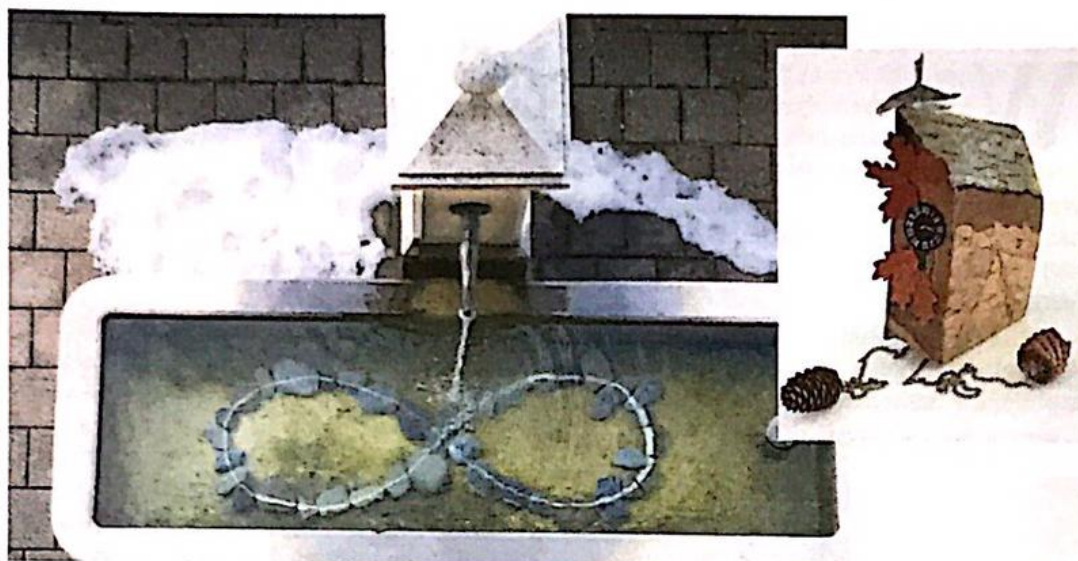


# INSPIRATION AT OPEN SPACES GALLERY FEUTERSOEY

Open Spaces is an art centre in Feutersoey that houses a select few artists for three month periods, allowing them to create a temporary home to work and display their art for all to see, as well as pieces they are in the process of completing.

*Eternity formed of local rocks in the fountain next to the school building in Feutersoey.*



Sophie Rieder, Timo Rytönen

**E**merging artists and organisers Roderick and Kyra receive a number of applications from artists who would love to be in the Open Spaces centre and they have the hard job of selecting the few lucky ones each time. Artists have come from all over, including the UK, Finland, Grenada, of course Switzerland, and more.

Timo Rytönen from Finland, Suelin Low Chew Tung and her husband Presnelo from Grenada have recently finished their three months in Feutersoey. Both Timo and Suelin say they had an amazing time working in Feutersoey. Agreeing that being able to wake up to the beautiful views in the morning and being able to catch the first snow was a wonderful experience. Adding that a place like this gives you inspiration immediately and will be with you forever, bringing inspiration even when you are somewhere else.

Timo shows the importance of recycling through his creations by using old second-hand pieces of art. He takes the older pieces of art and folds them into something new or combines two pieces together to give them a second life and new meaning. He explains that often he can come across an old piece of artwork and at first not know what to do with it, but with time the ideas come. He also took it upon himself to add a bit of artwork to the fountain outside the school house, using stones only from the area. The stones are still in the fountain for everyone to look at and admire.

Suelin and Presnelo create their art by re-using material they find around them like linen and wood. Suelin describes one of her husband's pieces as "100% Feutersoey". Suelin bases her own art on history and in the pieces she completed while at Open Spaces she used Carnival as a theme,

playing with colours and textures, including Nespresso capsules. As you look through both Suelin and Presnelo's work, you notice that there is a constant theme of cows in the paintings. Suelin explains how they have regularly seen cows in Feutersoey that were being walked through town, which inspired them to incorporate the animal into their work.

Many artists that come and spend three months at the Open Spaces art centre are emerging artists and the centre gives them a great platform to show off their work. With the gallery open 9.30am – 4pm Monday to Friday, everybody is welcome to pop by and have a look.

Sam and Kelly are the current additions to the Open Spaces gallery and will be there for the next few months making original works for everyone to come and enjoy.

SOPHIE RIEDER