ARTISTS, FARMERS AND PHILOSOPHERS

GETTING GRASSROOTS EXPERTISE INTO LANDSCAPE POLICY, PRACTICE AND RESEARCH

THE BOWES MUSEUM
7/9 SEPTEMBER 2016 #AFP16

‘Meeting of the Waters’ © Geoff Freeman
Welcome to this 3-day symposium held in The Bowes Museum and at Mickleton Village Hall, with discussions walks, talks, screenings, poetry, performance, art, and live music in the landscape in and around Barnard Castle. While the programme is rich and varied, the real content comes from the conversations that we hope you will have with those you meet who may approach landscape issues from a different perspective. The referendum has emphasised that there is a need to reach out beyond our cloistered comfort zones to start talking in order to understand each other’s concerns, values and desires, and the opportunities that now lie before us.

EXPLORE:
> The varied nature of the landscape expertise that exists outside the ‘landscape professions’.
> The widespread availability of that expertise.
> The value of the ‘landscape partnership’ model as a way of harnessing that expertise.
> The value of a cultural landscape approach within such partnerships in putting communities at the centre of the landscape’s story, deepening their covenant with it.

QUESTION:
> What types of expertise are currently dominant in landscape decision-making?
> Is there a need for policy to reach out beyond this expertise?
> What is the policy shift needed to pull locally embedded forms of expertise into decision-making?
> How might Britain’s future outside the EU contribute to this policy shift?

ADVOCATE:
> The recognition of HLF Landscape Partnerships as an exemplar of how to mobilise and nurture grassroots expertise.
> The recognition by other landscape governance bodies, such as Local Nature Partnerships, of the value of grassroots expertise to their strategic direction.
> The use of HLF Landscape Partnerships as incubators for longer-term partnerships helping deliver locally-embedded national landscape policy.

‘Addicted To Sheep’ © Provenance Films Limited

‘PaperBridge’ © Steve Messam
SESSION 1
LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIPS – THE CULTURAL HORIZON

EXPLORATION:
> The value of a cultural landscape approach in broadening our understanding of landscape character, and in providing a more holistic approach that allows people’s lives and stories into the whole notion of landscape and place.
> The way cultural landscape approaches can unite different interests around a single narrative.
> The good fit between a cultural landscape approach and HLF’s Landscape Partnership scheme, as exemplified by Heart of Teesdale LP.

QUESTION:
> What exactly is a cultural landscape approach and how might it help to open up the parameters of landscape character and help shape vibrant new local identities?
> Could a cultural landscape approach accelerate uptake of the Landscape Partnership programme in landscapes that are, perhaps, unloved, peripheral, bleak, or seemingly unexceptional?
> Why might artists in particular be well placed to help lead on this approach?
> In a future outside the EU, how might HLF Landscape Partnership schemes help establish longer term partnerships that embody the schemes’ existing values?

ADVOCATE:
> The adoption of a cultural landscape approach within HLF’s Landscape Partnership programme so as to extend the programme’s reach across the British countryside.

JUBILEE ROOM

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>Symposium introduction and session Chair, Graham Young, Heart of Teesdale (HoT) Chair.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.05</td>
<td>Keynote, Jim Dixon, Heritage Lottery Fund trustee. The national perspective.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.40</td>
<td>Discussion, questions and contributions from all participants and audience.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.00</td>
<td>Panel Chair and introduction, Graham Young, Heart of Teesdale (HoT) Chair.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.05</td>
<td>Panel, Will Weston, Chair of Heart of Teesdale 2010-2013. The cultural terms of reference for the Heart of Teesdale bid.</td>
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<td>14.15</td>
<td>Panel, Julie Crawshaw, Newcastle University Centre for Rural Economy. How art ‘diagnoses’ people’s relation to place.</td>
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<tr>
<td>14.35-15.00</td>
<td>Discussion, questions and contributions from all participants and audience.</td>
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WALK 1 – MONKS, MILLERS AND MARBELERS

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>15.10</td>
<td>Meet at The Bowes Museum Entrance.</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.15</td>
<td>Leave to walk to St. Mary’s Church to see Norman arch and medieval font then across the Demesnes and along the River Tees. Stop opposite the mill and abbey ruins painted by Turner, inspect a Tees Marble outcrop then return to museum.</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>Arrive back at museum. Break in programme.</td>
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EVENING AT THE WİTHAM

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>18.30</td>
<td>Pie &amp; peas, supper and refreshments. Pay bar available.</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.30</td>
<td>Cream tees. Performance by the Music at the Heart of Teesdale youth folk ensemble reviving Teesdale’s music and dance traditions.</td>
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SESSION 2

ARTISTS

VENUE: THE BOWES MUSEUM, JUBILEE ROOM, THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 9.00-11.05

EXPLORE:

> The role that artists have in articulating and championing the landscape.
> The power artists have to champion uncherished/peripheral landscapes and create compelling new identities around them.
> The ability of artists to pull competing interests together around a shared vision.
> The ability of artists to engage communities in their local landscapes.

QUESTION:

> How do artists reveal and share the personal qualities of landscape character? Why does this matter?
> What is the nature of an artist’s covenant with place?
> Can the civic role of the local artist be enhanced and better recognised in the UK? What needs to change for this to happen?

ADVOCATE:

> A strategic role for artists within Landscape Partnerships.
> A recovery of the civic role of artists more generally.

JUBILEE ROOM

09.00 Introduction and session Chair, Ewan Allinson, Sculptor and #AFP16 Chair.
09.05 Keynote, Magali Pettier, Director of Addicted to Sheep. The importance of people in the landscape.
09.35-09.50 Discussion, questions and contributions from all participants and audience.
Break Coffee and tea available.
10.10 Introduction and session Chair, Ewan Allinson, Sculptor and #AFP16 Chair.
10.15 Panel, Ian Thompson, School of Architecture, Planning and Landscape, Newcastle University. Edgelands: how artists can help us cherish unloved landscapes.
10.45-11.05 Discussion, questions and contributions from all participants and audience.

WALK & TALK 2: OPTION 1:
TO THE MEETING OF THE WATERS
This 3-mile round trip includes a steep descent on steps and requires a good pace of walking.
11.10 Meet outside The Bowes Museum main entrance.
11.15 Leave by coach to Whorlton.
Sandwich lunch will be handed out to participants.
11.25 Walk to Meeting of the Waters. Stop for picnic and then the launch of the Viewmarkers sculptures by Victoria Brailsford, delivered by ARTworks in Teesdale, funded by Heart of Teesdale.
12.45 Walk back to Whorlton.
13.45 Leave from Whorlton by coach to Mickleton.

WALK & TALK 2: OPTION 2:
TO THE FLATTS WOOD BANDSTAND
Easy walking at a leisurely pace.
11.10 Meet outside The Bowes Museum main entrance.
Sandwich lunch will be handed out to participants.
11.15-13.00 Leave on foot to walk through town to Scar Top, then to Flatts Wood for picnic by the river at the ‘Bandstand’. Walk back to Barnard Castle (Morrison’s car park).
13.55 Leave Morrison’s car park by coach to Mickleton.
SESSION 3
HILL FARMING IN THE 21ST CENTURY

VENUE: MICKLETON VILLAGE HALL,
THURSDAY, 8TH SEPTEMBER, 14.30-17.15

EXPLORE:
> The opportunity for environmental policy-making, once the UK leaves the EU, to be locally embedded and more responsive to the particulars of place.
> The value of the long-term covenant that farmers have with the land and how to capitalise on that.
> The landscape knowledge and nous that farmers possess and how to bring that into policy-making.
> The role of farmers in managing the things that we as a society value in and need from our landscapes.
> The need for farmers to be paid for delivering that management.

QUESTION:
> What is nous and how do we give it more heed within environmental and landscape policy?
> What does a farmer know that the scientist doesn’t?
> How do we mediate between top-down science and grassroots nous over the long-term?
> How do we build on the public’s current interest in farming and translate that into a social covenant that recognizes society’s debt to the sector and rewards farmers for it?
> What are the theoretical/practical foundations to all this?

ADVOCATE:
> The strategic involvement of farmers in HLF Landscape Partnerships.
> A covenant between the public and farming that rewards farmers for their daily efforts to deliver not only the food we eat but also the landscapes and habitats that give so much to so many.
As delegates and the paying public arrive, Finnish artist Henna Asikainen will be completing a temporary art installation in the grounds, aided by a group of refugees based in Newcastle. A Keynote talk by writer and Fun Palaces director Stella Duffy OBE will kickstart a sequence of entertaining talks about the art, poetry, farming, and philosophy of landscape. You can buy dinner and drinks in the museum café. Don’t miss the rare chance to catch the setting sun from the museum’s amazing top-floor library. Rounded off with dancing to the music of refugee-band Crossings, this will be a night where many friendships and memories are formed.


18.30 Keynote Talk, Stella Duffy OBE, writer/co-director Fun Palaces, 19th Century Picture Gallery.

19.00 Meg Peacocke, Poet/former Hill Farmer. Access to library to see sunset. Book launch, Ant Macari reads from and signs copies of ‘One Blade of Grass’.

19.15 Martin Drenthen, Philosopher.

19.30 Sophie Gerrard, Artist.

19.45 Richard Povall, Artist.

20.00 Harriet & Rob Fraser, Artists, private view.

20.15 Trudi Entwistle, Artist.

20.30 Steve Messam, Artist.

20.45 Jade Montserrat, Artist.

21.00-22.00 Band playing, dancing, foyer.
SESSION 4

PHILOSOPHERS

VENUE: THE BOWES MUSEUM, JUBILEE ROOM,
FRIDAY, 9TH SEPTEMBER, 09.00-12.30

EXPLORE:

> The role of philosophy in helping to broaden notions of landscape as a public or common good.
> The nature of the covenant that exists between people and place.
> The place of philosophy in giving authority to local voices and local perspectives on landscape so that policy-makers feel able to integrate those into decision-making.
> The positive implications of balancing scientific knowledge with local know-how and nous.

QUESTION:

> How can philosophy have an impact on landscape and environment?
> What do philosophers make of landscape policy, of the terminology of ‘ecosystem services’ and ‘natural capital’?
> Given the need to persuade policy-makers to take proper account of local expertise, what can philosophy do to help give that expertise real theoretical clout?
> In what other ways can philosophers contribute to landscape policy?

ADVOCATE:

> A role for philosophy and the humanities in working with Landscape Partnerships to help articulate the social and cultural value of our landscapes.
> A recognition that policy-making needs philosophy to help understand and mobilise the covenant that exists between communities and the landscapes in which they live.
> A willingness by philosophy as a discipline to get involved in landscape policy.

JUBILEE ROOM

9.05 Intro, Prof Emily Brady, Environment and Philosophy, Edinburgh University.
9.15 Keynote, Dr. Isis Brook, Head of Faculty, Crossfields Institute. Honouring and developing local aesthetic intuition.
9.50 Questions, Emily Brady.
10.05 Break.
10.15 Panel, Dr Martin Drenthen, Associate Prof of Philosophy, Radboud University Nijmegen. How to read the landscape?
10.25 Panel, Dr. Simon James, Philosophy Department, Durham University. Why place matters.
10.35 Panel, Dr Paul Knights, Philosophy department, University of Manchester. Valuing the particular = rethinking ecosystem services.
10.45 Panel, Dr. Liz McKinnell, Philosophy Department, Durham University. Thinking on one’s feet: solitary walkers and social landscapes.
10.55 Questions, Emily Brady.
11.15 Break.
11.25 Breakout session, Maggie Roe.
12.20-12.30 Conference close, Ewan Allinson.

'Stil image from Clay by Jabe Montserrat, film made with Webb-Ellis' © 2015
FOLLOWING A CALL-OUT TO ARTISTS IN FEBRUARY 2015, 2 ARTISTS WERE COMMISSIONED TO CREATE THE TEESDALE VIEWMARKERS.

Victoria Brailsford made ELEMENTS, 11 cast iron and stone pieces sited at 9 locations throughout Teesdale. Ant Macari created ONE BLADE of GRASS, a limited edition artist book of poems and sketches. Both commissions are being launched during the symposium. See the programme for details.

SYMPOSIUM OVERVIEW

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 7TH SEPTEMBER
Session 1: Landscape Partnerships
Morning:
Arrival The Bowes Museum, registration from 11.00.
Coffee and tea provided.
Afternoon:
13.00-15.00
Session 1.
Walk and Talk 1:
Leave from The Bowes Museum main entrance.
Evening:
18.30
Evening at The Witham (Barnard Castle).
Includes food, refreshments and film: pie & peas, cream tees, Addicted to Sheep.

DAY 2: THURSDAY 8TH SEPTEMBER
Session 2: Artists
Session 3: Hill Farming in the 21st Century
Morning:
09.00-11.05
Session 2.
Coffee and tea provided.
11.15
Coaches leave for Walk and Talk 2 (2 options available).
Leave from The Bowes Museum main entrance (packed lunch provided).
Coaches from walk ends to Mickleton.
Afternoon:
14.30-17.15
Session 3.
Mickleton Village Hall.
Then coach to The Bowes Museum.
Coffee and cake provided.
Evening:
18.00-22.00
The Bowes Museum Late.
Various activities. Also open to the general public. Dinner and drinks may be bought in The Bowes Museum café.

DAY 3: FRIDAY 9TH SEPTEMBER
Session 4: Philosophers Reflection and close
Morning:
09.00-12.00
Session 4.
Coffee and tea provided.
Afternoon:
12.00-12.30
Reflections and close of Symposium.
12.30
Light lunch.
Shuttle buses available to railway station.

REGISTRATION DESK: Open from 11.00, Wednesday, 7th September in the Foyer of The Bowes Museum with information available throughout the main sessions. Refreshments available on arrival.

Note that where refreshments and food are included in the programme provision these are clearly indicated on the timetable. At all other times food may be bought at the Museum Café (during opening hours) and other locations in the town.
The symposium has been funded by Heritage Lottery Fund, Arts Council England and the Landscape Research Group. It has also been supported by the McCord Centre at Newcastle University, The Bowes Museum and Upper Teesdale Agricultural Support Services (UTASS).

Think of this event and its follow-up as a launch-pad for ongoing exchanges. Regardless of any differences between us, by pooling our shared passion for landscape, we can shape environmental policy anew.

As the team of partners who have shaped #AFP16, we thank you for coming.

#AFP16 Steering Group
Ewan Allinson (Chair), Sculptor, Landscape and Arts Network
Maggie Roe, Newcastle University and Landscape Research Group (LRG)
Graham Young, HLF Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership
Alex Sijpesteijn, HLF Heart of Teesdale Landscape Partnership
Gary Charlton, Natural England
Michelle Gorman, Visit County Durham
Jill Cole, Freelance Arts Manager
Henna Asikainen, Artist