

Cory Babstock

DART Residency Testimonial



“My time as Artist in Residence with the Unscripted Digital Art Residency (DART) in Twillingate came at a pivotal moment in my life. It was still early in my development as an artist, and I was navigating the aftermath of a life-altering spinal injury. At that point, both my creative direction and my sense of stability felt uncertain, and the opportunity to spend dedicated time in a place like Twillingate meant more than I could have anticipated.

Twillingate offered something I didn’t realize I needed... space, both physically and mentally. The rugged coastline, shifting light, and constant presence of the ocean created an environment where I could slow down and begin to rebuild my connection to the work. I found myself drawn not only to the landscape, but to the historical weight of the place, the aging fishing stages, weathered homes, and quiet remnants of a way of life that still lingers along the shoreline. Photographing these spaces became a way of connecting to both the past and the present, and in many ways, to my own process of rebuilding.

The DART residency itself fostered a sense of support and openness that made it easier to explore that shift. There was room to experiment, to reflect, and to let the work evolve naturally without pressure. Being part of a program that valued process as much as outcome helped me gain confidence, not just in what I was creating, but in my ability to keep creating at all.”

“I left Twillingate with more than a collection of images. I carried forward a renewed perspective on my practice and a deeper understanding of how closely it’s tied to place, time, and personal experience. Looking back, that residency didn’t just influence my work, it helped shape the path forward during a time when I needed it most.”

- My residency in Twillingate came at a pivotal moment, helping shape both my recovery and my voice as an artist.
- Through the Unscripted Digital Art Residency (DART), I found space to reconnect with my work and redefine how I approach photography.
- Twillingate’s coastal landscape and deep-rooted history became central to my work, particularly in documenting its aging stages and homes.
- The residency shifted my focus from chasing images to creating with patience, intention, and a stronger sense of place.
- DART provided a supportive environment where process mattered as much as the final image, allowing real creative growth.
- That experience continues to influence my work today, grounding it in personal story, place, and a lasting connection to Newfoundland’s outport heritage.

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Past Artistic Resident,
Digital Artist Residency in Twillingate

