



• The Joggins Fossil Cliffs
• inscribed on the World
• Heritage List in 2008

MEDIA RELEASE

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THE JOGGINS FOSSIL INSTITUTE SELECTS FIRST ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE: SOPHIE JAILLET OF MONTREAL VISUAL ARTIST FOR 2017

Joggins, Nova Scotia--- The Joggins Fossil Institute is pleased to announce the selection of its first visual artist for the ArtScape Artist-In-Residence Program. Sophie Jaillet's project *STILL* was selected from eighteen submissions from across Canada and from Ireland, New York and Serbia.

Sophie Jaillet is an artist and a rock collector from Montreal, Québec. Through observation, scientific method, fieldwork, and sculptural experiments she explores the fleeting nature of human life within a backdrop of geological awareness. She holds a BFA from Concordia University (2013) and a MFA from NSCAD University (2016). Jaillet has had group and solo exhibits at the Anna Leonowens Gallery and Argyle Fine Art in Halifax; ArtMur and YellowfishArt in Montreal.

Sometime in 2017 Jaillet will travel to the Joggins Fossil Centre and, for six weeks, create artworks on site. For *STILL*, Jaillet will produce a large number of drawings – at least one per workday of the residency – of a Joggins Fossil Cliffs landscape. She will be hosting studio visits, presenting a workshop or lecture and inviting visitors to draw along with her.

Jury members for ArtScape were Gemey Kelly, (Director of Owens Art Gallery, Mount Allison University), Stephen Kelly, (a Halifax-based artist, computer programmer and musician) and Laurie Glenn Norris, (Education and Outreach Manager with the Joggins Fossil Institute).

Melissa Grey, Curator/Director of Science says, “the Institute is very excited to be launching our Artist-in-Residence Program. We were incredibly pleased with the interest from artists in this program and we are so thankful to its supporters, including Owens Art Gallery, artist Stephen Kelly and the Municipality of the County of Cumberland.”

ArtScape is an outreach initiative that invites visual, literary and performing artists to explore the relationships between the human experience and the natural world at the Joggins Fossil Cliffs, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The residency benefits artists by providing the time, financial support and space to enable them to better focus on their work. In return the local area and Centre visitors will have the opportunity to engage with the artists through studio visits, workshops and other public programming. The ArtScape Artist-In-Residence Program is contingent upon funding.

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