

Sea and Stone at LHQ Gallery

Opening Saturday 22nd March from 2:00pm and will run until Friday 25th April.

An exhibition celebrating creativity on the seven West Cork Islands. The exhibition will feature a selection of works from the last two years of the Creative Places West Cork Islands project, presented alongside creative artefacts unique to the islands, including painted plaques, knots and ropes, Irish knitting, leatherwork, books, paintings, and films.

Contributors: Nigel Towse & John Simpson | William Bock & the community of Sherkin | Cally Harmer | Danny Stewart | Fergus Murphy | Neisha Azzopard and Burnedette Burns | Kirstie Affleck | Catherine Cadogan, Jean Long, Mary O Driscoll, Diarmuid O' Drisc
eoil & Tograí Chléire | musicians of Oileán Chléire & Sherkin | Annemarie Ní Churr
eáin | Norman King | Mary Sullivan | Deirdre Legg | Vincent Harrington, Oscar Daly & Stev
en Carter | Peter Prendergast

From left to right

Nigel Towse & John Simpson

18 years of Baltimore Wooden Boat Festival plaques

Oil on board, various sizes

The iconic painted plaques which are awarded at the Baltimore Wooden Boat Festival each year are painted by Sherkin islanders Nigel Towse and John Simpson.



William Bock

Image of Artem, 2023, digital photograph, ink jet print

A Green Rope for Sherkin, 2024/25, rope & film

This project revolves around an ever-growing Sugán Rope. The rope is crafted outdoors by many hands using only green wild plants sensitively harvested from the landscape. The process is guided by our hands, the natural material and conversations that arise from working together.



Cally Harmer

Carrick Bend Knot, 2024

From a workshop by Nigel Towse for the residents on Sherkin and Heir Islands.



Danny Stewart

Oileán Chléire, 2024, oil on canvas, 16 x 20 cm

From community exhibition, Oileán Chléire, Curated by Ruairí Ó Donnabháin








Fergus Murphy

Notebooks

2024, mixed media on gardening books, 44 x 29 cm

From his solo exhibition at Town Hall Art Centre, Cavan. The works are a response to the efficacy of colonialism, a construct that still seems to pervade and inform our world.



<p>Neisha Azzopard and Burnedette Burns Examples from Sewn Up, Sherkin Island, 2025. <i>Sewn Up is a project by Jordyn Lynch, Neisha Azzopard for the community of Sherkin. This upcycling project utilises old bell tents and skills local to Sherkin Island such as stitching/machine stitching, crochet, and textile layering.</i></p>	
<p>Kirstie Affleck 2023, Felted Stag with merino wool, dimensions. <i>Kirstie is a farmer and maker from Oileán Chléire. She has been working on a new body of work with her self-shedding sheep, developing her practice of traditional wool spinning, knitting and multi-stranded colorwork to produce stand-alone art pieces. From community exhibition, Oileán Chléire, curated by Ruairí Ó Donnabháin.</i></p>	
<p>An Geansaí Chléire / The Oileán Chléire Gansey Discovered in 1924, <i>Geansaí Chléire</i> was knitted by Catherine Cadogan from <i>Oileán Chléire</i>. Knitter Jean Long was asked to reverse engineer the original and recreated the pattern so that the <i>geansaí</i> could become part of the textile history of the island community.</p>	
<p>Kirstie Affleck Cloch na Gealluna (The Trysting Stone), 2025, wool, dimension Carraig Aonair (Fastnet Rock) 2025, wool, dimension <i>Knit from wool hand spun from rare breed Soay and Suffolk self-shedding sheep.</i></p>	
<p>Cruinniu Ceoil / Music Meeting Musicians of Oileán Chléire and Sherkin <i>Film by Mickaël Do Couto</i></p>	

Plinths					
	Leatherwork for Bere Islanders, Stephen Carter		Seancas Cleire. Published 1940 is a record of an Oileán Chléire fisherman		Boat in a bottle Oileán Chléire.
	Plate recovered from the Illyrian shipwreck 1884, bound for Boston via Liverpool		A book about Sherkin boats, SIDS, Deirdre Legg, 2024		A book of poetry and reflections from Sherkin islander Norman King. Deirdre Legg, John Simpson, 2024
	<i>My Townland, My Story.</i> Children from the West Cork Islands, 2024		Mary Sullivan, Artist book, 2024	Dursey Poem, Annemarie Ní Churreáin, 2024	