

RENFREWSHIRE VISUAL ARTS & CRAFT MAKERS AWARD SCHEME

Q&A with 2019/20 Round 3 Awardee

Gillian Steel

<https://vimeo.com/gilliansteel>

Please give us an idea/short description of the artwork you make/your practice

My practice is an eclectic mix of handcrafted objects, garments, printing, drawing and animations.

What did you apply to the Renfrewshire VACMA scheme for?

For VACMA I have been developing a new area of my practice in sound using software and processes towards a two-screen digital projection work with a soundscape. The themes of the work revolve around the abandonment of language - the pairing down of too much talk in exchange for a reflective silence that might allow us to hear more clearly. I had planned to have finished and exhibited the work by now, but of course as with many things, the events of this year have derailed those plans.

How has your Renfrewshire VACMA developed your work/benefitted your practice?

In many ways, however, the support offered could not have come at a better time, repositioning the proposed work within the context of seismic social change and global reflection on our abilities and willingness to communicate and connect truthfully in times of crisis. The VACMA award has therefore provided an invaluable opportunity for me to respond as a creative practitioner in unprecedented times - pushing my thinking, personal resources and processes in new and unexpected directions.



www.renfrewshireleisure.com/opportunities/vacma

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