

# Resort Revelations 2018

Bennie Reilly  
Difference Engine  
Marie Farrington  
Ciaran Murphy

September  
7<sup>th</sup> — 15<sup>th</sup>

Lynders Mobile  
Home Park  
and Newbridge  
House and Farm  
Donabate

# Resort Revelations 2018

## Production of Sight—Resort Revelations 2018

"The relation between what we see and what we know is never settled. Each evening we see the sun set. We know that the earth is turning away from it. Yet the knowledge, the explanation, never quite fits the sight."

—John Berger, 1926–2017, *Ways of Seeing*

Fingal County Council's Arts Office is delighted to present the annual Resort Revelations Programme at Lynders Mobile Home Park. The programme has been synonymous with ambitious projects that have put not only the residency but also this beautiful part of North County Dublin into public view. The artists on the 2017/2018 Reside and Return Programme were chosen for their object-based practices. The introduction of the artist residency at Lynders posed a question: What will the artists do here? One answer, reflected over the last few years, is that they will view the location through the lens of their individual practices and their own personal experience. Portrane is a site and this site is also a mode of production for a multitude of outcomes. The "site-specific" artwork is a well-worn critical context, and with embedded specificity here in Donabate/Portrane we might also ask whether we can ever exhaust what is revealed about a location when seen through the eyes of so many engaged on a residency model.

Theorist Carlotta Castellani<sup>1</sup> has aligned the site-specific artist residency with what Foucault describes as a *heterotopia* – that every place is also non-place, a place dependent on a range of relationships and particularly dependent on the artist's personal connection to it.

Resort Residency, through the unwavering support of Gerry Lynders and Fingal Arts Office, has become a space where visiting artists are welcomed as guests. The model aims to create a space where artists are supported enough to feel at ease within their environment so that the intricacies of their way of seeing reveal a truthful and integral representation of Portrane and surrounding Donabate.

*On and on and on and on and on* goes the title of the sculpture at the site by Difference Engine (Mark Cullen and Gillian Lawler). The form of the sculpture was decided on the throw of a 50-cent coin, creating an aperiodic binary tiling formation that allows the visitor to engage in the feeling of disorientation while remaining immersed in a place, a feeling which I am sure resonates with any artist participating on residency – what Marnie Badham describes as "places that are not their own"<sup>2</sup>

*Land Grabs* by Wendy Judge looks at rock formations surrounding the area and invites us to suspend our perceptions of them; after all, *The Bleeding Pig* is a rock which is acknowledged as an animal form.

Jessica Foley has written a new work, *Holes*, which weaves her own experience on residency with anecdotes and fiction to reveal topographical and geological observations of the site.

Bennie Reilly's *Souvenirs of Portrane* speaks to the history of Newbridge House and its relationship to the coast, showing that the found object so revered by Fanny Cobbe is still a treasure across the ages, when in the eye of the beholder.

The barely noticeable architectural features at the park have been beautifully illuminated by Marie Farrington in her work *See Level*, where the everyday vernacular becomes monumental through plaster mixed with seawater, as material is mixed with site.

Ciaran Murphy's *I See* gives us an insight into the power of the artist's eye to influence how we perceive a location, aligned with the practice of Conrad Martens, the 18th-century artist who travelled with Charles Darwin along uncharted landscapes, where his observations became more important than the written descriptions of them.

As always we have many to thank, and as always we begin with Gerry Lynders and his family for their dedication to the artist's process. We are delighted to announce that over the winter months Gerry has built a permanent studio space, which is a valuable site of production and presentation and further confirms that the artist will always be welcome at the park. Thanks is also due to Eilish McDermott, Larry Carolan and all at the Bleeding Festival for supporting the programme, Bryan Greene for his production assistance, Anne Brophy and the staff of Newbridge House and Farm, Brian Cregan and our design collaborator Rossi McAuley and his team at Distinctive Repetition for the communication of this year's programme at the park and the bespoke production of Bennie Reilly's *Souvenirs of Portrane* playing card decks. I would like to congratulate this year's artists – Ciaran Murphy, Bennie Reilly, Marie Farrington and Difference Engine's Mark Cullen, Gillian Lawler, Wendy Judge and Jessica Foley – for the production of outstanding work, and wish them all the best on their next residency journey, wherever that may be.

**Caroline Cowley**  
Public Art Co-ordinator

<sup>1</sup> Carlotta Castellani, "From 'Eretic' artist residency to 'Heterotopia': Shifts in the cultural politics of Villa Romana (1905–2017)", "The Artist Residency in Context", *Seismpolite Journal of Art & Politics* Issue 18, 2017

<sup>2</sup> Marnie Badham, "The Social Life of Artists Residencies, Working with People & Places not your own", *The Artist Residency in Context, Seismpolite Journal of Art & Politics* Issue 19, 2017

# Schedule September 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup>

## Exhibition and Programme Launch Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup> September 2018, 7pm

Resort Revelations Exhibition and Programme will be officially launched by Councillor Anthony Lavin, Mayor of Fingal. The evening includes an exhibition of new work by Ciaran Murphy, Bennie Reilly, Difference Engine and Marie Farrington.

There will also be a performance of work by Jessica Foley of Difference Engine and a card game to introduce Bennie Reilly's *Souvenirs of Portrane*, Resort Revelations' limited-edition card decks. *Souvenir decks of cards will be available free to visitors of the exhibition and some will be available at the Cabinet of Curiosities at Newbridge House at tours of Bennie Reilly's work there.*

Refreshments served. All welcome.

## Bennie Reilly—*Souvenirs of Portrane*, 2018 Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

A selection of natural curiosities collected on the beaches of Portrane including highly unusual seashells, strange rock formations and other questionable artefacts. Bennie will present work in *The Cabinet of Curiosities* at Newbridge House and at Lynders Mobile Home Park. Tours of the work at Newbridge House will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and 3pm each day. Tours of the work will include a tour of the house and are free.

Booking essential. See booking details.

A bespoke, limited-edition playing card deck featuring Bennie Reilly's curiosities will be available to visitors at Lynders and Newbridge House throughout the exhibition. The playing cards were inspired by the collecting pursuits of Fanny Cobbe at Newbridge House, who kept shells in little boxes she fashioned out of playing cards. This edition made especially for Resort Revelations 2018 also references the off-line leisure activities prompted by the chance to reside at Lynders Mobile Home Park.

## Marie Farrington—*See Level*, 2018 Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

Marie explores the surfaces and patterns associated with mobile-home parks – the corrugated textures, the striped façades, the functional domestic elements of windows and doors – through sculpture. Using plaster mixed with Portrane seawater, the medium is mixed with the site and the unremarkable becomes the monumental.

## Ciaran Murphy—*I See*, 2018 The Studio at Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

Ciaran has produced a large series of enigmatic small-scale paintings in a variety of media. Their format and quality evoke the feeling of unfurling a roll of negatives documenting a journey, or an encounter of an otherworldly place. The works are unsettling and fragmented; the familiar clouds, rocks and sea creatures are rendered strange, while other things are ambiguous but familiar. Objects are in flux, things float.

At times they seem barely there, as the eye comes into focus. Throughout the residency, work was allowed to begin, gestate and recommence, and the artist acknowledges that this process allows for slippages, changes in direction, re-interpretation of meanings, forgetting and recalling, all of which adds to the dream-like sequence of these new works.

## Difference Engine at Resort Revelations

Difference Engine is an evolving touring exhibition, a model of autonomous artist curation by artists Mark Cullen, Wendy Judge, Gillian Lawler and Jessica Foley. We have adopted the name Difference Engine as a kind of poetic motto for working together creatively, pragmatically and critically. We particularly enjoy Babbage's aphorism that "Jamming is a form of error detection," and take this as a slogan for our collective experimentation and collaboration.

Difference Engine operates similarly to oral storytelling, where the story changes each time it is spoken. This story is made up of visuals, objects and props, as well as words. There isn't one set narrative, and so there is a call to the audience to build their own associations and narratives from the pieces we present and organise in the exhibition space. The works brought together through Difference Engine weave personal concerns with concepts of science, geologic time, language, architecture and economics.

[www.differenceengineartists.org](http://www.differenceengineartists.org)  
[www.gillianlawler.org](http://www.gillianlawler.org)  
[www.wendyjudgetartsquarespace.com](http://www.wendyjudgetartsquarespace.com)  
[www.markcullen.org](http://www.markcullen.org)  
[www.jessicafoleywriting.com](http://www.jessicafoleywriting.com)

## Mark Cullen & Gillian Lawler *'On and on and on and on and on'* Inversion I/II 2018 Maze, Windbreakers Sculpture, Created and located on-site at Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

You are invited to explore the Lynders Maze, made from the most typical and idiosyncratic objects of beach holidays in our western windy islands – the coloured and striped windbreaker. Hidden within the maze are a series of chambers, with sculptural inversions waiting to be discovered. The maze itself is based on an aperiodic binary tiling of the plane – a randomised process where the flip of a 50-cent coin decided the direction of each square on the maze's grid – either diagonally up or down. Be warned – after entering you may be lost for a considerable time.

## Gillian Lawler—*Inversion I, II and III*, 2018 Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

This new work infuses the idea of place, organisation, relocation and transformation through different states of being. Submerged into the earth, *Inversion I, II, and III* reveal an opening between two worlds, a plantation of infinite voids, leading somewhere else. Recurring chequerboard motifs accentuate a definite but skewed anti-perspective, which add to a surreal, dreamlike sense of discomfort, where what appears to have been planned according to a perspectival logic is withheld and subverted.

## Jessica Foley—*Holes*, 2018 Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

The nature poem is a mainstay of the tradition of poetry. It's a way of thinking with and telling about the physical world and the time and conditions we're living through.

Thinking with the smaller geology and local lore of Lynders Mobile Home Park, *Holes* is a nature poem that speaks to a human desire for intimacy and autonomy. Set on the cliff-edge temporality of Portrane, *Holes* works as both a foil and a medium, opening up an oblique space to appreciate contradictions, harms and benefits of Internet phenomena through mutual acts of speaking and listening. Following a live reading on the launch of Resort Revelations, the poem will become portable through a wireless sound lantern for visitors to experience in relation to the wider exhibition.

## Live performance at Resort Revelations 2018 launch, 7<sup>th</sup> September. Speaker and piece available throughout the exhibition, located on-site.

## Wendy Judge—*Land Grabs*, 2018 Large digitally manipulated photographic images printed on vinyl Lynders Mobile Home Park 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September

*Land Grabs* is a series of works that look at re-imagining the surface. These photography sculptures came about from walks with a camera taken every day from Lynders Mobile Home Park along the rocky coast around to the cliff walk and back.

The images are local but look for the unexpected, the lyrical and the literary within the landscapes at one's feet. Portrane is a place that conjures up the fantastical: sea monsters, ancient cave creatures and just the everyday brilliance of what rolls in off the tide and lurks under the rocks.

## Mark Cullen

'On and on and on and on and on'

slip slide inside this twin ccccooil  
this labyrinthtttttine maze  
Intestinal routes laaarggggge and small  
devour time, and return  
and seek out hidden  
ccccchaaaaambers hiding portals  
breached aaand secure from the wind.  
three insertions: chequered patterns guide the eye  
to vaaaarishing points  
submerged into the earth, gggateways to Chthonic worlds  
a plantttttation of infinite voids leading where else  
inverted towers opening to an infinite underworld.

'On and on and on and on and on'



Image—Ciaran Murphy

# Special Events

## Jessica Foley Writing Workshop *Worldizing in the Modh Coinníollach:* A writing workshop to see what condition our condition is in Lynders Mobile Home Residency Space Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 11am—1pm

Worldizing (a term/technique developed by Walter Murch in the 1970s) is about bringing sounds from one place into another and making an audio recording. The Modh Coinníollach is a tense in the Irish language that involves making affirmative statements in the conditional mood. This writing workshop will introduce you to both of these ideas and explore how they might help illuminate our relationship to technology and our sense of future through the wonderful world of the Gantt Chart.

No knowledge of the Irish language or Gantt Charts is necessary for this workshop. Materials will be provided. Come with an open ear and mind. Booking essential. See booking details.

## Bennie Reilly—*Souvenirs of Portrane*, 2018 Newbridge House Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> September, 2pm and 3pm

A selection of natural curiosities collected on the beaches of Portrane including highly unusual seashells, strange rock formations and other questionable artefacts. Bennie will present work in *The Cabinet of Curiosities* at Newbridge House. Tours of the work at Newbridge House will take place on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm and 3pm each day. Tours of the work will include a tour of the house and are free.

Booking essential. See booking details.

## Workshop with Difference Engine *Image Engine: A Drawing Workshop* Lynders Mobile Home Residency Space Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2.30pm—3.30pm

*Image Engine* is a short speedy workshop into colliding images where piles of words meet your machinic imaginations, where exploding thoughts are drawn onto paper where labyrinths are decoded while the corpse is reconceived exquisitely.

Work with Difference Engine artists on creating coloured drawings on paper using imaginative techniques that help generate exciting and playful sketches, with an introduction to 'exquisite corpse', one of the favourite drawing games of the surrealists, and a brief look at the Celtic maze and its drawn construction.

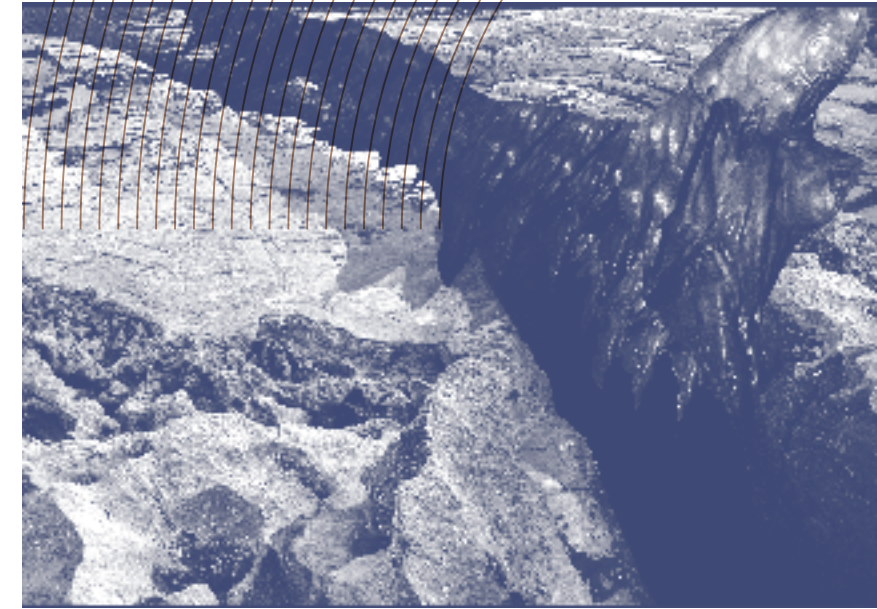
Places limited, booking essential. Materials provided, suitable for all ages from 7 yrs upwards. See booking details.

## Workshop with Ciaran Murphy The Studio at Lynders Mobile Home Park Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September, 11am

Ciaran invites participants to join him in an observational drawing workshop situated along the sites which have inspired the new work. Now that nearly everyone has ready access to a camera phone and can take a picture without much thought or effort, what is the point of trying to draw or paint outdoors? Perhaps this easy access to cameras has eroded our ability to look more closely at the world. Drawing demands close observation, and for the artist to be faced with the challenge of interpreting a world in motion. It also highlights the gap between intentions and outcomes.

This practical workshop will look at some of the key challenges and approaches to drawing and painting outdoors. It will begin by introducing techniques from art history, before venturing outside to explore the seascape.

All materials provided. Spaces are limited. Booking essential. See booking details.



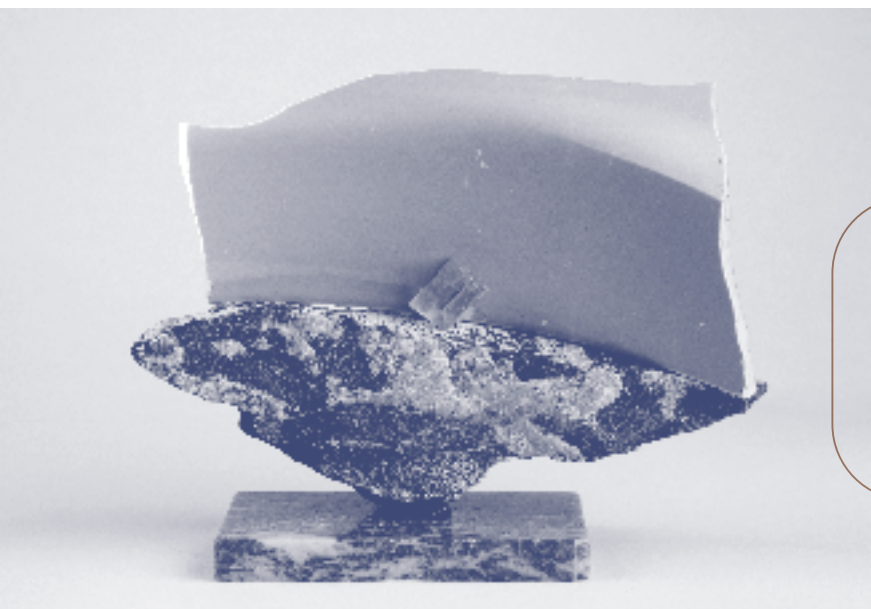
Image—Wendy Judge

# Information

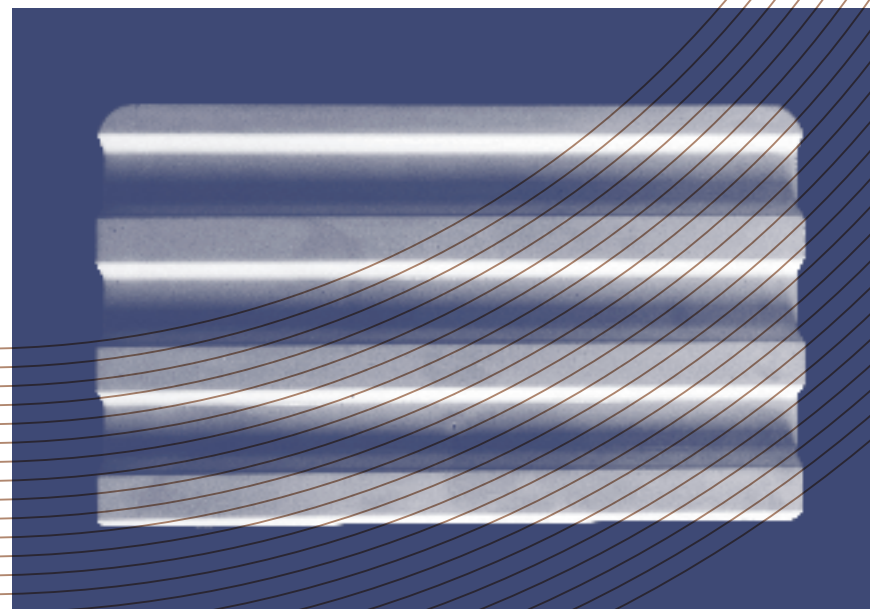
**Exhibition**  
Exhibition runs 7<sup>th</sup>—15<sup>th</sup> September, Open daily 10am—5pm, Lynders Mobile Home Park. Copies of Resort Revelations Brochure, Map and Special Edition Playing Card Deck by Bennie Reilly will be available to all visitors as a gift.

**For Event Booking Contact**  
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Graphic Design—Distinctive Repetition



Image—Bennie Reilly



Image—Marie Farrington