snyder, Room 11 (Latitude: 78.223, Longitude: 15.646) the evening ended with an in conversation event hosted by Artica director, Charlotte Hetherington and curator, Ellef Prestsæter.

All events were very well attended by the local community and visitors to Longyearbyen. We welcomed over 200 visitors during the event and the feedback has been incredibly positive.

"Can't believe we get to experience something like this here! I love how you can feel the sound, it works so well in telling a story of the building"

Visitor, September 2021

"I enjoyed experiencing an old empty building in this way, it made it feel alive again."

Visitor, September 2021

ARTICA YOUTH COLLECTIVE: PILOT PROJECT

SEPTEMBER 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022

In September we started a pilot project to research the potential for a Youth Collective programme at Artica. Slow Adventure: Svalbard was hosted by artist educator Floortje

Zonneveld and took place across 3 weeks with a group of 12 students from the Longyearbyen Folkhøgskole. The group had weekly sessions with Floortje where they met with Artica resident Andreas Siqueland, visited the sound installation HARD BODY DYSPRAXIA and began to record and produce a podcast entitled A Year without Trees. The podcast was launched on 5 February 2022.

The podcast is available to listen to here: <https://soundcloud.com/user-335325196/a-year-without-trees>

You can watch a short film about the project here: <https://vimeo.com/673911649>

“Meeting Andreas was very inspiring. It was very interesting to hear how he takes inspiration from the things around him, even things that aren’t visible, and makes it into an artwork.”

Participant, September 2021

“Ignas’ artwork inspired me to experiment with alternative ways of making art, I liked the way the sound made me feel.”

Participant, September 2021





TIME LINE

BY JESSICA MACMILLAN

25 NOVEMBER - 5 DECEMBER 2021

Artica resident Jessica MacMillan invited the Longyearbyen community to this one-of-a-kind short term public project. Drawing a line of light in the sky, Time Line marked the exact direction our solar system is moving within the wider universe. Taking place in two locations on two nights, the local community and visitors to Svalbard could see a green laser in the polar night sky.

The events involved a lot of local collaboration with the airport, Kjell Henriksen Observatory (KHO), and Longyearbyen lokalstyre. We also collaborated with the Longyearbyen Fotoklubb to host a photography competition, where we invited people to submit their best photo of the laser in action.

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“What an opportunity to really focus and look at our incredible night sky”

Visitor, November 2021

“Such an amazing, inspiring project.”

Instagram, December 2021

ARTICA WRITINGS 2021: OCEAN

Inspiration for Artica Writings 2021 came from the launch of the **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021 - 2030)**. We invited four thinkers to write a short essay using the ocean as the starting point. This collection is available on our website in Norwegian and English. The essays will be produced as limited print-run publication later in 2022.

Artica Writings 2021 contributors:

PHILIP HOARE

Best-selling British author, artist, film-maker & curator, Philip Hoare produced the first essay of the series entitled 'Of the Monstrous Pictures of Whales'. Hoare has written extensively on the ocean and in particular the creatures that live within.

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DORA GARCÍA

Spanish artist based in Barcelona and Oslo, Dora García took us on a journey to explore and un-loop the complex threads of 'Finnegans Wake' by James Joyce in her essay, 'O tell me all about Anna Livia! I want to hear all (FW, I, 8, 196)'.

HOLLY CORFIELD CARR

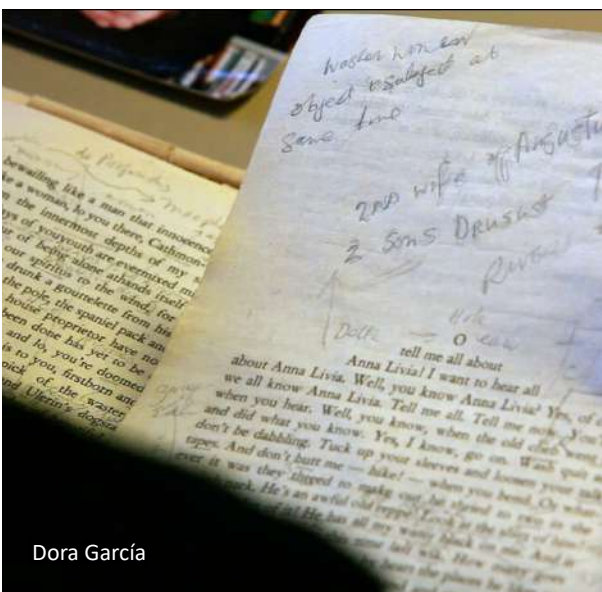
Poet and writer based in Bristol and Cambridge, UK. Holly Corfield Carr offered the opportunity to listen to shells with the third contribution, 'Less, less, less, less, less: on listening to shells'.

DR FRANK NILSEN

Dr Frank Nilsen, Professor of Physical Oceanography at The University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS) wrote the final essay, 'When sea ice melted despite the bitter cold', gives us an insight into his work and passion for the sea.



Dr Frank Nilsen



Dora García



Philip Hoare

EVENTS & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



Creative Drypoint Printing workshop, hosted by printmaker Ellen Karin Mæhlum



First Friday Coffee Club, Photo: Tom Warner



In Conversation: Artica Resident Maja Lunde and Line Nagell Ylvisåker

- 5 March **First Friday Coffee Club**
The first ever First Friday Coffee Club started in March, an informal monthly open studio event at Artica where local creatives can meet to discuss work and ideas over coffee. We went to host 9 coffee clubs over the year with over 100 people attending.
- 13 March **Solfestuka: Sun-paper & Collage Workshop**
- 7 April **In Conversation: Maja Lunde and Line Nagell Ylvisåker**
- 4 May **City walk with Line Prip and Anne Lise Klungseth Sandvik**
- 23 June **Podcast with Sanaa Aoun in conversation with Longyearbyen Parish priest, Siv S. Limstrand, translated by Rim Ibrahim**
- 26 June **Creative Drypoint Printing workshop, hosted by printmaker Ellen Karin Mæhlum**



- 4 Sept **Creative Lino Printing workshop, hosted by Ramona Salo Myrseth and Katarina Skår Lisa**
- 18 Sept **Art Night Longyearbyen: One night - Three events**
- 18 - 25 Sept **Artica Listens 2021: Ignas Krunglevičius**
- 12 Oct **Evening Presentation by Elida Høeg**
- 15 Nov **Book launch with Benedicte Meyer Kroneberg: The Svalbard notes**
- 17 Nov **Artists Talk and Soup with Jessica MacMillan**
- 20 Nov **Artist talk: Sigri Sandberg hosted by the Arctic Chamber Music Festival**
- 25 Nov - 5 Dec **Jessica MacMillan, Time Line 2021**

ENGAGEMENT IN NUMBERS



115
CAME TO COFFEE
CLUB

TOTAL IN PERSON
ATTENDANCE 2021
810



HOSTED
6
YOUTH FOCUSED
EVENTS



HOSTED
9
CHILDREN
FOCUSED
EVENTS



ARTICA LISTENS
ATTENDANCE:
258

HOSTED
7
RESIDENTS
TALKS



PRODUCED
2 PODCASTS
& 3 FILMS



ARTICA In Residence What's On Art & Ideas News About Contact

f t i v

Art is present wherever important questions are being asked. Svalbard is such a place in our time.

Supporting artistic and cultural activities on Svalbard.

Our Vision

One of the northern most artist and writer residency programmes in the world. Based in Longyearbyen, Svalbard, in the upper Arctic Circle. Facilitating art and cultural activities, events and workshops by international and Norwegian artists.

COMMUNICATIONS & DIGITAL

POSTERS

During 2021 we continued to develop new materials to market Artica's public programme - producing printed and digital posters.

WEBSITE

In March 2021 we launched the new Artica Svalbard website which was designed to ease navigation so that visitors could find out more about Artica, the residents, our public programme and engage with past projects, films and podcasts. The website receives over 1,000 daily visitors, from locations across the globe including New Zealand, Japan, United States and South Africa.

DIGITAL IN NUMBERS

Total podcast listens to date (All podcasts): 796

Total film streams to date (All films): 13,981

SOCIAL MEDIA 2021 (FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM/TWITTER)

Facebook: 200 new page likes

Facebook: 329 new followers

Our Instagram followers grew by 46% during 2021

Twitter 1.9K impressions per month (average)

PRESS

In 2021 Artica continued to receive attention in the press and on social media with articles about our programme, published work and interviews with our residents.

Here is a selection of the media coverage and reaction our activities have received.



111313
ARTICA SVALBARD
W/DIDRIK PAULSEN
POSTBOKS 321
9171 LONGYEARBYEN

A-Avis
Returadresse:
Svalbardposten,
Postboks 503, 9171
Longyearbyen 7 090035 510011

– Det var mye som kunne gått galt

Har du sett en grønn laser på himmelen i løpet av de siste ukene? Da har du nok sett Jessica MacMillans (34) prosjekt Time Line. MacMillan hadde satt seg realistiske forventninger, fordi hun visste at prosjektet fortsatt kunne mislykkes. Men, hun ble overrasket over resultatet.

«Det har vært et risikabelt prosjekt som trengte litt flaks.»

«Det har vært et risikabelt prosjekt som trengte litt flaks.»

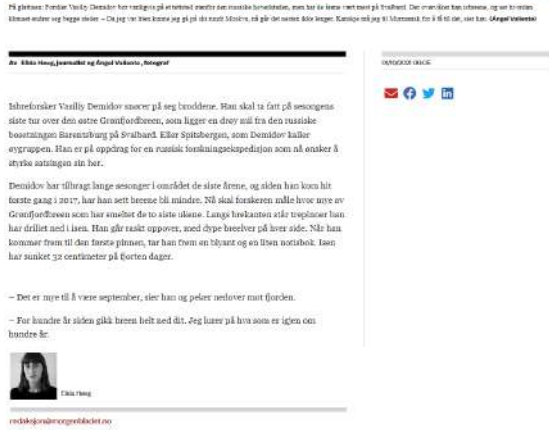
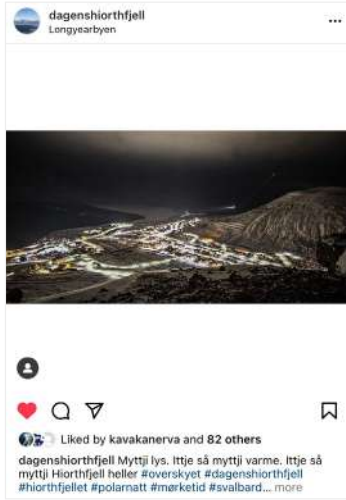
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ARTICA SVALBARD
W/DIDRIK PAULSEN
POSTBOKS 321
9171 LONGYEARBYEN

A-Avis
Returadresse:
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Postboks 503, 9171
Longyearbyen 7 090035 510011

Eksperimenterer i stort format

Swalbard er et sted fylt med retninger, et sted hvor det usynlige blir synlig, sier Andreas Siqueland.

“Mitt miljøavtrykk er stort.”





Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum, Tromsø, Norway

FUTURE PROGRAMME

We are very pleased to announce that Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum (NNKM) have joined Artica as a key partner, nominating residents alongside Norsk Pen, Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA) and the Queen Sonja Print Award.

Artica are very proud of the key partner relationships which have been established since our founding in November 2016. Working together to host international writers, researchers and artists here in the arctic, offering an opportunity to experience Longyearbyen and Svalbard from a unique perspective. We believe the arts are vital to understanding the challenges being faced here; climate change, geopolitics, migration and minorities and that the residency programme is key to sharing stories that provoke action. We look forward to announcing the first NNKM resident soon.

Artica Svalbard will continue working towards offering a world class residency programme, working with our Key Partners we are developing new projects linked to the residencies, independent projects and local events.

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NOMINATED RESIDENTS IN 2022:

Norwegian PEN

Vibeke Koehler, Marianne Solberg, Erling Pedersen,
Lene Therese Teigen, Taciana Niadbaj (Postponed from 2020)

Queen Sonja Print Award

Heehyun Jeong, Inma Herrera, Awni Sami

Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA)

Ingrid Wildi Merino, Susan Schupli, Augustin Maurs

Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum

To be announced soon.

PLANS FOR 2022: PROJECTS & EVENTS

ARTICA LISTENS AND WRITINGS 2022: RETURN TO NATURE

For this year's theme we will commission a selection of writings which look at and discuss ideas around environmental responsibility, recycling in remote places and working with nature and design in the arctic. In September we will host Artica Listens, which will bring together these ideas and more as part of a symposium in collaboration with University of Tromsø, Murmansk Arctic State University and LPO arkitekter.

NORDIC ALLIANCE OF ARTISTS' RESIDENCIES ON CLIMATE ACTION (NAARCA)

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We are very pleased to announce our collaboration with NAARCA, co-devised and co-led by Cove Park and Saari Residence (Finland). NAARCA aims to build a long-term bridge between Scotland and the Nordic countries around the most pressing global issue of our time. The collaboration is founded upon the geological, climatological, historical, and linguistic similarities that unite both regions, and is the starting point for a permanent, expansive and holistic network of radical cooperation. In addition to **Cove Park** and **Saari Residence**, The Nordic Alliance of Artists' Residencies on Climate Action brings together **Arctic Culture Lab (Greenland)**, **Artica Svalbard (Norway)**, **Art Hub Copenhagen (Denmark)**, **Baltic Art Center (Sweden)**, and **Skafffell - Center for Visual Art (Iceland)** to collaborate on research, institutional change and public education around climate action. The first assembly of the alliance took place at Cove Park in November 2021 where we had the opportunity to lay the ground for our future collaborations, projects, commissions, residencies, and events.

NAARCA's initial three-year programme is generously supported by Kone Foundation and Nordic Culture Fund.

ARTICA YOUTH COLLECTIVE (IN THE EARLY STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT)

Artica Youth Collective is a new initiative which aims to empower the young residents of Longyearbyen to learn about the importance of arts and culture. Encouraging them to engage with Artica's programme and be inspired by our residents, emboldening them to share their experiences through a broad range of social activities and forming a collective of confident young art enthusiasts. Through consultation and idea sharing we want to encourage the members of Youth Collective to collaborate and shape the programme and its output themselves. For example by organising workshops, talks, podcasts and publications.



Nordic Alliance of Artists' Residencies on Climate Action (NAARCA) meeting, Cove Park, Scotland



Participants from Artica's Youth Collective Pilot Project, Photo: Lisa Bakk Bøen



Longyearbyen, Svalbard, Photo: Charlotte Hetherington

STAFFING AND GOVERNANCE

STAFF

In 2021 we said goodbye to Didrik Paulsen, a key member of Artica and the local Longyearbyen community. Didrik moved to the mainland with his family but will remain part of the wider Artica network through his work with the Arctic Chamber Music Festival.

In January 2022 we welcomed a new member to the team Lisa Bakk Bøen.

Charlotte Hetherington - Director

Didrik Paulsen - Coordinator (until September 2021)

Lisa Bakk Bøen - Residency and Studio Coordinator

Our gratitude goes out to Artica's wider network who supported our activities in 2021.

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THE BOARD

In February we announced the appointment of a new board member, Ina Otzko and a new deputy member, Sveinung Lystrup Thesen. We were also pleased to announce that Moa Björnson, who has been a deputy member since Artica was founded in 2016, moved to a full board member.

Chair: **Anne Berit Figenschau**

Board Members:

**Jan Martin Berg, Moa Björnson, Kjetil Trøedahl Thorsen,
Sveinung Lystrup Thesen (vara), Ina Otzko**

KEY PARTNERS

**N O R S K
P E N**

**NORD
NORSK
KUNST
MUSEUM**

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Norwegian PEN, is a non-profit and independent member organisation founded in 1922, dedicated to defending international rights of freedom of expression, linguistic rights and to supporting writers at risk and writers in prison. PEN Norway is the Norwegian branch of PEN International, the world's largest writer and freedom of expression organisation. PEN Norway's goal is that everyone should have the right to express themselves freely.

PEN Norway focuses on activities related to freedom of expression, and it strives to increase public awareness of the value of free debate and free expression, nationally and internationally. The organisation helps writers, journalists and artists in countries where freedom of speech and freedom of information is under pressure, where colleagues are harassed, persecuted, monitored and imprisoned because they exercise their right to express their opinion. PEN Norway administers the Norwegian part of the international cities of refuge for persecuted writers. The network is run by ICORN (International Cities of Refuge Network). Today, there are 18 Norwegian cities of refuge; more than 85 persecuted writers have come to Norway as ICORN writers since 1995.

Nordnorsk Kunstmuseum is a powerhouse for northern Norwegian art, with high ambitions and international perspectives. Our mantra is that art moves. Emotions, ideas, politics, knowledge, society; everything can be set in motion by art. The museum delivers relevant art experiences of high artistic value for both locals and visitors. Through offensive, critical and constructive programming, we leave traces from Anchorage in the west to Russia in the east. Through exhibitions, dissemination work and collaboration, we make art a natural part of life in Northern Norway.

OCA Office for
Contemporary
Art Norway



THE
QUEEN
SONJA
PRINT
AWARD

Office for Contemporary Art Norway (OCA) is a non-profit foundation created in 2001 by the Norwegian Ministries of Culture and of Foreign Affairs. Its principal aim is to foster dialogue between art practitioners in Norway and the international arts scene, and to support artists and cultural practitioners based in Norway in their activities around the world. To this end, OCA's discursive, exhibition, publication, residency (in Oslo and internationally) and visitor research programmes focus on bringing to Norway the plurality of practises and histories at the forefront of international artistic debates; they are very involved with actively participating in such debates nationally and internationally. OCA has been responsible for Norway's contribution to the visual arts section of La Biennale di Venezia since 2001. In the forthcoming 2022 edition the Nordic Pavilion will be transformed into the Sámi Pavilion featuring artists from all sides of the Nordic nation state borders that divide Sápmi.

The Queen Sonja Print Award (QSPA) was founded in 2011 by HM Queen Sonja of Norway and the renowned Norwegian artists Kjell Nupen and Ørnulf Opdahl, together with master printer Ole Larsen (of Helsingborg, Sweden). The QSPA Foundation's objective is to generate interest in and elevate contemporary graphic art, especially among emerging artists. The Foundation wishes to encourage the art of printmaking and inspire ambitious artists to establish themselves on the international art scene.

The QSPA selects three awardees biannually. QSPA Inspirational Award is awarded to a young promising graphic artist from a Nordic country, an artist still in education or one who has just finished his/her art training. Queen Sonja Print Award, currently the world's largest international print award, is given to an artist who has excelled in the printmaking field. QSPA Lifetime Achievement Award is a celebration of an artist's career and lifetime contribution to graphic art and printmaking. The QSPA Foundation collaborates with prominent museums, artists, curators and fine art print publishers from around the world in order to support and stimulate this important artistic field.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING



Kulturdepartementet



FRITT ORD



Støttet av Kulturrådet

SAMFUNNSLØFTET

SpareBank  Nord-Norge



ECKBOS LEGAT



LONGYEARBYEN
LOKALSTYRE



SVALBARD
FOLKEHØGSKOLE
KFUK · KFUM

FOSSIL 