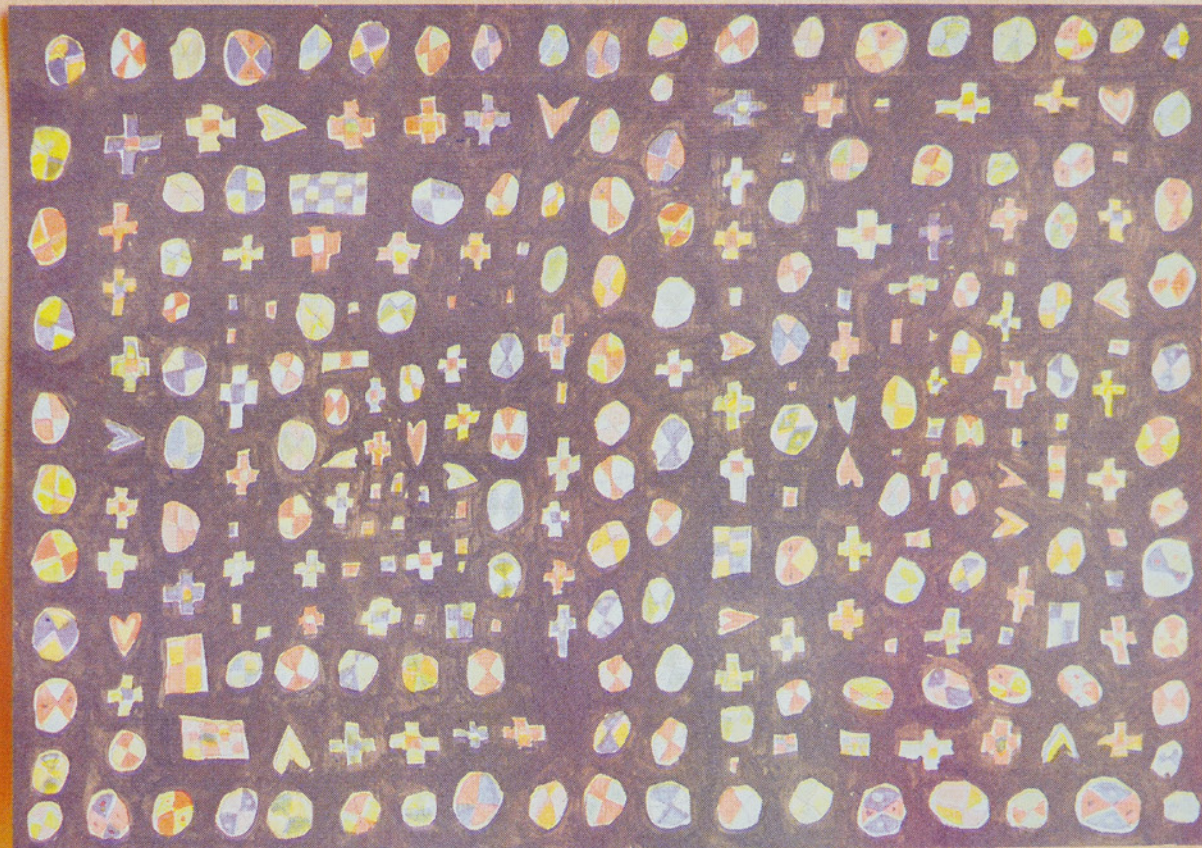
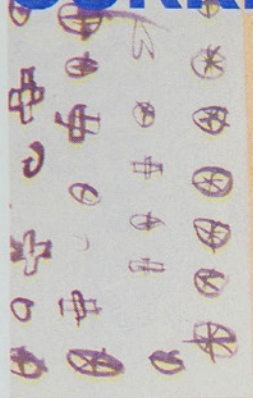


CROSS CURRENTS



MAKERS

Florence Dwyer
Clare Robb
Nicole Travers
Larry Weyand

bothy
project

FOGO ISLAND ARTS
48° 37' N, 54° 12' W

Fogo Island Workshops

CROSS CURRENTS

Excerpt from Charlotte Linton's essay
Listening for the call of place, 2022

Among the makers with whom I've carried out research, those who had established a reputation and were commercially successful had also maintained connections across different geographies to absorb change and innovation that was occurring elsewhere. Their minds and bodies were open to listening to the environmental, social, economic and political conditions that their practice was subject to and they responded to these conditions with sensitivity and creativity. Creative work does not have to practice 'a culture of Possession'* but can be an exchange of ideas, images, materials, histories and techniques that acknowledge inequality and appropriation. If permission is asked, collaboration sought or wellbeing assessed to minimise harm, works can result that honour and sustain the environmental and cultural origins of place.**

*Jamaica Kincaid, *My Garden* (Book), London: Vintage, 2000

**Robin Wall Kimmerer, 'The Honorable Harvest' in *Braiding Sweetgrass*, Minneapolis: Milkweed Editions, 2013

To read the full essay and find out more about the makers visit www.bothyproject.com, or scan the QR code. Set of posters available from www.bothystores.com



Florence Dwyer

Florence Dwyer is an artist, designer and maker living and working in Glasgow. She is influenced by the processes underpinning experimental archaeology: a field of study which involves the re-making of objects through adopting the assumed techniques of their original makers. This has led her to work with various traditional craft techniques and experiment with dyeing, tufting and weaving textiles, casting, slip-trailing and glazing ceramics. This practice is underpinned by research into social and cultural histories that are commonly related to craft, industrial manufacturing and domestic design.

Before and since her time on residency on the Isle of Eigg, Florence Dwyer has been working on a multifaceted project that has taken its starting point from Shetland's Taatit rugs. Taatit rugs are long-pile woollen bed covers. They are made from Shetland wool naturally dyed by plants found in the local landscape, creating bold, colourful designs. These designs often incorporate symbols redolent of folklore beliefs that are intended to ward off witches and evil spirits. The symbols are positioned on the rugs at points that correspond with parts of the body on which the rugs lie. The rugs were traditionally used at night, a time when you are believed to be at your most vulnerable.

Dwyer's embodied approach to researching these contextually dense vernacular objects has involved processes of re-making, re-designing, weaving, dyeing, sheep-herding, painting and tufting. Bog myrtle, bracken, fermented ash bark, daffodils, hawthorn berries, dock leaves, nettles, gorse, rose-hips, blackberries, indigo, madder and onion skins have all been collected and used to make dyes. The dyed wool she produces has been used to make both small-scale tapestries and larger tufted carpets. By working in this way Florence has been investigating the topics and dichotomies that Taatit's draw upon: plant-lore, the Scottish witch-hunts, capitalism and sleep.

www.florededwyer.com

Main image: Drawing table at Sweeney's Bothy, Isle of Eigg 2021

www.bothyproject.com

bothyproject
bothyproject

www.fogoislandarts.ca

fogoislandarts
fogoislandarts

In 2021 Bothy Project, Fogo Island Arts and Fogo Island Workshops collaborated to realise *Cross Currents*, a residency and professional development project for craft-designer-makers based in Scotland and Newfoundland, Canada.

After an open call Florence Dwyer and Clare Robb went on residency to Bothy Project's Sweeney's Bothy, Isle of Eigg, and Nicole Travers and Larry Weyand were resident at Fogo Island Arts on Fogo Island.

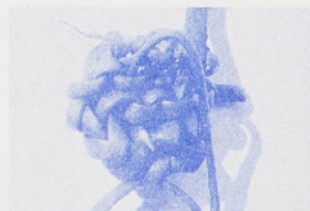
Cross Currents proposed that residents explore the historical, artistic and social parallels between Scotland's West Coast and Newfoundland on Canada's East Coast. These topics were unpacked in a series of sessions led by: Chris Kabel (product designer, Rotterdam); Charlotte Linton (designer and anthropologist, Glasgow); Amy Proutry (curator and academic, Toronto) and Katy West (designer and educator, Glasgow).

Cross Currents builds on work undertaken by Bothy Project in *The Pioneers* (2016), where makers designed objects useful for its off-grid bothies, and Fogo Island Workshops, which has forged collaborations between designers and local makers to create furniture. Both organisations are committed to excellence in design practice which is informed by place-based artisanal knowledge and skills.

The project was generously funded through British Council Scotland and Creative Scotland's Connect and Collaborate programme, with additional support from Shorefast.

Thanks to the selection panel; Heather Igloriote, Irene Kernan, Nicolaus Schafhausen and Katrina Tompkins. Also An Nead Hand Knitwear, All About Willow and Sarah Boden, on the Isle of Eigg and Winds & Waves Artisan Guild, on Fogo Island.

Clare Robb
Knotted thongweed
Isle of Eigg, 2021



Nicole Travers
I Honour You
Fogo Island, 2021



Larry Weyand
Detail from *All the Bathrooms I Bathed In*
2022



FOGO ISLAND ARTS
48° 37' N, 54° 12' W

Fogo Island Workshops



shorefast