Emily McLatchie

Multidisciplinary Artist & Creative Practitioner
Dumfries & Galloway, Scotland

contact

emclatchie.art@gmail.com
emilymclatchieart.com
Instagram: @emclatchie.art

Multidisciplinary artist and creative practitioner working across painting, photography, sound, craft and socially engaged practice. I explore relationships between land, memory, material histories and environmental change through sustainable and place-based processes. I lead creative projects that bring people together through making, storytelling and shared experiences, with experience designing and delivering workshops, cultural projects and community engagement activities across Dumfries & Galloway.

Community & Cultural Experience

Nith Raid Festival Thornhill, Dumfries & Galloway
Artist / Community Engagement Lead May 2026 - August 2026

- Designed participatory banner-making workshops inspired by Industrial Revolution trade union banners, exploring collective action, environmental responsibility and the Rights of the River.
- Worked with environmental specialists, young people and community members to explore the River Nith as a shared resource through making, discussion and storytelling.
- Created a collaborative banner incorporating young people's contributions, carried in a local procession and documented for local heritage archives.

Big Burns Supper Northern Lights Festival
Dumfries & Galloway
Trainee Producer / Community Artist Sept 2025 - April 2026

- Conducted independent historical research for a major project centred on the Robert Burns Mausoleum, exploring its history, construction and significance within Dumfries.
- Created a soundscape installation using archival recordings and local voices, translating research and community memory into an immersive public artwork.
- Designed and delivered heritage workshops for 237 pupils across 11 primary schools throughout Dumfries & Galloway.
- Developed creative activities exploring Robert Burns, remembrance and legacy, including commemorative coin-making inspired by the community contributions that funded the mausoleum.

The Old School Art Club Thornhill
Lead Artist & Curator August 2025 - Present

- Independently designed and delivered a creative programme for children aged 5-13, including drawing, painting, sound, sustainable craft and collaborative making.
- Curated and produced the final exhibition Scribble Outside the Box, managing artwork selection, presentation, interpretation, promotion and statement pieces.
- Supported young people to develop confidence, creative independence and their own artistic voices.

skills & expertise

Creative workshop development & delivery · Community engagement · Collaborative project development · Cultural research & storytelling · Festival Production · Sustainable and material-led practice · Environmental and place-based approaches · Cultural project production · Painting, photography, sound & craft

education

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Fine Art, 2:1
Gray's School of Art
Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen 2021–2025

- **Dissertation**: The Arts & Crafts Movement and the Value of Connection through Sustainable Craft
- **Class Representative**: Student and staff liaison, 2025
- **Emerge Volunteer**, Clay Workshops, 2023

Study Abroad Programme
Kunsthochschule Kassel, **Fine Art**: **Sound**
University of Kassel, Germany, April - July 2024

- Sound studies, Soundscapes, Audio editing

Workshops & Creative Facilitation

Earth Pigment Painting Workshop Leader
Gray's School of Art Degree Show, Aberdeen 2025

- Designed and delivered public workshops exploring sustainable painting through locally sourced earth pigments, introducing participants to gathering, preparing and working with natural materials.

Ocarina Clay Instrument Workshop Leader
Gray's School of Art, Aberdeen | 2024

- Lead a participatory clay workshop exploring sound, storytelling and connection through making, introducing the historical and spiritual origins of the ocarina and supporting participants to create their own instruments.

Artistic Practice

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My artistic practice explores relationships between land, memory and material histories through painting, photography and sound. I work with locally gathered materials including earth pigments, coastal ochres, wild clay and bone pigments, using slow, sustainable processes of collecting, preparing and transforming materials. This research into place, ecology and traditional craft informs my community-focused practice.

Exhibitions

Current & Upcoming

Solo Exhibition (Upcoming)
Garfield Mill Gallery, Hawick, Scottish Borders
October 2026

Silent, Soft, Birds & Breeze
Grampian Hospital Art Trust, Graduate Award Exhibition
Suttie Arts Space, Aberdeen Royal Infirmary
July - September 2026

'Whimsy or Surreal' Contemporary Explorations of Land & Place
Bon Accord Centre, Aberdeen, with OuterSpaces
August 2026

Process, Photography and Pigments
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary, Small Gallery, Aberdeen
August - September 2026

Awards & Recognition

Grampian Hospital Art Trust Graduate Award 2025
- £500 graduate artist award and exhibition opportunity.

Selected Graduate Artist – Visual Arts Scotland Degree Show | 2025
- **Hollywood Trust Bursary Recipient** 2024

Press

The Scotsman · Fleming Collection · Scottish Sculpture Workshop · ITV Border

Previous Shows

Wet Wood, Left Out to Dry
SANKI Gallery, Edinburgh
March - April 2026

Common Ground; The Living Landscape
Visual Arts Scotland
Kirkcudbright Galleries, Kirkcudbright
January - May 2026

The Thread That Pulls
Visual Arts Scotland
Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh
December 2025 - January 2026

Edge of Matter
Hidden Door & Visual Arts Scotland
Old Paper Mill, Edinburgh
September - October 2025

Small Works Exhibition
Garfield Mill Gallery, Hawick, Scottish Borders
November - December 2025

Gray's School of Art Degree Show
Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen
June 2025

Rundgang
Kunsthochschule Kassel, University of Kassel
Germany July - August 2024

Collections

Works held in private collections in the UK and USA.