

# CRE artists' residencies

*Over the past five years the Centre for Rural Economy has worked with a range of partners to facilitate a series of artists' residencies exploring rural issues.*

## **The Pollination Project: Claire Pençak, performer and choreographer, 2012/2013**

Funded by the Leverhulme Trust, the Pollination Project focused on exchanges of knowledge exchange, drawing on the image of how bees pollinate flowers to illuminate how social sciences pollinate research. Claire collaborated with social scientists, biologists, beekeepers and dancers, and focused on improvisation to explore the sensory aspects of knowledge exchange.



## **The Grandstand: Stephanie Misa, visual artist 2013/2014**

Filipino born, Austria-based artist Stephanie Misa works across a range of artistic disciplines including, sculpture, film, printmaking and sound and was the first joint CRE/Berwick Visual Arts Artist in residence. Using ethnographic methods, her work examines questions of identity, immigration and historical and cultural authenticity. She engaged ethnographically with migrant communities and made the Grandstand. The Newcastle Institute for Social Renewal provided an additional £5,000 for Grandstand 2.



### **Beyond the Idyll: Piotr Piasta, photographer and film maker, 2014/2015**

Second joint CRE/Berwick Visual Arts Artist in Residence  
Piotr Piasta is a visual artist, independent filmmaker and a photographer who currently lives and works in the Wieniawa district of Poland. His work explores themes of history, time and memory often within a rural context and he is particularly interested in ageing within rural communities and the stories and memories of older people in these communities. He interviewed older people in Berwick and also drew upon local history archive material. His short films were shown in Berwick and a variety of venues in England. The Polish Cultural Institute funded the exhibition catalogue.



### **Making Homes, Making Rural: Sander Van Raemdonck, sculptor and printmaker, 2015/2016**

The third joint CRE/Berwick Visual Arts residency was also supported by the Newcastle Institute for Social Renewal. Sander is a sculptor and printmaker and during his residency he focused on contested housing development. He carried out workshops in Berwick, engaging residents in considering development options in the market town and this work contributed to a "Ways of Seeing" event with Northumberland County Council planners.

### **The Art of Milk: Gemma Burditt, film maker and animation director, 2016/2017**

This joint CRE/Berwick Visual Arts residency addresses the Newcastle University Institute for Sustainability Challenge on Production and Resources and was also supported by the Institute. The project explored sustainable milk production in Northumberland through engaged art practice and in-depth interviews with dairy farmers. Gemma is a film maker and she worked with dairy farmers in Northumberland to produce a story of a dairy farm at this point in history, resulting in a four metre long video installation.



### **Berwick Visual Art and Centre for Rural Economy Artists Residency 2017-18**

The fifth annual CRE, Berwick Visual Arts residency opportunity for visual artists, will ask the successful artist to respond to the theme of "Materials and Materiality". The residency is currently being advertised artist is expected to be appointed in October 2017 for six months.

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