



Art Omm

2016

In the summer of 1992, thirty artists travelled long distances to participate in the first session of what was then called an “artists workshop”, in the luscious countryside of a small village called Omi (pronounced Oh-my), near Ghent, in Columbia County, 2 hours north of New York City.

Art Omi, now one of the best known and most respected artists’ residency programs in the world, was not as structured and multilayered as it is today: the stunning housing complex did not exist, nor the sculpture park or the visitors center. Everything started in and around a beautiful red barn. Now called the Studios Barn, this simple yet fascinating structure continues to be an incubator for many ideas, and emotions, inspiring experimentation and collaboration among the talented artists who embrace the exciting adventure and the incredible opportunity that our program is for its participants.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Art Omi has been a life changing experience for over 700 hundreds artists from 104 countries for past 25 years. The barn is much more than a building: it represents an utopist idea of the world: the United States of Omi.

VIEWEARS
25
Claudia Cannizzaro



After four weeks of immersion at Omi It is hard to quantify with the right words how the experience influences me at this time but I do know that hindsight will tell me much. With weeks after residency under my arm I can describe the time as pure freedom to work, the opportunity to engage with visitors (both professional and a very interested public on Open Studios Day), to know and watch the incredible giving staff Omi is gifted with and especially to be placed in the midst of a rich mix of global culture. I have always thought of myself as open and informed but a month at Omi was truly a humbling experience as I listened and learned from artists who live elsewhere and travel the world—an education for sure, one that I value immensely. I will be reaching for the heart of my Omi observational platform for a long time.

Charlotte Street Foundation Fellowship

United States
Miki Baird