



Illumination 10: Auld Chapel, Longfield, Dunrossness

The site for our last in our series of illuminations that celebrate the art of light throughout Shetland this winter 2009 – 2010 was one of our original thirty two short-listed sites, and we always thought it would make a very interesting illumination. We turned to it for our last illumination because the unusual wintry weather prohibited us from accessing the sites we had originally intended to use.

The site is a gable end with a fascinating history. It sits on the site of a Methodist Chapel, originally built in 1830. In 1894 its use was discontinued and a new one built across it. In 1948 the other gable blew down. The gable we have illuminated could have been kept for navigational purposes or perhaps as a shelter for animals. The reasons are not certain. The building had four windows on the south side and a porch on the east side.

The light installations this winter are the result of a summer of 'Light Labs' involving members of the public from all over Shetland, from three years to ninety years old, who have worked with artists Nayan Kulkarni and Roxane Permar to create 'colour light scores' for the various sites, using video cameras and specialised software. The project was commissioned by Shetland Arts, and the resulting videos, along with the equipment used, will eventually move to Mareel, the new cinema, music and education venue currently under construction in Lerwick.

We would very much like to thank everyone who has helped us with the project in this area, for without their enthusiasm and support, it would not be possible to have achieved this illumination. We would also like to say a huge thank you and congratulations to those who have made films that are now part of the illuminations. Contributions are from participants in the Light Labs this summer at Cunningsburgh Hall and Clickimin as well as pupils from Dunrossness and Bressay Primary Schools. Everyone has made films that you can see translated into the dynamic colour light scores for this illumination. We have several hundred films altogether, so some of yours may have accidentally "slipped through the net". Please let us know if all your films are not included in the programme.

Members of the community from Dunrossness were also involved in the selection of the sites that were finally chosen to be illuminated. We looked at thirty three sites before short-listing four. It was extremely difficult to make the short-list and the final selection. We considered the aesthetics and meaning of each site, as well as their visibility. In the end we had to think about practical design issues as well as those linked to safety and technical considerations.

Lighting for **Auld Chapel, Longfield** will be visible every evening from sunset to 11.00 pm until 17 April after which we'll dismantle the illumination. All of the light scores from this illumination and the other nine illuminations from the series will become part of the exterior illumination at Mareel, the new music, cinema and education venue proposed to open in Lerwick in 2011.

There will be a party to celebrate these illuminations at the Sumburgh Hotel, Thursday, 15th April, 7 - 9 pm. Everyone is welcome.

Programme of film contributions

Mondays

Alice Bloomer, Christopher Byrne, Curstaidh Mackay, Eddie Price, Emma Mockford, AAJ, AGM, Hilary Seatter, Roxane Permar, Rebecca Sinclair, SR

Tuesdays

Amelia Andrews, Christopher Byrne, Hanna Bloomer, Iona Fullerton, Shane Manson, Abby Gifford, AGM, Harry Goddard, MH, OB, Rebecca Johnston

Wednesdays

Caelen Rivett, Curstaidh Mackay, Kieran Flaws, Lynsey Henry, Saffron Medley, Shane Manson, CS, DS, ES, Hilary Seatter, Joanne Jamieson, J.J. Jamieson

Thursdays

Beatrice Anderson, Cara Steven, Ceileidh Mercer, Emma Mockford, Iona Fullerton, Lucy Simpson, Amy Johnston and Bonita Riise, Erin Lowe, Frances Browne, Lorna Wagstaff and Erin Lowe, MGB, MH

Fridays

Caitlin Munro, Fiona Burr, Jacob Medley, Aimee Gifford, Amy Johnston, Annie Louise Smith, Brandon Lowe, LS, SR

Saturdays

Curstaidh Mackay, Hanna Bloomer, Megan Leslie, AWJ, Diane Garrick, Freya Stout, Irene Manson, JB, Kira Gifford

Sundays

Cameron Leslie, Iona Fullerton, Kieran Flaws, Megan Leslie, Saffron Medley, AGM, BF, Connie Williamson, Chloe Garrick, Lorna Wagstaff, Rayner Riise

For further information email info@mirriedancers.com



www.mirriedancers.com
www.shetlandarts.org