

PRESS RELEASE 10 September 2019

Yield and Return: Emilie Taylor Responds to Donyatt Pottery

For this year's Somerset Art Weeks Festival, 21 September–6 October, ceramicist Emilie Taylor will be presenting an installation inspired by historic collections of local pottery. The installation, titled 'Yield and Return', will be on display in the Abbey Barn at Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury.

Over the summer Emilie has been Artist in Residence at the museum. The ceramic pots she has created are in response to the distinctive Donyatt slipware collections currently on display in the museum's exhibition 'The Art of the Potter'. As well as spending time re-interpreting the historic collections Emilie has been working with community and school groups. Among them are students from Heathfield Community School, Taunton, who took part in a workshop. The dishes that they produced will go on display alongside Emilie's work.

Emilie uses traditional slipware to interpret and represent post-industrial landscapes and the spaces that sit between the urban and the rural. She is interested in the vessel as a metaphor for how we seek to contain communities and community rituals within British society. She uses this approach in relation to contemporary issues around food production and distribution, wealth and poverty. She also draws on pre-Christian rituals, once common in parts of Somerset, that symbolize the end of the harvest.

The project was co-commissioned by Somerset Art Works, South West Heritage Trust and Craftspace, and supported by Arts Council England funding. The school's engagement work was made possible by Department of Education funding distributed through Arts Council England.

Venue:

Somerset Rural Life Museum, Glastonbury BA6 8DB

Dates:

Somerset Art Weeks Festival - Saturday 21 September to Sunday 6 October
'The Art of the Potter' exhibition is open until Saturday 9 November

Opening times:

10.00am to 5.00pm

Free as part of entry to the museum

Associated Events at Somerset Rural Life Museum

Donyatt Pottery: An Introductory Talk

Join Director of Bearnese Hampton & Littlewood auctioneers, Nic Saintey, for an introductory talk about Donyatt ware. On Sunday 29 September at 11.00 am. Booking required, £5.

Ceramics Family Friendly Activities

Drop-in family friendly activities, as part of Somerset Art Weeks' Family Friendly Weekend. On Sunday 6 October, 2.00 pm to 4.00 pm. Free as part of entry to the museum (£3.50 to fire and glaze artwork.)

emilietaylor.co.uk

somerstartworks.org.uk

srlm.org.uk

artscouncil.org.uk

craftspace.co.uk

For further information please contact:

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Notes to Editors

About Somerset Art Works (SAW)

Somerset Art Works is part of the Arts Council England's National Portfolio of funded organisations for 2018-2022.

As Somerset's only countywide agency dedicated to developing the visual arts, SAW initiates a wide range of projects in a variety of settings, working in partnership with other arts and non-arts organisations. SAW works to increase public engagement, weaving together communities and raising the profile of the vibrant contemporary visual, digital and applied arts in Somerset.

Twitter: @SAW_Somerset Instagram: @somerstart_works Facebook: @somerstartworks.page #somerstartworks

Somerset Art Weeks Festival 2019

This year, Somerset Art Works will be celebrating 25 years of Somerset Art Weeks and the founding of the organisation.

Alternating biennially with Somerset Open Studios, Somerset Art Weeks Festival features a diverse programme of inspiring exhibitions, events and workshops in over 130 locations across Somerset, alongside exciting new commissions, group shows and education projects involving over 300 artists. Explore a great showcase of contemporary art and craft in all media.

Somerset Rural Life Museum in Glastonbury

Situated just below Glastonbury Tor the Museum is a unique heritage attraction on the site of the former Abbey Farm. Here you can explore rural life from the 1800s onwards and discover more about the county's heritage. The farmhouse and former farm buildings are home to a series of galleries and exhibition spaces. Outside spaces, including in the farmyard and orchard, offer interpretation and family trails. The magnificent 14th-century Abbey Barn is one of the West Country's finest buildings and the centrepiece of the site. With the Museum Unlimited annual pass visitors pay once and visit for a whole year free of charge.

Twitter: @SomersetRLM Instagram: @somerstarturallifemuseum Facebook: @SomersetRLM #SRLM



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