Welcome to our 2nd Festival!

Come along and help celebrate the amazing world we live on and learn how you can do your bit to safeguard this planet - our only possible living space.

Watershed - Journey of a River and Journey of an Activist - exploring the challenging journeys ahead if we are to establish a sustainable future. Every journey starts with a single step. Let **What a Wonderful World Festival** inspire you to take your next step!

The inspiring and challenging songs of **Karine Polwart** are a profound reaction to the pressures we are putting our life support systems under. Alnwick Playhouse's own Damian Cruden will lead **Imagining the Future** - what we could achieve if we can meet the challenges ahead, while environmentalist Ross Lowrie leads a **Deep Dive into Water**.

Be part of the solution - come along, listen and have your say!

Liz and Alistair Anderson, Co-Directors.

> "We must not give up hope. We have all the tools we need, the thought and ideas of billions of remarkable minds and the immeasurable energies of nature to help us in our work. We have one more thing - an ability, perhaps unique among the living creatures on the planet - to imagine a future and work towards achieving it."
>
> **Sir David Attenborough, A Life on our Planet.**

THANKS

To our **ORGANISING TEAM**, Lisa Bellamy, Rosie Bush, Sue Patience, Jonathan Ridley, Sarah Morey and Anne Lowrie, to our speakers and performers and all who have also donated their talents and time.

FESTIVAL PARTNERS Alnwick Playhouse, The Alnwick Garden, Alnwick Area Friends of the Earth, Gallery Youth, staff and students of the Duchess's Community High School and local primary schools.

FUNDERS in cash and in kind: Alnwick Town Council, The Joicey Trust, the National Lottery Awards for All, Northumberland County Council, Northumberland Estates, Barter Books, Bill Grisdale Design and many more.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS AND UPDATES:
www.whataww.org

BEFORE AND DURING THE FESTIVAL

At the Playhouse **14 June - 3 July**

LOVING EARTH EXHIBITION



The Loving Earth project originated by the Quaker Arts Network celebrates some of the wonderful things threatened by growing environmental breakdown. The 30 x 30 textile panels made for the Project illustrate some of the beloved places, people, creatures and other things at stake in the climate crisis. 50 of these panels will be on display at the Playhouse including some created by local people.

EXHIBITION OPENING AND FESTIVAL LAUNCH PARTY

Tuesday 13 June 6.00 - 8.00pm

All welcome. Light refreshments.

Tickets for this free event from the Playhouse box office.



SPRAY-PAINT ART created by local youngsters from Gallery Youth will appear at sites around Alnwick.

The **PLAYHOUSE CAFE** will be open during the Festival for delicious food and drink. Come along to find out what's going on in the Festival and enjoy the buzz.



BOOK TICKETS AT ALNWICK PLAYHOUSE

Festival Pass: £40
18 and under: £20

24/7 ONLINE BOOKING:
www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk

TELEPHONE BOOKING:
Call Playhouse Box office during opening hours (1-4pm Tuesday - Saturday):
01665 660550

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD Festival
of arts, science and the natural world
www.whataww.org

THE ALNWICK GARDEN

Festival events in The Alnwick Garden are free to garden visitors.
Usual entrance fees apply.

www.thealnwick-garden.com

@whatawwalnwick alnwick_waww @a_alnwick

What a Wonderful World Trust is a registered educational charity number 1195577

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LET'S GET CREATIVE NOW FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD Festival

of arts, science and the natural world

30 June - 2 July 2023











Song
Drama
Family Events
Dance
Imagining the Future
Poetry
Comedy
Deep Dive into Water
A Taste of Northumbrian Sea Food

Box Office: www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk | 01665 660550

FRIDAY 30 JUNE

Alnwick Playhouse | 7.30pm | Bill Hugonin Auditorium

KARINE POLWART and DAVE MILLIGAN

SONGS OF TREE AND RIVER, STONE AND SEA



Seven-time winner at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, **Karine Polwart** is a Scottish songwriter, composer, theatre-maker and author. Recent projects include 'The Lost Words: Spell Songs', a multi-artist response to environmental loss and climate breakdown. 'Enough is Enough' Karine's song for Cop 26 has been streamed over 300,000 times on YouTube.



Dave Milligan is a leading figure in the diverse Scottish music scene. His musical imagination flows freely between multiple genres; most notably in the worlds of jazz and celtic music.

Songs of River and Tree, Stone and Sea weaves Karine's songs and Dave's subtle piano accompaniments into an uplifting concert that explores the many ways we interact with the rest of the natural world.

£12
18s and under **£3**

Special guests: Northumberland-based choir **Werca's Folk**

SATURDAY 1 JULY

10.30am | Playhouse Studio Hub

QUEEN OF THE BIRDS

The Kingdom of Birds is looking for a leader.

Karine Polwart brings to life this vivid story of leadership and resilience, diversity and collaboration. Using storytelling and song, sound and creative movement and fun quizzes, it's suitable for 4 to 8 year olds and their families.

£5
18s and under **£2**



Box Office: www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk | 01665 660550

SATURDAY 1 JULY

Alnwick Playhouse | 2.30pm | Bill Hugonin Auditorium

WATERSHED - Journey of a River and Journey of an Activist



Watershed focusses the ideas, energy and enthusiasm of local young performers on challenges ahead. This two-part performance of songs, dance and drama was created special for this festival under the expert guidance of experienced stage professionals Susie Cochrane, Cheryl Stewart and Chloe Smith. The threats to our rivers, lakes and coastal waters are seen through the eyes of the generation who will inherit the serious problems left by previous generations.

£5 18s and under **£2**

5pm | Studio Hub

FILM: The Oil Machine

How our reliance on oil developed and the threats it now poses to life on earth.

£5 18s and under **£2**

7.30pm | Bill Hugonin Auditorium

IMAGINING THE FUTURE

Unique perspectives on the future of our planet from:

Damian Cruden, CEO and Artistic Director, Alnwick Playhouse. What role can the arts play in helping us to imagine and achieve a greener future?

Paul Brannen, Visiting Professor of Innovation and Enterprise at Newcastle University: new ways of replacing steel and concrete with wood in the built environment.

Chi Onwurah MP, Shadow Minister for Science, Research & Digital - an engineer's view of the potential for renewable technologies across the globe.

Aidan Harrison, retired local farmer. Can we balance food security, biodiversity and local communities?

Tamara Ullyart, a young person's view of the threats and possibilities ahead.

INTERVAL

BIODIVERSIONARY TACTICS

Tim Dalling sings Unsustainable Songs



Tim Dalling will dive into the ecological zeitgeist and the world of climate chaos. The songs will veer wildly from zesty frivolity to poignant philosophy. It will put a smile on your face, a tear in your eye and a song in your heart.

Tickets for the whole evening **£10** | 18s and under **£3**

SUNDAY 2 JULY

11am | Studio Hub

FILM: Blue

BLUE is a provocative journey into the ocean realm, witnessing this critical moment in time when the marine world is on a precipice.

£5 18s and under **£2**

1.30pm – 4.30pm | Bill Hugonin Auditorium

DEEP DIVE INTO WATER

Water runs through every aspect of the climate and biodiversity crisis – too much, too little, in the wrong place or not of the right quality. But what can we do about it?



Can beavers really manage upstream water retention better than we can? Can big businesses and local charities work together to improve water quality in our rivers? Can improving seagrass meadows protect against coastal erosion and store carbon? Are 'nature-based solutions' really better than high-tech ones? Can we help nature to help us?

£7 18s and under **£2**

Come to listen and talk to our panel of professionals from the Northumberland Rivers Trust, Northumbrian Water, Stronger Shores, a farmer and landowner and the National Trust, Wallington. There will be challenging questions, but also hopeful answers. And find out whether beavers are back in Northumberland!

INTERVAL: TASTE OF NORTHUMBERLAND - SUPPLIED BY NORTHUMBERLAND SLOW FOOD

Free fish and seafood snacks with your ticket

2pm – 4.30pm | The Alnwick Garden

MUSIC STAGE

Young performers from schools celebrate life through music joined by Werca's Folk, The Border Shetland Fiddlers, Alistair Anderson, Glendale Middle School Ceilidh Band and many more.





Box Office: www.alnwickplayhouse.co.uk | 01665 660550