

The Southern Star

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Chance meeting brought Berlin artist to West Cork

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BY JACKIE KEOGH



A CHANCE meeting with Marie Cullen and Pol O'Colmain brought Jennifer Baumeister to Skibbereen.

'They, as managers of the Working Artist Studios in North Street, invited me to present my work at the Skibbereen Arts Festival in 2012,' said Jennifer, who, shortly after, returned to Berlin, packed everything up, and made West Cork her home.

Jennifer's meeting with Marie and Pol whilst holidaying in Kerry was fortuitous because in relocating to Skibbereen she has done the unimaginable: she has opened her own studio and gallery at Bridge Street.

She has known success as an artist, and exhibited widely in the UK, Hungary, Germany and Ireland, but she never envisaged opening a studio, especially one that is so accessible to the public.

'I studied sculpture in Berlin and fine and performing arts in Philadelphia, and did a lot of installation, video work and painting as well. But, in the last three years, I have also started making silver jewellery.'

Jennifer takes commissions for her artwork, as well as her jewellery, but she has recently been persuaded to offer classes in life drawing, clay modelling and painting for children and adults.