

Blogpost #antainartists

### Úna Curley | Artist residency - to do or not to do!

**October 3<sup>rd</sup> 2016:** As I come to the end of my three month artist residency with the Basement Gallery at An Táin Arts Centre, I reflect on the experience and how it has helped me to evolve and grow in my arts practice. While at times I doubted my wisdom of applying for a residency in a basement for the summer, overall it was a wonderful experience and provided me the space, both physical and mental, to put ideas and thoughts into actions. The life of an artist can be a lonely one and 'eleventh hour' doubts can render one powerless. This is where a supportive residency can be an invaluable experience and I am very grateful that my time at An Táin has been hugely valuable. I met the most wonderfully supportive and talented individuals among the staff, volunteers, other artists and visitors. I collaborated with Gerry Keegan singer songwriter on designing and delivering "A Suitcase of Curiosities" workshop and my personal highlight, the opportunity to curate my own solo exhibition 'Mi Camino a Través del Arte'.

Of Course, now as the residency ends, I am hopeful that I can maintain the discipline and routine that I enjoyed over the three months and walk on in 'blind faith' again on my camino with renewed inner strength. Thank you everyone at An Táin for this opportunity.

My work is all about the process; Pictured here stitching in final few rushes of the site specific piece just two days before it had to come down again! There are some jobs you do for money and some jobs you do for the soul. ;-)

....and I am so grateful.



Úna Curley is An Táin Arts Centre's visual artist in residence. Úna will be in residence in the Basement Gallery studio during July, August and September 2016. Follow her progress on Twitter @una\_curley  
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