

Me darling dears and fellow participants in life and art; artists and beholders.

amongst other things in this world is art
amongst other things in art is printmaking

art is language
art is communication
art is aside from verbal articulation
art can be artifacts
art can be immaterial
art can be a vessel for the wordless experience

and here we are, gathered in a little hole in the ground, in a small town in the northern hemisphere where all these aspects of art are present. It makes me excited and exceedingly happy. It confirms my belief that we are a species predisposed to make art, that our lingual predisposition can be expanded and make us communicate beyond our verbal capacity. I said earlier that I would do this talk in a Goidelic language. Of course I lied. I cannot speak Gaelic. But that's no big deal; we have art. And in art we have an existential tool for a universal communication.

It is as simple as it is mysterious. A constantly changing everlasting human value.

Thank you Maev, thank you Katherine and thank you Sharon.