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ENVIRONMENTAL ART AND SOCIAL ACTION

Our world is formed and connected by the sea. Thousands of years ago, these coastlines were shaped by cataclysmic events; in Mesopotamia too, mythical floods gave rise to stories of the Apkall \bar{u} - half-fish, half-human sages who emerged from the sea to bring wisdom to our ancestors, living in what became known as the 'cradle of civilisation'.

Thousands of years later, those same lands lie decimated by war and the world's oceans are rising again... what would the Apkallū say if they returned to speak for one last time?

Commissioned by Hospitalfield and Arbroath 2020+1, **Over Lunan** is an extraordinary promenade performance in the dunes of **Lunan Bay** in **Angus**, **Scotland**. This special open-air production ran from 9 - 19 September 2021.

Created by **Angus Farquhar**, Creative Director of social action and arts organisation Aproxima Arts with dramaturg and former Artistic Director of the Unicorn Theatre **Purni Morell**, this significant live commission blends an atmospheric ambisonic sound installation and live music with elements of public memorial.

As darkness falls, audience members become immersed in one of Scotland's most stunning coastal locations in an unusual work that draws on the fragility of the natural world and ancient flood mythologies...

Angus Farquhar has assembled an inspiring team to produce Over Lunan which includes **Purni Morell** as dramaturg and script writer, composer of electro-acoustic music **Andrew Knight-Hill**, conch player and conductor **Bede Williams**, conch and carnyx players **John** and **Patrick Kenny**, musician and composer **Cameron Sinclair**, a cast of local performers from the area, producer **Jana Robert**, with music recorded by the **St Salvator's Chapel Choir** of St Andrews University.

The visual design is by Angus Farquhar's long-term collaborator, renowned designer **James Johnson**.

RADIO

Over Lunan

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Things are not always as they seem. Obvious, perhaps, yet Over Lunan sheds light on some of the hidden connections between Lunan and places far afield, in both time and space...

The Over Lunan team is pleased to release **a new radio piece**, also called **Over** Lunan, which is an accompanying piece of work to the live event in the dunes. It was broadcast on <u>Radio North Angus</u>, <u>Resonance FM</u> <u>Resonance Extra</u>.

Both the live event and the radio piece shed light on some of the hidden connections between Lunan and places far afield, in both time and space.

In 2015 the journalist Charlie Ross spent a summer in Lunan Bay on the north east coast of Scotland, investigating the area's history and mythology, and the natural forces that have shaped this coast through millennia. He died before his work was complete, but his discoveries, including Lunan's connection to the ancient cultures of the Middle East, are now brought to life posthumously in this new radio piece, produced by **Steve Urquhart** and directed by **Purni Morell**, with music and sound design by **Andrew Knight-Hill**.

Although it was not necessary to listen to the radio piece before coming to the live event in Lunan Bay, ticket holders were encouraged to tune in to get a greater understanding of the research work Charlie Ross had undertaken in the local area.

Those who missed the live event are invited to enjoy the radio piece as a standalone piece of work exploring the fascinating connections between two beautiful parts of the world, each conveying a fascinating and little-known history.



Credits

Script - Purni Morell & Angus Farquhar

Direction - Purni Morell

Producer - Steve Urquhart

Composition and Sound Design - Andrew Knight-Hill

Marimba - Cameron Sinclair & Angus Farquhar

Conch shells and trumpet - Bede Williams

Choir - Chamber Choir from the University of St Andrews Music Centre Rebecca Black Sarah Greer James McNinch Nathanael Fagerson Ross McArthur Guy Minch Elizabeth Unsworth Wilson Jane Pettegree

Choir Director - Claire Innes-Hopkins

Actors Laura Bauld John Buick Angus Farquhar Robin Laing Pauline Lynch Vincent Laing Lisa Livingstone Purni Morell Jana Robert Mark Wood **Billy Riddoch** Mary McCusker Arvid Larsen Michael Matar Nathan Wasserman

Apkallū

Heather Anne Scott Burrell James Armstrong Irene Taylor Karen Elliot Carsten Williamson Dan Thompson James Callachan Kris Forrester Kirsty Scott

Community Cast

Euan Smith Brian Bordman Rachel Robertson Andrew Lodge Ashlyn Bourelle Carley Mackie Sam Johnston Jordan Monks Fiona Linton

Film credits

Filming & Photography: Cameron Sinclair, Ruari Cormack and Andy Cowton

Press

From 'The Scotsman' Sunday 12th April 2020

The Scotsman, Arts and Entertainment - 'Lunan Bay performance will reach for the moon'

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