ALEXANDRA LYNNE BELL ARTISTIC CV

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CREATIVE CAREER

Alex is an Irish interdisciplinary artist based in Scotland, working with sound, moving image and sculpture. Incorporating composed music, voices, light, digital technologies, objects and spatial encounters, she invites audiences to listen closely and reconsider what they see, hear and believe. Her work explores how beliefs take shape; how opposing perspectives coexist; and how art can open a space for uncertainty and debate. Her approach brings together a life in music, a career in materials engineering and innovation, and the experience of growing up in Belfast during the Troubles. These influences inform her attention to the physical properties of materials and interest in the tensions between conviction, identity and perception. She creates works in which sound, image and material act together, engaging the senses as well as the intellect. Across her practice, she is interested in the moment when something familiar becomes strange and another way of understanding becomes possible.

ART SECTOR:

Chair, Visual Arts Scotland SCIO (2025 – current)
Organisational Development, Hidden Door Arts Festival (2024-25)
Secretary, Visual Arts Scotland (2023-24)

RECENT ART EXHIBITIONS:

The Whole and The Hole	Dalkeith Palace	Oct 2026
Humm – 6 channel sound installation	Cryptic Nights	May 2026
Future Folklore	MacLaurin Gallery, Ayr	March 2026
Holding Conversations	Custom House, Edinburgh	Feb 2026
The Thread That Pulls, Visual Arts Scotland	Royal Scottish Academy	Dec 2025
Resonance FM Sound Art Festival	104.4FM, London	Aug 2025
Radiophrenia 450-hour broadcast	87.9FM, Glasgow	April 2025
Royal Ulster Academy of Arts Exhibition	Ulster Museum	Jan 2025
Society of Scottish Artists	Royal Scottish Academy	Dec 2024
Now & Then: Visual Arts Scotland Centenary II	Dalkeith Palace	Aug 2024
Then & Now: Visual Arts Scotland Centenary I	Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh	Feb 2024
Nomads: A Living Land, Digital Experiments	University of Central Asia	Oct 2023
Old Contemporaries Exhibition	Generator Projects, Dundee	Sep 2023
Pause, Solo Interactive Show	Parr's Studios, Blackpool	Aug 2023
Post, Graduate Award Exhibition	Glasgow School of Art	Aug 2023
Degree Show	Glasgow School of Art	July 2023
Art of the Outdoors Digital Exhibition	Oceans Screens across Glasgow	June 2023
Forthline Fife Exhibition	Dysart Harbourmaster's House	April 2023
WASPS Residency & Exhibition	The Admiral's Cottage, Isle of Skye	Nov 2022
Forthline Exhibition	Edinburgh Botanical Gardens	Aug 2022
Leith School of Art Final Show	Patriothall Gallery, Edinburgh	Aug 2021
Treasure Hunt for the Imagination, Soundwalk	Edinburgh Fringe Festival	Aug 2021
HearSay International Audio Festival	International Broadcast	May 2021
Sound Thought Festival	Glasgow Explorathon Broadcast	Feb 2021

MUSIC/ COMPOSITION:

Film and video scores & sound design, most recently *Il Pleut Dans La Ville* with StudioCanal; albums *Big Blue* and *Red Eyed Guys* written & toured with jazz funk band *The Baby Blue;* and performance as a solo classical violinist in National and International Festivals of Music for Youth (The Royal Festival Hall, London and The Koncerthaus in Vienna) as well as European tours with the British and Irish Youth Orchestras.

QUALIFICATIONS:

B. Des. (First Class Hons) Sonic Arts	Glasgow School of Art	2023
M.Sc. Materials Engineering	University of Loughborough	1989
Violin Performance Associateship	Royal Northern College of Music	1988
B.Sc. (Hons) Materials Science	University of Manchester	1987
Licentiate Diploma (LRCM)	Royal College of Music	1986

AWARDS:

Cryptic Nights Commission (2026). VACMA East Lothian Award (2025). Hope Scott Trust Award for Sound Art (2024). Most Promising International Artist, Nomad Film Festival at the University of Central Asia (2023). Glasgow School of Art Chairman's Medal (2023). HearSay International Audio Prize Shortlist (2021). Leith School of Art Contemporary Art Prize (2020).

RESIDENCIES:

The Booth, Scalloway, Shetland; Nobel Peace Museum, Oslo (2025). Admiral's Cottage, Isle of Skye, 2022.

EXPEDITIONS:

Challenge Business Arctic Yacht Race Crew (2006); Phillips' Widescreen Transatlantic Yacht Race Crew (2001); Inca Trail Running Team, Peru (1998); Trans-Kalahari Trek Team (1997); Okavango Delta World Record Kayak Expedition (1997); Operation Raleigh Botswana (1997); China to Pakistan Silk Road Expedition (1994); Outward Bound City Challenge (1992).

LEADERSHIP & VOLUNTEERING:

Lotus Flower Trust, India & Nepal (2010-20). STEM teacher /United Nations advisory tours in India /Pakistan /China (3 months each, 2000-2005). Consultant for Red Cross South Africa High Net Worth Fundraising 2005. Leader of the Irish Youth Orchestra (1981-3).