



Autumn Writers Week
includes workshop with Michael Pedersen

Residency Dates: Monday 8 September - Monday 15 September 2025
Rolling Deadline until filled or by Monday 11 August 2025



Cove Park site (photography, Tracy Bloxham)

PROGRAMME INFORMATION & APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Overview

Cove Park is delighted to announce a week-long residency for writers, taking place from 8 to 15 September 2025. Set against the inspiring backdrop of Loch Long, this programme offers a unique opportunity for nine selected writers to step away from daily distractions and focus on their creative practice.

Open to writers working in any genre, this residency is designed to support both individual exploration and collective inspiration. Participants will benefit from dedicated time and space to write, reflect, and connect with peers in a supportive and stimulating environment. Throughout the week, residents will have the chance to engage in peer-to-peer sharing, informal discussions, and collaborative sessions. The programme is self-directed, allowing each writer to shape their own experience while also participating in a shared creative journey.

This residency will culminate in a reading, writing workshop, and group dinner with acclaimed writer Michael Pedersen. Whether you're developing a new project, revisiting an old one, or simply seeking inspiration, this residency offers the time, space, and community to support your creative goals.

About Cove Park

Cove Park is an international artists' residency based on an outstanding 50-acre rural site in Argyll on the west coast of Scotland. We host local, national, and international artists and creative practitioners working in all art forms and at every career stage. Cove Park provides the facilities, support, and care required for the development of new ideas and projects, collaborations, and interdisciplinary practice. Residents stay on site in private accommodation with access to private studios, communal work and meeting spaces, and a library. We host up to 12 residents at any one time, offering every resident the opportunity meet and work alongside individuals and collaborative groups from a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. We organise informal peer-to-peer events to promote discussion, the exchange of ideas and experiences, and the development of new connections.

Please see <https://covepark.org/> for further information on our current programme and images of Cove Park's site and facilities. Our [FAQ](#) page answers general questions on Cove Park's residencies and access.



The Jacobs Building (photography, Paul Tyagi)



Cube Interior (photography, Tracey Bloxham)

About Michael Pedersen

Michael Pedersen is a prize-winning Scottish poet and author, the Writer in Residence at Edinburgh University, and Edinburgh's Makar (Poet Laureate). His prose debut, *Boy Friends*, was published by Faber & Faber in 2022 – it was a Sunday Times Critics Choice and shortlisted for Best Non-Fiction at Scotland's National Book Awards. *The Cat Prince & Other Poems*, his third collection, won the Books Are My Bag Readers Award for Best Poetry 2023. Pedersen has also been shortlisted for the Forward Prizes for Poetry and won a Robert Louis Stevenson Fellowship. His work has been praised by the likes of: Stephen Fry, Irvine Welsh, Kae Tempest, Bernardine Evaristo & many other fine minds. His debut novel *Muckle Flugga* was published by Faber in May 2025 to rave reviews.

'Leading the way in new Scottish Writing...Pedersen's poems exist in a febrile realm of heightened emotion, they come pouring across the page like a rowdy crowd at a Hogmanay street party with an infectious enthusiasm for the downright amazingness of existence.'

— Scotsman



Michael Pedersen

Autumn Writers Week 2025: Key Points

- Time, space and peer-to-peer support to work on self-directed projects.
- One writing workshop, reading and communal dinner with Michael Pedersen.
- Individual private accommodation for seven nights (please note, the residency is self-catering).
- Workspace and meeting space within the Jacobs Building – a communal space which has a library, a large rehearsal room with a wooden floor, open-plan kitchen, and dining area.
- Unlimited access to our 50-acre site.

Cost

The cost to take part in this residency is £675 for seven nights in individual private accommodation plus participation in Michael Pedersen's workshop and writing.

We are pleased to offer one in-kind residency placement to a writer based in Scotland for whom the cost of participation would otherwise be a barrier due to personal financial circumstances. These may include, but are not limited to, low income, unemployment, caregiving responsibilities, medical expenses, disability-related costs, or other significant financial pressures. This opportunity is designed to support increased access to our programme and ensure that talented voices are not excluded due to economic challenges.

Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion

We want our residencies, programmes and resources to be open, inclusive and welcoming to all. We continue to assess how we work towards achieving greater equality and representation within all levels of our organisation and across all programmes. Where possible, we offer our open residencies at subsidised rates to help alleviate financial barriers alongside our awarded residencies which provides appointed artists with fees, travel and material stipends, visa support, and access allowances when required.

Cove Park aims to provide a safe and positive environment for everyone, and to actively dismantle discrimination based on age, disability, gender identity, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy or parental status, race including skin colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, religion or belief, sex, and sexual orientation. Additionally, we aim to dismantle discrimination based on accent, educational background, gender expression, hair texture and hairstyle, immigration status, language ability, markings and/or tattoos

connected to spiritual rituals from pre-colonial cultural practices, neurodiversity, physical and mental health, size, and socio-economic status or background. As language, terms, and expressions inevitably evolve, Cove Park is committed to reviewing this statement regularly – and as often as it becomes appropriate – with our local, national and international communities.

How to Apply

Applications can be submitted via the online [Application Form](#). The Application Form must include:

- Your name, contact details, and access requirements (if applicable)
- A statement (no more than 500 words) briefly describing your current work and the reasons for your interest in this residency.
- A sample of your creative work. This could include:
 - Prose, no more than 1000 words (no more than 4 pages)
 - Stage play or film script (no more than 1000 words)
 - Poetry, up to 4 poems (no more than 4 pages)

We can accept submissions in audio or video formats if this is preferable to a written application. If you have a disability, please tell us if there are any reasonable adjustments to the application process that would be of assistance to you. If you would like to discuss this, or need help making your application, please contact Cove Park's Senior Producer – Awarded Residencies [Alex Marrs](#) directly.

Rolling Deadline until filled or by Monday 11 August 2025

We will acknowledge receipt of your application as soon as it is received. This acknowledgement will include a link to our anonymous Equalities, Diversity & Inclusion monitoring form for completion and we would be grateful for your time with this. If you do not receive this acknowledgement, please contact Cove Park directly to confirm receipt of your application.

Personal Data

Please note, we will store applications electronically for one year. The data contained within your application will not be used for any purpose other than short-listing, running, and evaluating the programme. We will not share your details with any third parties without obtaining permission from you to do so.

For further information please contact:

Alex Marrs

alex@covepark.org

Senior Producer – Awarded Residencies

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