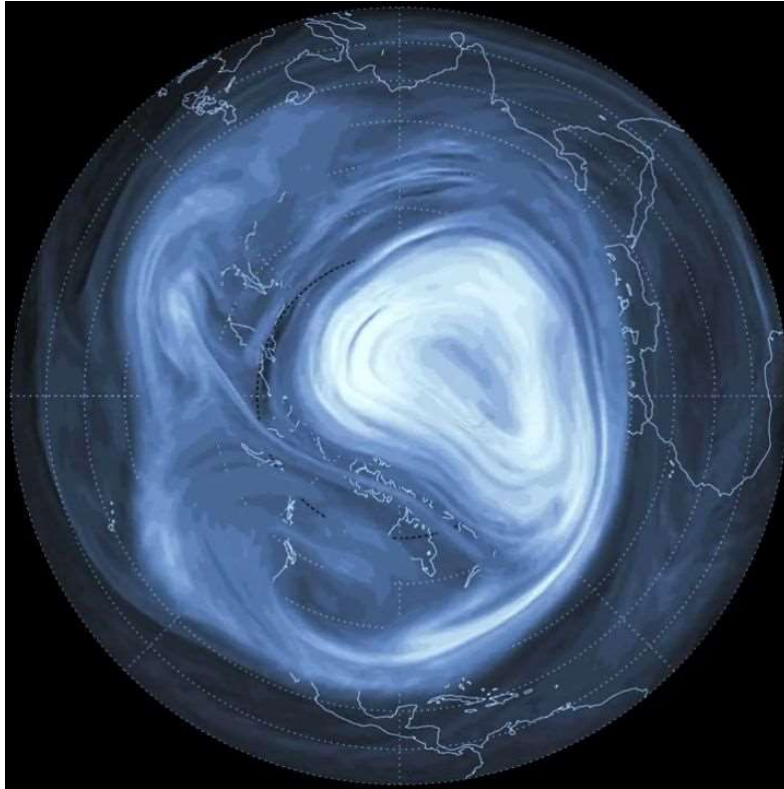




Pibroch

By John Bolland

A multimedia- performance by John Bolland and Fraser Fifield.

How do you respond when you find yourself on a burning platform with limited options?

Pibroch explores the parallels between our current Climate Emergency and the Piper Alpha disaster of 1988 in which 167 offshore oil workers died, 90 miles East of Shetland. Based on first-hand experience, detailed research into the Piper Alpha disaster and analysis of a wide range of sources on Climate Change, *Pibroch* is based around the pibroch '*Lament for the Children*' by Padraig Mor McCrimmon, highlighting the direct Scottish links of Piper Alpha, piping and pibroch, with grief for our children and our children's children.

The 60-minute performance and will be followed by an open discussion allowing interested members of the audience to share their views on the themes and issues raised.

The performance is funded through Creative Scotland and The National Lottery Fund and supported by Open Road Ltd.

The Company

Martin Aitken - Producer

Martin Aitken is a multi-disciplinary arts practitioner based in the North-East of Scotland. Much of Martin's work is rooted in the city of Aberdeen, telling local stories or working with local creative organisations and youth theatres.

John Bolland – Author, graphic design, co-director and performer

John writes poetry, novels and short fiction in Scots and English and is a graduate of the University of Glasgow's Creative Writing Masters programme. Between 1982 and 2014, he held a number of project management and consultancy roles in the offshore oil & gas industry. poetry and short fiction has been widely published and his first collection – *Fallen Stock* – was published by Red Squirrel Press in 2019. The companion collection to the *Pibroch* performance was published by Red Squirrel in 2021.

Fraser Fifield – Musician and Composer

Described by the **Sunday Herald** as (having) “emerged as one of today's outstanding talents” Fraser has enjoyed performing on low whistle, saxophone and bagpipes with a good many artists since the mid '90 including Salsa Celtica, Old Blind Dogs, Afro Celt Sound System, Capercaillie, Balkanopolis, Gavin Marwick, Karine Polwart & Maeve McKinnon. To date he has recorded eight albums of original music. His latest album, *Piobaireachd*, was published in 2021.

Simon Gane – Production Manager, Set and Lighting Designer

Simon was resident Lighting Designer at the Lemon Tree in Aberdeen for a number of years before leaving the world of a secure salary to forge a more creative path as a Freelance Designer and Production Manager.

Brodie Murray – Technician

Brodie founded Aberdeenshire-based Lighting and AV Design company, Standing Ovation in 2018. Since then, Standing Ovation has gone on to provide sound and lighting support services to global icons such as Deacon Blue, Big Country and Eddie Reader as well as supporting a huge range of stage performances, events and festivals across the North East of Scotland and beyond.

Graeme Roger – AV Design & Production Photography

Graeme is a visual artist working across film, public art, performance, photography, installation & theatre. All his projects are collaborative in nature with other artists, musicians, directors and the wider community. His work has been shown nationally and internationally. He has created video designs for companies including The National Theatre of Scotland, Eden Court Theatre and C21 Theatre, often creating design for projections in public spaces and galleries.

Lucy Stroud – Marketing Support and Publicity

Lucy worked in London as a journalist for national newspapers and magazines, specialising in Features and Real Life stories before returning to Aberdeen. Since then she worked as a freelance PR agent in roles including Head of Press for Aberdeen International Youth Festival.

Lesley Anne Rose - Mentoring

Lesley Anne is a producer, writer and co-founder of Open Road, a company which consolidates her experiences at senior management level in the cultural sector, passion for people and place, commitment to skills development and belief in working towards a more sustainable world for all. She has produced complex award-winning community projects, city wide festivals, large scale international co-productions, award winning mid-scale touring theatre and site-specific new work. Her work crosses into heritage, academic research and climate change.

Mark Thomson – Co-Director

Mark was Artistic Director of the Royal Lyceum Theatre Company from until June 2016 during which time he directed over twenty-five productions including world premieres of Donna Franceschild's *Takin' Over the Asylum*, D C Jackson's *The Marriage of Figaro*, Jo Clifford's *Every One* and adaptation of Goethe's *Faust parts one and two*, *Six Black Candles* by Des Dillon, John Byrne's *Uncle Varick* as well as his own plays: *A Madman Sings to the Moon*, *Pinocchio*, his adaptation of James Hogg's *The Private Memoirs and Confessions of a Justified Sinner* and, in 2011, *Wondrous Flitting*. In 2015 he directed *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* which won 4 CATS awards and earned him a nomination for Best Director at the UK Theatre

Awards. His production of *Waiting For Godot* starring Brian Cox and Bill Paterson was nominated for several categories including Best Director and won Best Production at the CATS.



Image Credits :

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