

Karum-Creevagh

Swedish-Irish Experimental Heritage Explorations

Karum-Creevagh involves archaeologists, artists and cultural heritage workers with the aim to establish a transdisciplinary and translocal practice of Experimental Heritage in a Swedish-Irish context. Experimental Heritage explores new ways of combining art, archaeology and heritage within these landscapes:

- merging our practices in a combined expression that in turn reveals previously unknown, or hidden, aspects of heritage and landscapes
- include perspectives and approaches that reflect how the past matters to us in the present and might have an impact on the future

“We see the development of the process itself as the explicit aim. The approach can be seen as an alternative to the pressure to adapt arts and humanities research, and community activities to just measurable quantifiable outcomes.”

Bodil Petersson



Locations

The project is situated simultaneously in the Burren and Kilshanny, northern Clare, western Ireland and south-eastern Sweden including the island of Öland – landscapes both similar and different. The name Karum-Creevagh emanates from two specific areas in Clare and on the island of Öland.

Karum-Creevagh

Anna-Karin Andersson	Archaeologist, author, Sweden
Gunilla Bandolin	Sculptor, Sweden
Stefan Bergh	Archaeologist, Ireland
Danny Burke	Ireland
Deirdre Carr	Artist and poet, Ireland
Hans Gurstad-Nilsson	Composer and archaeologist, Sweden
Anne Hamrin Simonsson	Artist, Sweden
Maria Kerin	Artist-curator, choreographer, Ireland
Helle Kvamme	Artist, Sweden
Kristina Kvamme	Environmental consultant, Sweden
Patricia McKenna	Multimedia artist, Ireland
Ros Ó Maoldúin	Archaeologist, Ireland
Mary Nunan	Dance artist, Ireland
Ludvig Papmehl-Dufay	Archaeologist, Sweden
Bodil Petersson	Archaeologist, Sweden
Rachel Sweeney	Dance ecologist, Ireland
Michael Walsh	Graphic designer, Ireland/Estonia
Gustav Wollentz	Archaeologist, Germany/Sweden

Community engagement

- Collaborating with people from local communities in each country contributing to the explorations with their perspectives, experiences and stories

Eco-cultural

- Working to unveil relationships between us all and the surrounding landscapes and their contents relating to both nature and culture
- Honouring equality and coherence between expressions in the world of both nature and culture

Embodied creativity

- Explore art, archaeology and heritage through an embodied, *sensory* and emotional lens. A phenomenological landscape perspective is combined with movement-based practice
- These methods are paired with other artistic and archaeological expressions such as poetry, music, performance, visual arts, physical surveys, mapping and excavations

Materials

- Focusing on materials stone and water
- Integrating *tangible and intangible* aspects of art, archaeology, and heritage, finding matter in-between and behind the immediately accessible
- Exploring concepts of movement and time

The multitemporal

The multitemporal, that is, *our world and its many layers of different times at the same time, is a consciously chosen perspective.*



Between Time and Place – Karum-Creevagh work on performance and ritual in Kilshanny, Ireland. Public sharing, June 2019.

Meetings to date

We work through nurturing personal connections with regular meetings, sharing, gifting, to build receptivity and creative potential.

2016 December. Maria Kerin attends an Experimental Heritage gathering on Öland and shares a workshop on *time-traveling through embodiment*, a somatic movement-based journey.

2017 October. Patricia McKenna and Maria Kerin, participate in Helle Kvamme's exhibition and event, *Forest*. Kvamme organised a lunch meeting with Bodil Petersson and others working through experimental heritage. They are invited to come to Ireland to research collaboration potential.

2018 March. A group from Öland Think Tank come to Clare. Maria Kerin curates Puicéad, a week of exploring the art and archaeology of the Burren, meeting local artists and archeologists.

2018 September. Return visit to Öland by Creevagh Artists and archaeologists for an intensive week of *sharings and gifting* with presentations, discussions, tours to archaeological sites, and meetings.

2018 December. Bodil Petersson and Helle Kvamme come to Ennistymon to go further discuss potential *cross-discipline* collaborations between Creevagh.

2019 March. Maria Kerin returns for a week of research and choreographing the live performance for 'Experimental Heritage Explorations #1. Moving the Ship' film.

2019 June. Karum visit Ireland for a week of performances, presentations and archaeological visits and meetings to explore cross-cultural collaboration potentials.

Background image, a still from film "Experimental Heritage Explorations #1. Moving the Ship".

Workshops

2016 December. Maria Kerin: "Time traveling through embodiment, a somatic journey" with Öland Think Tank members. Öland, Sweden.

2018 September. Maria Kerin and Helle Kvamme, "Receptivity and collaboration", creative decision-making through somatic principles. Öland, Sweden.

2018 December. Alexandre Rafferty: "Object relations". Monreal North, Ennistymon, Ireland.

2019 March. Mary Nunan: *Z(ero)ing Kalmar*, "An exploration of 'spatial awareness' as an integrative force in the relationship between the moving mind/body." Kalmar, Sweden.

Symposium

2018 March. *Site-specific arts practice, embodied timelines and experimental archaeology in the Burren*. Curator: Maria Kerin. Speakers: Patricia McKenna, Danny Burke and Patrick McCormack. Followed by discussion with members of Öland Think Tank, Sweden. Courthouse Gallery, Ennistymon, Clare, Ireland.

Peer to peer networking

2019 March. *Courthouse gallery Dinner*; meet and greet event, with over 36 artists attending, gifting and dining on local seafood, supported by Anne Mullee, curator, and delicious food by Una O'Dwyer, Wild kitchen.

Community gatherings and public sharings

2019 June. The local community were invited to an information evening "Between Time and Place" with presentations from Bodil Petersson, Danny Burke, Deirdre Carr, Michael Walsh, Hans Gurstad-Nilsson. Kilshanny House, Clare, Ireland.

2019 June. Kilshanny National School, visit by Karum-Creevagh to explain our process to the senior classes.

Residencies

2019 September. Patricia McKenna and Anne Hamrin Simonsson are collaborating on amber research and were offered a residency together at Black Sheep Silos, Öland, Sweden, with a return residency at the Burren Art College, Ballyvaughan, Clare, Ireland.

Journal Articles

2019 Autumn. Submission of text for publishing "Experimental Heritage as Practice" authored by Bodil Petersson and Danny Burke, with contributions from Karum-Creevagh members.

Exhibitions

2019 September. Creevagh go to Sweden to meet Karum and Dutch artists and archaeologists for a symposium, with presentations and meetings and partake in a group exhibition of commissioned work from some members of Karum-Creevagh in Öland Museum Himmelsberga, Sewden.

2019 September. "An experiment in Art and Archaeology", the launch of work in progress by collaborators in Karum-Creevagh, Burren Storehouse, Lisdoonvarna, Clare, Ireland.

Conference presentations

2019 September. EAA Archaeology Conference, "Experimental Heritage – translocal art and archaeology practice in communities in Ireland and Sweden", Bodil Petersson with Danny Burke, Maria Kerin and Helle Kvamme. Bern, Switzerland.

2020 June. Arts in Society Conference. Bodil Petersson and Maria Kerin presenting: "The intersection of Art and Archaeology in Experimental Heritage". Galway, Ireland.