



Shetland *arts*

2015 - 2016: Quarter 3

Report of activity relating to Priority Areas of Activity Statements

Case Studies: The Great Care Centre Creativity Swap, Shetland Noir Festival & Pelagic
Sculpture Project Interim Report

Key Performance Indicator Statistics (appendix)

Priority Area 1: Youth Arts

This includes the groundbreaking work we do with Shetland Youth Theatre and the support of groups such as Maddrim Media and the Shetland Young Promoters Group. It will include innovative projects designed to increase the engagement of young people in the arts, such as Youth Arts Panels, and exchange programmes with organisations outwith Shetland, encouraging Shetland youth to engage with and help shape cultural events in Shetland.

**2 Concerts / Screenings
/ Exhibition days**

**214 Audience
attendances**

**27 Development
Sessions**

532 Participations

Work began on Shetland Youth Theatre's production of Gargantua, with John Haswell appointed as Freelance Director. Preliminary conversations were had around the staging of the play, with the decision being taken to develop it for the Mareel Auditorium for March 11th & 12th. Music and Film students studying in Mareel and Maddrim Media, the young people's film production group, have also been involved, writing parts of the soundtrack and recording footage which will be shown as part of the production.

This show will also travel down to Inverness as part of the NT Connections Youth Theatre Festival in April 2016.

The Garrison Theatre hosted 'Time to Shine' in October, a week long series of workshops run by The Scottish Youth Theatre. This was followed by a performance by the students who participated in the workshops.

Priority Area 2: Education & Learning

Programme of activities aimed at skills development for creative industries practitioners as well as evening classes aimed at increasing accessibility and participation in creative activities. The Gallery Education Programme will work with schools to encourage access to and engagement with our exhibition programme. We will also facilitate peer review and support by and for practitioners at all levels of participation and a range of formal learning opportunities in partnership with UHI.

**NA - Concerts /
Screenings / Exhibition
days**

**NA - Audience
attendances**

**194 Development
Sessions**

1,595 Participations

Despite a setback in funding from Children & the Arts, the Bonhoga Education Programme got underway, designed and delivered by artist and recent MA graduate from Royal College of Art, Amy Gear. An ambitious project targeting 5 schools in Shetland - Amy will work with up to 300 pupils aged 6-16 over the coming months to create work collaboratively for exhibition at Bonhoga in June/July 2017.

Life Drawing returned to Mareel with a one-off tutored class, taught by Heather Wilson with a new model, Willem Cluness. Sales were slow at first, until a last minute email push to visual artists resulted in a sold-out workshop (12 participants) and lots of positive feedback. We will look at the possibility of running another tutored class in 2016 and also whether to expand into Still Life and Landscape classes.

The music courses (NC Music, HNC Music and BA Applied Music) delivered in partnership with Shetland College UHI moved toward the end of the 2nd semester.

A highlight of this quarter was the Student Showcase concert in Mareel's auditorium in October.

Shetland Arts continued as a member of the development team for the University of the Highlands and Islands new Film Making Degree course which is anticipated to be ready for delivery in the 2016/17 academic year.

Priority Area 3: Arts & Well-being

We will continue to lead in our partnership work in space2face, the restorative justice and arts programme. We will continue to advocate and support the provision of arts and cultural activities for older people in care settings, in partnership with Alzheimer Scotland, local and national arts professionals and Shetland Island Council's Social Care staff. This work will be in line with, and contributing to, international research in these areas.

**61 Concerts /
Screenings / Exhibition
days**

**610 Audience
attendances**

**81 Development
Sessions**

231 Participations

Shetland Arts partnered with Luminate, Scotland's Creative Aging Festival and Global Yell, to deliver a series of workshops to make new work with customers of Care Centres across Shetland, and to exhibit their artistic output through "The Great Care Centre Creativity Swap". The project promoted engagement in creative activities by residents and users of these care settings and gave their work wider exposure by sharing it across the islands. The outcome of the project is an increased interest in artistic activity both by customers and staff in the 6 care settings involved - Brucehall, Nordalea, Taing House, New Craigielea, Montfield Support Services and Wastview. In addition, the work is still being toured around the settings involved, with feedback being that the participants are keen to engage with and talk about the work, thus wanting to keep it for a longer length of time.

Arts in Care workshops were also conducted with clients from Annsbrae, by artists Chloe Garrick and Jane Malcolmson. These were really well received, with participants asking for more arts workshops, covering a broad range of disciplines.

Shetland Arts continued to support the innovative 'space2face' project, alongside the Community Mediation Team. The space2face project uses the arts alongside restorative

approaches to work with people of all ages who are involved in conflict or harm in their lives. It provides an opportunity for participants to look at what has happened, how it has affected them and others, and what they need to be able to move on with their lives in a safer way.

Priority Area 4: Development & support

The support of individuals and groups is integral to our work and includes arts practitioners and creative industries micro businesses, audience development and our formal and informal education work. It also includes staff and volunteer development.

**NA - Concerts /
Screenings / Exhibition
days**

**NA - Audience
attendances**

9 Development Sessions

412 Participations

Round 1 of the 2014/15 Visual Arts & Crafts Awards was completed at the end of April. There was a low turnout of applicants, with only 4 submissions. This was thought to be because of the timing of the submission date being in the run-up to the Shetland Craft Fair. Two of the applicants were awarded the full amount they requested - with £1500 each going to Berenice Carrington and Faye Hacker.

The quarter saw the continuation of work in support of individual artists, creative groups and Creative Industry businesses, in terms of creative practice, funding and financial advice, and providing freelance opportunities on numerous projects.

Priority Area 5: Programme, Commissioning & Curation

This will include the programming of our cinema (in partnership with City Screen), gallery, theatre and auditorium (a range of local, national and international promoters including Shetland Folk Festival, and DF concerts); Wordplay and Screenplay, our highly successful book and film festivals; the Shetland International Guitar Festival, curated by Martin Taylor; and Fiddle Frenzy, curated by Bethany and Jenna Reid. We will also develop creative residencies in partnership with local and national bodies (including Scottish Chamber Orchestra, National Theatre of Scotland, Scottish Book Trust) and extend our regional, national and international reach through the development of a variety of festivals and events, including a Northern Isles Book Festival, in collaboration with key partners in Orkney and Shetland and the hosting of a one off Nordic/Tartan Crime Noir Conference in November 2015.

**977 Concerts /
Screenings / Exhibition
days**

**43,025 Audience
attendances**

**89 Development
Sessions**

2,910 Participations

Full event listings can be found at <http://issuu.com/shetlandarts>

Mareel's cinema screen were particularly busy this quarter with films like James Bond Spectre, Star Wars: The Force Awakens, Lady In The Van, Bridge Of Spies, Brooklyn and The Martian. There was also a selection of popular Christmas film screenings over the festive period such as Muppets Christmas Carol, Elf and It's a Wonderful Life. Regular screenings for specific audiences continued to be popular, including autism friendly, baby friendly and 'Silver Screenings' for older audiences.

Notable music events in Mareel included the Hirda Shetland dialect opera which was a collaboration between Shetland fiddler and composer Chris Stout and Gareth Williams, a Scottish contemporary classical composer. Hirda was supported by Shetland Arts, who played a role as a partner in the production of all four events across Shetland - Mareel, Haroldswick Hall, Vidlin Hall and Carnegie Hall.

Other performances in Mareel included contemporary folk group Skerryvore, a band formed in Tiree who are renowned for blending everything from rock to jazz.

Mareel also welcomed Seckou Keita, a true master of the kora - a 22 stringed West African harp. Seckou, from the Casamance area of Southern Senegal, was a childhood prodigy, born of a line of 'griots and kings'.

Progressive Jazz bassist Michael Janisch and his performed twice in Mareel together with a concert in Sandwick and a workshop at the Garrison Theatre.

This year's panto at the Garrison Theatre was Dick Whittington, presented by Islesburgh Drama Group and in total there was 13 shows.

The Exhibitions team finalised plans for the 2016 Exhibition Programme, including the Children's Education Programme and Gallery Takeover and the Unst-based Dance Residency, Bone & Shadow. Bonhoga's Christmas selling exhibition – Svenska, in the third quarter of 2015, featured art, craft and design work inspired by Sweden. The work of five printmakers from Gotland was showcased alongside new work from Shetlander Karen Clubb whose artwork has been informed by her time living and working in Sweden, plus new work by Shetland-based artists Mike Finnie and Anne Bain who travelled to Sweden as part of a Shetland Arts Visual Art and Craft award in 2014. Commercial product from leading designers and makers in Sweden extended to the pop-up retail facility in Mareel.

Priority Area 6: Recording, Broadcast and Intellectual Property

Maximising Mareel's digital production facilities (principally for music and video recording and broadcast), we will provide opportunities for musicians and producers to generate revenue and Intellectual Property. Shetland Arts will continue to create, protect and monetise its own Intellectual Property assets in partnership with Shetland Arts Intellectual Property Community Interest Company.

**NA - Concerts /
Screenings / Exhibition
days**

**NA - Audience
attendances**

**61 Development
Sessions**

245 Participations

Mareel's recording studio continued to be heavily booked with recording, mixing and mastering sessions with clients including Kris Drever, The North Ness Boys, Trookers, Nomadia, The Revellers, Small Hours, Portaloath, and Brack & File.

Music students also made extensive use of the recording studio and media production facilities to work on their various educational projects.

Case Study: The Great Care Centre Creativity Swap

The project was devised as a partnership with Luminare (Scotland's creative ageing festival), Shetland Arts and Global Yell, with a remit to make new work through arts workshops with customers of Care Centres across Shetland, and to exhibit their artistic output throughout late 2015. It was intended to promote engagement in creative activities by residents and users of these care settings and to give their work a wider exposure by sharing it across the islands. The

outcome of the project is an increased interest in artistic activity both by customers and staff in these care settings. In addition, the work is still being toured around the settings involved,



with feedback being that the participants are keen to engage with and talk about the work, thus wanting to keep it for a longer length of time.

As well as the benefits of participation for the older people involved, there was the added opportunity to up-skill artists in their delivery and execution of workshops and exhibiting for the specific environment of a Care Centre. This training took the form of individual mentoring sessions with the Visual Arts and Literature Development Officers at SADA.



All Care Centres in Shetland were offered this opportunity, and six came onboard: Brucehall and Nordalee (both in Unst), Newcraigielea, Taing House and Montfield Support Services (all in Lerwick) and Wastview (on the West Mainland). These Care Centres gave the project a wide geographical reach as well as a broad range of clients - from residential to day care, from dementia sufferers to able-bodied. Thus, the

experience for the artists was diverse, and ultimately very rewarding. Each artist reported having developed skills in adaptability in order to meet the specific needs of participants.

The artists recruited were: Chloe Garrick, Genevieve White, Amy Colvin, Kristi Tait and Raman Mundair. Their workshops produced a wide range of work and employed a vast array of techniques - including film-making, storytelling, printmaking, music and sculpture and from sharing tea and biscuits to sharing homemade pakora, the participants were engaged in many different ways to make art.



Residents at Wastview were reported asking for their next workshop and were so involved that the staff were prompted to organise future sessions with a local pottery service to paint crockery. Participants in Brucehall were inspired to bring along their own work to share with their group. In each setting there were reports of some participants being challenged by the hands-on nature of making work, however invariably staying for each session and eventually contributing.

Case Study: Shetland Noir

Shetland Noir, Shetland's first ever festival of crime fiction, took place between 13th and 15th November. The series of events was a partnership between Shetland Arts, Promote Shetland and Icelandic Noir and was developed with artistic input from well know author with Shetland connections, Anne Cleaves.

The full programme of Shetland Noir events can be found here http://issuu.com/shetlandarts/docs/sn_programme

As well as the six special guest authors, Arne Dahl, Hakan Nesser, Yrsa Sigurðardóttir, Alex Gray, Denise Mina and Stuart MacBride, Shetland Noir welcomed authors from as far away as Los Angeles and Washington DC, as well as from the UK mainland and from Shetland.

Featured authors included James Oswald author of the Detective Inspector McLean series; online crime fiction reviewer and Petrona Award for translated Scandinavian crime fiction judge, Sarah Ward; New York Times, USA Today and international bestselling writer Pamela Palmer; and award winning author of The Good Thief's Guide series Chris Ewan.

They were joined by other stellar names, including bestselling Thriller Award-winning and Bram Stoker and Anthony Award-nominated author Alexandra Sokoloff, S.J.I. Holliday, Mari Hannah and Valerie Laws, as well as 'Killer Women', Melanie McGrath, Louise Millar, Helen Giltrow and Laura Wilson.

Events included creative workshops, panel sessions with all the authors, and three special 'head to head' events featuring the headline guests. In addition to educational events, panels and receptions, there was also the opportunity to take a bus tour and follow in the footsteps of Jimmy Perez. Lead by special guides Ann Cleaves and Davie Gardener, the tour will explore some of the locations used in filming the BBC TV series Shetland, as well as locations from Ann's novels.



Extract from Anne Cleaves blog 'Shetland Noir' posted on Saturday, November 21st <http://www.anncleaves.com/weblog/archives/00000130.html>

"I'm happy to claim the idea of borrowing Reykjavik's crime-writing festival for Shetland as mine, though I can't remember now exactly how it was decided. In any event there was no opposition from the Icelanders to the idea and it was wonderful to welcome so many of them to Shetland last weekend. Visitors from all over the world braved the dramatic weather - we

coincided with Storm Abigail and there was very little daylight - to join us to discuss all things criminal. Delayed (and somewhat exciting) flights only added to the drama. The main focus, as was only appropriate, was Nordic Noir and three of the six headliners were Icelandic or Swedish, but it was great to meet a librarian from Washington DC, a reader from LA and a couple of Scandie journalists as well as people from throughout the UK."

*"The festival had a very Shetland flavour though. We were welcomed to Lerwick Library on Thursday night with homebakes, a spinner, an expert in Shetland ponies and two members of the Up Helly Aa Guizer Squad in full costume! It was a great opportunity for locals and visitors to meet and share ideas. The official civic reception on Friday night featured Shetland beer and wonderful Shetland food. It was a chance to show off my non-fiction book about the islands and I was delighted to present the first Jimmy Perez award to writer Helen Grant for her beautifully structured short story *The Beach House*. Thanks to my publishers for making the event even more special by arranging for Dougie Henshall, who plays Perez in the BBC drama, to be there to hand over the beautiful glass and driftwood trophy."*



"The weather calmed on Sunday in time for our coach trip around the Shetland mainland. It had been put together by local crimewriter Marsali Taylor and BBC local fixer Davie Gardner. We went from the Eshaness cliffs to the north to St Ninian's Isle in the south looking at some of the locations in the books and the drama. But Marsali is a trained guide so we learned a lot more about the islands than the fictional creations based there. Lunch was in the Hillswick Community Hall, a nod to the

tradition of Shetland Sunday teas"

"A huge thanks to everyone who made the trek north for Shetland Noir, not just the writers - Stuart MacBride, Denise Mina and Alex Gray were the Scottish guests of honour and there were too many others to name individually - but to pathologist Prof James Grieve and CSI Helen Pepper who came to talk about the reality of crime and share their own perspectives on crime fiction. The biggest thanks though should go to Marsali [Taylor], to Donald Anderson of Shetland Arts, to Misa Hay and Kirsty Halcrow of Promote Shetland and to all the staff and volunteers in Mareel. I'm sure lots of the visitors will return to see the islands in the long days of summer."

[photo of Anne Cleaves and Douglas Henshall courtesy of Dale Smith]

Case Study: Pelagic Sculpture Project Interim Report

A newly formed group, the Pelagic Sculpture Partnership, have recently commissioned a sculpture for Lerwick's harbour front. The four organisations – Shetland Catch, Shetland Fish Producers' Organisation, Lerwick Port Authority and fish agents LHD - are working with Shetland Arts, who manage the project, and Arts & Business Scotland, who provide match funding.

Jo Chapman, the commissioned artist, arrived in Shetland to commence her 10 week residency on 16 October. She stayed in Hoswick until the end of November when she moved to The Booth in Scalloway until the end of her residency on 22 December.



The months of October and November were about public engagement and informal consultation with the community. The start of December marked a quieter, more reflective phase of the project. This has enabled Jo to draw together her research and develop her ideas into drawings and maquettes for three possible design solutions. These will be presented to the four project business partners on Monday 21 December, when they hope to select a final design for fabrication.

Community engagement

Community engagement activities continued throughout November and included workshops in several schools: Whalsay (secondary), Brae (primary and secondary), Skeld, Outer Isles (Fair Isle, Foula, Skerries), Nesting and Lunnasting. Workshops were also carried out in Shetland College with BA Contemporary Textiles students and with adults with learning disabilities. Jo met with the eight pelagic skippers, Lerwick Port Authority, the SFPO, with a member of Whalsay history group, and a representative of Skerries Community Council. Clair [Aldington, Project Manager] and Jo also met with the Whalsay herring gutters and a SIC Community Involvement and Development Officer.

From these meetings and workshops, Jo and Clair have selected individuals to be part of the Community Advisers' Group. They are: Magnie Shearer, Margie Pearson, a student from Shetland College, a secondary school pupil, Aubrey Jamieson, George William and Lauren Johnson.



This group will meet on Sunday 20 December in Mareel for a presentation about Jo's work and contemporary sculpture. This meeting will also be a preview of the three design proposals and be an opportunity for the group to have input into the final selection process. Shetland Catch and the Artist Adviser will be present at this meeting.

Project launch

There was a project launch on Saturday 28 November from 11am - 3pm in the Shetland Museum Learning Room. Around 50 people participated in the drop in workshop or looked at the presentation of Jo's work. 90 postcards were handed out about the project. Children were given Fish Van Collection stickers.

The Fish Van Collection will be exhibited in Bonhoga Gallery cafe (wall and glass cabinet) from 5 March - 17 April 2016. This will be in the printed and online gallery programme for 2016, which is published in January.

Living Lerwick are happy to support an opening event for the sculpture unveiling in any way they can during late May 2016. This includes the possible loan of market stalls, shop windows with a fishing/ sea theme, shop windows displaying the Fish Van Collection and baskets of flowers being up in the street.

Key Performance Indicators 15/16	Concerts, Screenings, Exhibitions				Audience attendances				Development Sessions				Participations			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Current Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Current Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Current Actual	Q1	Q2	Q3	Current Actual
1. Youth Arts	9	0	2	11	661	0	214	875	56	12	27	95	1243	140	532	1915
2. Education & Learning	1	0	0	1	87	0	0	87	294	98	194	586	2444	1023	1595	5062
3. Arts & Well-being	0	4	61	65	0	174	610	784	48	90	81	219	131	328	231	690
4. Development & Support	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16	11	9	36	926	391	412	1729
5. Programme, Commissioning & Curatio	924	1062	977	2963	37141	36843	43025	117009	52	111	89	252	1200	2075	2910	6185
6. Broadcast, Recording & IP	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	31	38	61	130	94	143	245	482
Programme Total	934	1066	1040	3,040	37889	37017	43849	118,755	466	322	400	1,188	5944	3957	5680	15,581
SCT Annual Target KPI				3,000				160,000		4		1,300				9,000