VISUAL ARTS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

Northumberland has an extraordinary range of fascinating visual arts venues to explore.

Their offer is wide ranging from international residencies, artists’ film, moving image installation, live performance, sculpture, landform art and exhibitions of national and international standing.

This booklet celebrates some of the amazing organisations we have across the county working in a rural and breathtaking context. You can find out more about these organisations amazing programmes of exhibitions and events throughout the year by exploring their websites, to help you plan your visit.

We welcome you to Northumberland to be inspired by our vibrant visual arts organisations and our creative landscape.

www.visithumberland.com

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Allenheads Contemporary Arts (ACA) hosts artists’ residencies, exhibitions and events throughout the year from its Victorian Schoolhouse with panoramic views over the North Pennines landscape.

At ACA artists are invited to immerse themselves in a remote rural environment where ideas about place, space, community, history and the future can be explored.

Allenheads is surrounded by vast open fells and located within Northumberland’s Dark Sky Park offering some of the best views in the country of stars, galaxies, the milky way and meteor showers. In 2017 artists and visitors can take advantage of the new observatory facilities and stargazing events on site.

Please contact us if you would like to find out more about this year’s programme or are interested in a residency or other facilities at ACA.

www.acart.org.uk
The Alnwick Garden

One of the world’s most contemporary gardens, The Alnwick Garden was built to break the rules.

The Duchess of Northumberland embarked upon the creation of “A huge public garden of classic symmetry and astonishing beauty...” and today, the garden is not only an inspiring landscape with beautifully sculpted foliage vivified by water but the Wirtz International design has combined unique features and spaces to encourage interaction, learning and play.

The Garden is home to Barbara Hepworth bronze sculpture ‘Ascending Form’, on loan from the Laing Art Gallery.

A garden with a purpose, The Alnwick Garden is a registered charity (No.1095435) that places people at the forefront of all of its activities.

www.alnwickgarden.com

The Alnwick Garden
Denwick Lane
Alnwick
Northumberland, NE66 1YU

Summer 10am-6pm
Winter 10am-4pm

We are fully accessible and offer manual wheelchairs and mobility scooters free of charge to hire.

info@alnwickgarden.com
01665 511350 option 1
Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival (BFMAF) is the UK’s pre-eminent Festival for Artists’ Moving Image and New Cinema. It is a dynamic and exciting annual festival which brings together diverse communities of audiences and artists.

BFMAF is a centre of excellence in commissioning and presenting new and original work. A forum for the development of fresh artistic voices, it nurtures audiences hungry for urgent, complex and challenging cultural experiences.

The five-day festival, which takes place in venues across Berwick, includes exhibitions, film screenings and live events, as well as a young filmmakers’ award, school screenings and family activities.

The Festival also welcomes filmmakers to submit their films to the Berwick New Cinema competition, an annual prize for the very best in artist moving image and new filmmaking. Check out the website for more details.

www.berwickfilm-artsfest.com
BERWICK VISUAL ARTS
THE GRANARY GALLERY

Berwick Visual Arts is a contemporary visual arts organisation based in Berwick-upon-Tweed, England’s most northerly town and programmes exhibitions in two galleries in the town.

The Granary Gallery showcases work from some of the best regional and national art collections.

Previous exhibitions have included - Berwick’s Burrell Collection, L.S. Lowry in Berwick & Northumberland and works from the Crafts Council Collection.

Exhibitions during 2017 include Scottish Colourists from the Fleming Collection and Drawn from Life: People on Paper from the Arts Council Collection.

www.berwickvisualarts.co.uk
BERWICK VISUAL ARTS

THE GYMNASIUM GALLERY

The Gymnasium Gallery hosts an ambitious programme by regional and national contemporary visual artists including newly commissioned work, installations and artists films. Previous artists who have exhibited include: Catherine Yass, Mark S Gubb and Juneau Projects.

Berwick Visual Arts also run a programme of artist’s residencies inviting artists from the UK and internationally to live and work in the town for 6 months alongside a programme of artist’s talks, workshops and events throughout the year.

Children are always very welcome at the galleries and there are various opportunities to get involved, details available on the website.

www.berwickvisualarts.co.uk
CHEESEBURN SCULPTURE

Cheeseburn presents contemporary sculpture and artists projects in the grounds of Cheeseburn Grange in Northumberland. Cheeseburn is a new centre for sculpture and an enchanting venue where visitors can encounter the work of new and established artists in the setting of the historic gardens and Stables Gallery.

The sculpture gardens include over 30 works and sound installations together with a changing programme of exhibitions in the Stables Gallery.

Cheeseburn’s exhibition programme presents work for sale and proposals for commissions.

The 2017 gallery programme includes: Gillian Dickinson North East Young Sculptor of the Year exhibition of proposals (May 20 & 21, May 27-29), Fred Watson, exhibition of new carvings in wood (July 1 & 2, July 8 & 9), Mike Collier prints and drawings (Aug 26-28 & Sept 2 & 3).

www.cheeseburn.com

Registered charity: 1164777

Cheeseburn Sculpture
Cheeseburn Grange,
Stamfordham,
Northumberland, NE18 0PT

Just 12 miles from Newcastle, Cheeseburn is in the Tyne Valley close to Stamfordham and Hadrians Wall.

Cheeseburn is open to the public on selected weekends from 11am to 4pm and special events are listed on www.cheeseburn.com

Cheeseburn is available to view by appointment throughout the year for clients, collectors, architects and developers.

The gardens offer limited disabled access and the gallery is on the first floor. Dogs are not allowed due to livestock.

Onsite parking
Food available during open weekends
Toilets and Baby Changing

info@cheeseburn.com
twitter @cheeseburnart
The landscape around Kielder Water & Forest Park has inspired the creation of a unique collection of visual art and architectural work that responds to the scale and complexity of its unique environment and also the area’s varied and fascinating history. Art and architectural works in the Park are located in village, visitor centre, along the Lakeside Way cycle path and at sites within the forest.

20 works are currently available to visit, with Fiona Curran's recent sculpture ‘The grass seemed darker than ever’ adding to these at a site close to Kielder Castle visitor centre.

Kielder’s art and architectural projects have won many awards including the Stephen Lawrence Prize for the Kielder Belvedere, four RIBA Awards and three Civic Trust Awards.

A programme of Art & Architecture tours is planned for 2017. Details are available on the KA&A website.

www.kielderartandarchitecture.com
QUEEN’S HALL ARTS CENTRE

The Queen’s Hall is a magnificent early Victorian building which faces Hexham Abbey (dating from 647AD) and boasts a 350-seat theatre and two galleries all managed by Queen’s Hall Arts.

Queen’s Hall Arts (QHA) is the charitable company that manages the venue, Queen’s Hall Arts Centre, Hexham and provides an arts service to a large part of rural Northumberland.

Queen’s Hall Arts Centre has established itself as a strong base for an extensive range of artistic activity, attracting the best international and national artists.

QHA exhibitions include a series of digital exhibitions throughout the building featuring new commissions and curated works.

www.queenshall.co.uk
www.queenshalldigital.com

Queen’s Hall Arts Centre
Queen’s Hall
Beaumont Street
Hexham
Northumberland, NE46 3LS

Mon-Fri 10am-5pm
Sat 10am-4pm

Disabled access to all public areas of the building via ramps, automatic doors, disabled toilet facilities and lifts.
Guide dogs are welcome in all areas of the building.

Two Gallery spaces managed by Queen’s Hall Arts.
Hexham Library, Hexham Tourist Information Centre and the Little Angel Cafe are within the Queen’s Hall.

boxoffice@queenshall.co.uk
01434 652477
VISUAL ARTS IN RURAL COMMUNITIES

(VARC)

Visual Arts in Rural Communities is based at Highgreen, Tarset, Northumberland. VARC funds and manages an on-going programme of residencies for visual artists. Through the residencies it aims to offer opportunities to artists to develop new work in response to the remote rural landscape and its community and to offer benefit to the community and visiting groups in engagement with art and artists, through contact and creative activity. It also aims to benefit young people with special needs, particularly those with autism spectrum condition, through creative projects with artists.

www.varc.org.uk
WOODHORN MUSEUM

Woodhorn Museum is a dramatic colliery heritage site, social history museum, art gallery & the home of the Ashington Group Collection & the Northumberland Archives.

Woodhorn’s public programme aims to surprise, delight & creatively connect people to arts, cultural & heritage experiences. Our events & exhibitions are rooted in what makes our museum special: our incredible heritage place and spaces, our authentic collections & our connected communities.

Our programme includes exhibitions, commissions, residencies & events produced in partnership with artists & community members. The museum houses three temporary gallery spaces but we also present site specific work through interventions within the museum, heritage & outdoor spaces.

Woodhorn is also home to bait, South East Northumberland’s Creative People & Place project, who work in partnership with artists & the community to support more people to create & take part in inspiring & high quality arts experiences.

www.experiencewoodhorn.com

Woodhorn Museum
QEII Country Park
Ashington
Northumberland, NE63 9YF

All visitors to Woodhorn will find a visit rewarding with almost all of the buildings open to the public fully accessible. Visitors are welcome to borrow one of three wheelchairs or a motorised scooter during their visit. Assistance dogs are welcome at Woodhorn, but family pets are not allowed. We are happy to discuss any special requirements in advance of a visit.

Car Park (charge applies)
Café
Toilets
Accessible Toilets
Baby Change

generalenquiries@woodhorn.org.uk
01670 624455
Northumberlandia is a unique piece of public art designed by Charles Jencks, set in a 46 acre community park with free public access and 4 miles of footpaths on and around the landform.

The inspiration for the landform comes from the distant Cheviot Hills, which are pulled into the foreground by the curves and shapes of the female form used for the artwork.

Far from being a rigid manicured art form, Northumberlandia is a living part of the countryside that will mature over time and change with the seasons. What you see when you visit is only the start of something that will evolve through generations.

www.northumberlandia.com
COUPLE

Couple by artist Sean Henry is the first offshore sculpture in the UK. The 20 metre long, 12 metre high bronze and steel sculpture was completed in August 2007 and is integrated into a sea defence scheme to protect the beach at Newbiggin by the Sea.

Henry took his inspiration for Couple from the scale of the breakwater. He decided the project should have three distinct elements: the tapered steel pier platform and the two figures. He always wanted to have more than one figure to reflect a shared experience and intends to create an air of mystery by keeping the figures anonymous - looking out to sea with their backs to the shore.

www.newbigginbay.co.uk
NORTHUMBERLAND CONTEMPORARY VISUAL ARTS VENUES

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