

Nothing Ever Leaves the Island

AN ARTist RESIDENCY



Mothers in Residence

what: an art residency for artists and designers who are also mothers
where: Tjörnekalv outside of Tjörn, Bohuslän
when: 26/6 - 2/7 2023
application open: 3/3 - 31/3 2023
cost: 250 kr membership fee for Mothers in Residence + 700 kr for food and additional travel cost getting to the island and back



INTRODUCTION

By the rocky west-coast of Sweden, right next to the island of Tjörn, lies the little island of Tjörnekalv. 'Kalv' means 'calf', which is one way of understanding Tjörnekalv, a floating child in the ocean guarded by its assuring parent. Originally this was the home of fishermen, but over time the island has transformed into a place of rest and care-taking. Here live a community of people in around eighty houses, most of them spread out on the calmer side of the island facing the main land. Only a few stay here permanently, most houses are inhabited part-time.

There is no bridge connecting Tjörnekalv to surrounding islands, to get here you need to go by ferry or boat. Materials and things are moved here slowly and not without difficulty. Once on the island, things tend to stay. Thrown-out things moves into the houses of neighbors. Things lost in the ocean are brought back by the tide. This way, nothing ever leaves the island.

IN RESIDENCE

During the summer of 2023, we are hosting an artist residency at Tjörnekalv. Participants are invited to stay for a full week to take part in a carefully crafted residency program. During this week, we invite you (the artists), the island residents and visitors to meet and work together. Every day will have a special focus, with one or more activities where we discover and unfold the different layers of the island. The themes that we will explore are care/care-giving, cultural heritage, motherhood, islandness, co-working (patch-working), memory, and more.

PRACTICAL INFO

The residency will take place 26th of June to 2nd of July (Monday-Sunday). You will stay in a house on the island together with us (Hannah and Ellen) who are organizing the residency. You will sleep together in a larger sleeping loft, but one smaller single bedroom is also available. You have access to a kitchen, bathroom and veranda overlooking Rönning across the bay. We will prepare three meals every day (breakfast/lunch/dinner) and for this we ask you to pay us a smaller fee for groceries of 700 sek/person. We will also have access to a community house down by the harbor, which we will use as a studio, atelier and working-space. We will speak English and Swedish.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT

The residency at Tjörnekalv offers more than a work residency might normally do. There will be space for individual practice but in its core the residency program is a site specific project that focuses on the island. The week-long program is an investigation into what it is to be a mother in residence, and designer or artist in residence, at a place like Tjörnekalv. What mothering practices can we apply to this island calf?

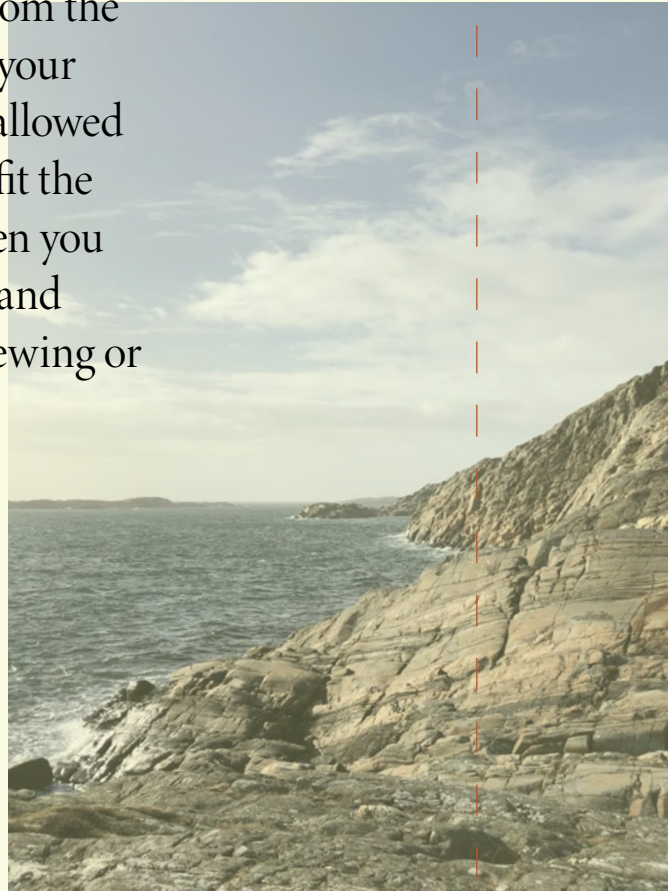
As a participant you will take part in workshops, public engagements, smaller work sessions, collaborative and participatory work as well as studio work. The residency hopes to create on, and give to the island.

WHAT WE EXPECT FROM YOU

The residency is open to artists and designers with any kind of artistic practice or background. We look for applicants that are specifically interested in questions or topics such as motherhood, material culture, cultural heritage, labour and site but your medium of work is secondary. You must be willing to work in collaboration with other artists and residents, and engage in participatory practices. Practical work with sewing, building, cooking and painting and more will be a part of the residency program. You do not have to be experienced in these fields of practice, but you will have to be ok with engaging with different tools and materials as the week goes along. We will spend time in nature and expect that you will be able to, too.

MATERIALS

As the residency focuses on the circularity of materials and things on the island we will only work with materials from the island during this week. This means you can not bring your own artistic materials to Tjörnekalv. You are, however, allowed to bring tools to the island if you think they could benefit the residency and if they can be brought back with you when you leave. For example we will work with driftwood, fabric and food. If you have tools that could be used in building, sewing or cooking, consider bringing those!



REQUIREMENTS

You have to be a member of Mothers in Residence to apply, if you're not already a member you will find all necessary information in the application form, or through MiR website. Due to lack of space, we can't invite your kids to stay on the island, but they are very welcome to visit us during day-time throughout the week if you would like to invite them together with an other care-giver.

ABOUT US

The residency is run by Ellen Solding and Hannah Simann Ax, soon-to-be graduates of the MFA in Design at HDK-Valand. Ellen and Hannah met in school in 2020, and have worked together ever since, addressing a multitude of questions regarding motherhood, work-mode, material culture and care. This project is part of their graduation project at HDK-Valand, and is made in collaboration with Mothers in Residence and the Association of local interest at Tjörnekalv. Read more about the project here: hannahsimannax.wixsite.com/nelti

Mothers in Residence is a non-profit organisation based in Gothenburg, supporting the artistic practice during motherhood. Their vision is to offer space for a network of/for artists, musicians and creators who are mothers.

TO APPLY

To apply we ask you to fill out the application form (see following pages) and email it back to us at nelti2023@gmail.com. We close the application 31/3 at midnight. If you have any questions about the application form, process or the residency in general please contact us at the same email adress. Any questions to Mothers in residence can be sent to info@mothersinresidence.se.

Hope to hear from you!

Application Form

ABOUT THE FORM

You can fill out this application form in two ways.

Either you fill out the form digitally by downloading this PDF and opening it in Adobe Acrobat. After filling it in you simply re-save it digitally and email it back to us at nelti2023@gmail.com.

If you are unable to fill it out digitally you can just answer the questions in this form by email. Copy the questions and write your answers to nelti2023@gmail.com.

You are welcome to answer the form in either Swedish or English.



Full name:

Adress:

Phone nr:

Email:

1/4: Short background and artistic practice:

2/4: Reason for applying to the residency at Tjörnekalv:

3/4: Dietary specifications:

4/4: Additional information (optional):