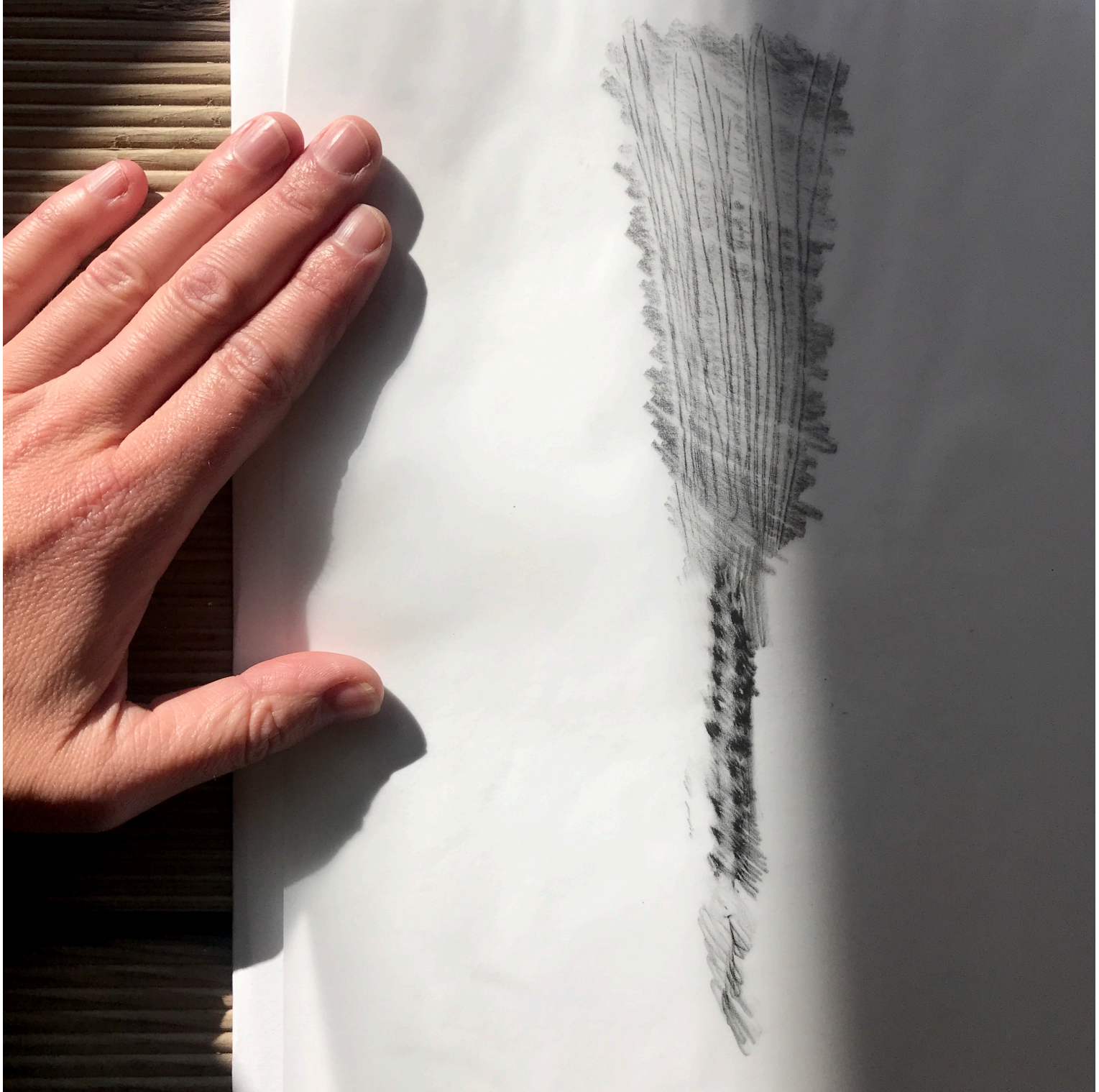


Speaking to Absence | Oct 3-17, 2023

How To Participate Remotely

Jamie Ashforth Open Studio: In Absentia, Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre



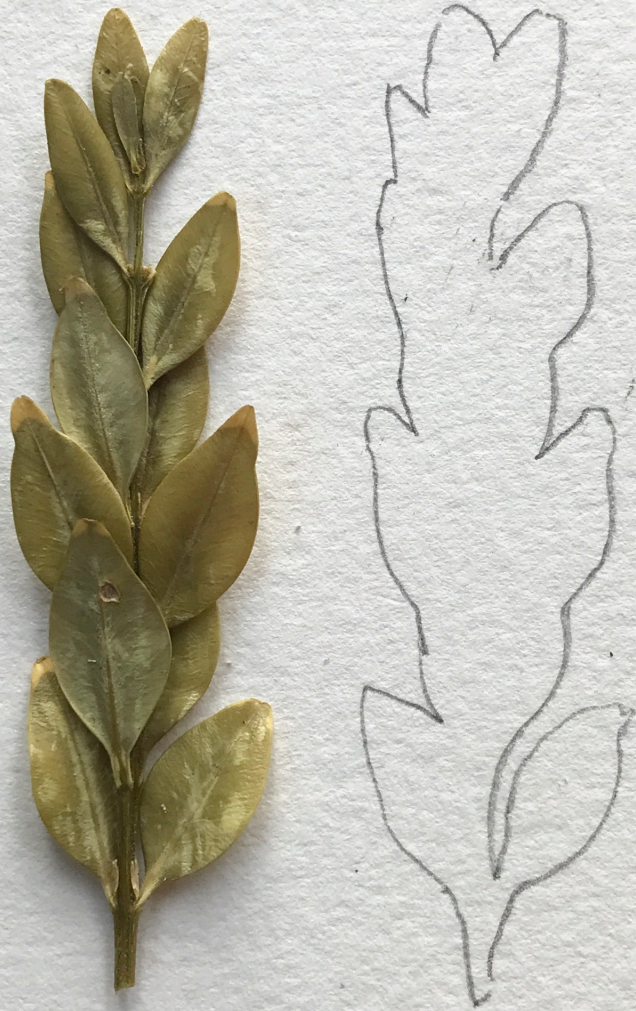
Thank you for being part of this experimental drawing + print-based project, hosted by Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre in Skibbereen, Ireland. Your participation is will run alongside those taking part there in Studio 3. I will be intentionally away from the studio for this period, giving others the opportunity to engage the space, then leave behind a visual record from that experience. In this process, my intention is to develop a material language for experiences of absence and presence.

Here's how to take part remotely:

1 Select an object of your choice - perhaps it's a part of your environment like a stone, a part of your body like your hand, or something more sentimental like a piece of jewellery. It's up to you. Gather together a piece of white paper or tracing paper, and a pencil as well.



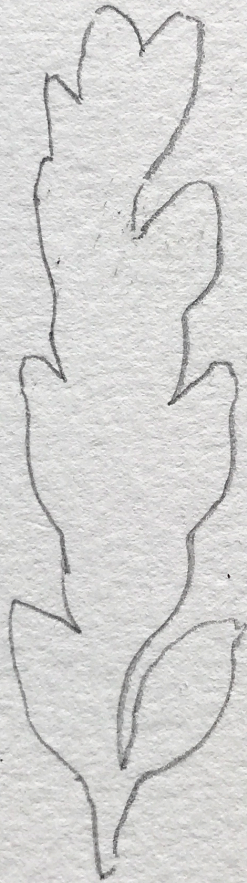
2 Place your object on a sheet of paper, and then draw the outline it with a pencil. You may need to hold the object in place as you draw around it. Take as much time as you need and do your best to connect all the lines.



3 Alternatively, if your object is relatively flat, make a rubbing of it by placing it under a thin piece of white paper or tracing paper, and rubbing the pencil lightly across the paper.



4 Take a close-up photo of your drawing or print, without the object in the frame. I don't need to know what your object is, it's the record of it that's important.



5 Please send me a photo of your image to info@jamieashforth.com or dm on Instagram @jamie_ashforth. If there's something you'd like to tell me about your object or your experience taking part of in this project, you're welcome to.

6 Oct 20 – Dec 20, I will be building an installation in Studio 3 at Uillinn: West Cork Arts Centre and may include aspects of your drawings and prints in this piece. Your contributions create a starting point for this project, which I'm very grateful for.

Please follow along on Instagram at @jamie_ashforth.

In absentia is a Latin phrase meaning *in (his/her/their) absence*. I'm curious about absence. About the presence of absence.

What is the shape of someone, something, or someplace that is missing? How does a lost or potential experience imprint itself in the space around us?

Memory is a conversation with absence too, isn't it? A past experience becomes an idea we replay in real-time, enlivening this current moment with something that's no longer happening.

We might say that silence is the absence of noise, and yet in the quietest spaces the tiniest of sounds are amplified. At night, it's stars in the sky or phosphorescence in the sea where darkness glows.

Similarly, absence highlights what both is and isn't present.

Absence is loss, emptiness, a departure, something lacking or missing, a void. But it's also full of what is coming next.

How do these opposites sit together in the same space?

How do we speak to that experience or express something about it?

What is absence saying back to you here?

Jamie Ashforth

Speaking to Absence, October 2023