



## **The William Blair Bruce European Fine Art Travel Scholarship (\$5,000)**

### **Description**

The William Blair Bruce Travel Scholarship provides \$5,000 for a European research sejour, to be undertaken within the year. The tour is based on an approved Fine Art-related investigative project, as outlined in Section IV. As a final part of the travel scholarship, the recipients are requested to give a public lecture in Visby, sponsored by the Foundation on the investigative theme pursued during their recent European travel.

### **History and Purpose**

Since 1972, the Brucebo Fine Art Scholarship Foundation of Gotland, Sweden, has offered fine art residencies and scholarships to talented emerging professional Canadian artists by providing a study or work stay in northern Europe on the island of Gotland, in the Baltic Sea.

The Brucebo fine art scholarships date back to the post-impressionist era in Europe, where two young artists, Caroline Benedicks of Sweden and William Blair Bruce of Hamilton, Canada, met in Paris, married and after many years on the European continent, settled on Gotland Island. With the untimely death of William in 1906 and that of Caroline in 1935, the estate, in the early 70's, created the Brucebo Fine Art (Scholarship) Foundation, an organization promoting island-based cultural history and fine art.

To commemorate the unique Swedish-Canadian link of Caroline's and William's marriage and impressive artistry, two annual Fine Art scholarships for Canadian artists were established: the Brucebo Fine Art Summer Residency Scholarship and the William Blair Bruce European Fine Art Travel Scholarship.

The Residency and Travel Scholarship respond to the needs of young or emerging artists, providing an entrance into the art world. It has become recognized as one of the most important awards for emerging artists in Canada. The purpose of these awards is to provide an inspiring work-study experience for the most promising graduate students in the visual arts to help them transition from being a student to a professional.

### **Eligibility**

The Scholarships shall be granted through competition, based on academic merit, to full-time students pursuing a Master of /Magisteriate or *Doctor* / Doctorate (PhD) degree in the Faculty of Fine Arts (Visual Arts) at Concordia University nearing the completion of their degrees. Degree holders include those with a research-creation studio-based practice, including MA, MFA, MDes, as well as the MA/PhD Individualized Program (INDI) and the Interdisciplinary Humanities PhD Program (HUMA),

with a primary supervisor in the Faculty of Fine Arts. Performance-based art practices are not eligible for consideration unless they are undertaken within the context of contemporary visual arts practices and form a minority of the applicant's practice. The Scholarships are open to Canadian citizens and permanent residents only. The Scholarships are not renewable.

Candidates must demonstrate exceptional ability in their body of creative work. They will be assessed on their record of achievements to date, relevant experience and creative work, and on the quality of the research-creation program they propose.

**As a final part of the travel scholarship, the recipient must give a public lecture in Visby, sponsored by the Foundation on the investigative theme pursued during her/his recent European travel.**

Award recipients are requested to submit a report at the completion of the travel, outlining what they accomplished and describing the impact of the scholarship on their research-creation practice.

The deadline for applications is March 9, 2020. The selected candidate must be able to take up the award in the year of the selection.

### **Application Process**

Application materials must be submitted electronically to [fineartsresearch@concordia.ca](mailto:fineartsresearch@concordia.ca) as **one single, continuous .pdf file** in the order specified below. Please name your file with your family name and first name (Eg. ANDERSON, Laurie – WilliamBlairBruce2020.pdf). Please limit your file size to 15 MB.

1. Letter of intent and artist's statement that outlines the program of research-creation and travel to be undertaken during the travel. The research plan should include the conceptual basis of your artwork and how your proposed travel will enhance your art practice. The itinerary should include what you will do and where? Why? And How? The travel itinerary must end with a visit to the Island of Gotland via Stockholm where the recipient will give a public talk sponsored by the Brucebo foundation. (Please limit to two typed pages).
2. An outline of the public lecture to be given in Visby, sponsored by the Foundation, on the investigative theme pursued during European travel.
3. Current *curriculum vitae*.
4. Transcripts of post-secondary study showing full-time status.
5. One letter of reference.
6. Examples of current work, as follows:
  - IMAGES: 8 to 12 images.
  - VIDEO: maximum viewing time 8 minutes. Include link to edited YouTube or Vimeo site (include relevant username and password and ensure that links are tested using multiple search engines and devices)
  - Include a separate page identifying and describing the submitted images or video clips (eg. content, location, title, media, size or duration, year completed or indicate if work-in-progress etc.)
7. Proof of Canadian citizenship or permanent residency (scan of Canadian passport, birth certificate, or Permanent Resident card).