

# The Coigach + Assynt Collection

## About the Collection

The Coigach and Assynt Collection is a new body of music by eight musicians inspired by the people, places and landscape of Coigach and Assynt. The project has emerged from a longer term project to capture the stories and music of the area.



## The Group

The group: Mairearad Green, Charlie Grey, Quee MacArthur, Kathleen MacInnes, Graham Mackenzie, Rachel Newton, Joseph Peach, Jess Phillimore and Ross Whyte, came together earlier this year to begin sharing ideas and making music together.

Each member of the group has their own relationship with this remarkable place.

**Quee MacArthur** writes and plays bass in Shooglenifty and has composed for many dance and theatre productions over the last 25 years.

**Rachel Newton** is a singer and harpist who interprets traditional English and Gaelic songs and texts alongside her own compositions.

**Graham Mackenzie** is an award-winning violinist, composer and music tutor from Inverness who performs with various groups.



**Charlie Grey** is a gifted Highland fiddle player with an unmistakable, lyrical style. He and Joseph Peach have produced a series of improvisations on Gaelic melodies.

**Kathleen MacInnes** is a Gaelic-speaking native of South Uist with a rich voice which has been described by a Guardian critic as being reminiscent of “peat smoke and good whisky”.

**Jess Phillimore** is a freelance filmmaker who has travelled widely making films for BBC and charities, travelling to remote communities to tell inspiring stories of change.

**Ross Whyte** is a hugely versatile composer, sound artist and arranger, working across different disciplines, from dance, theatre and film, to Gaelic electronica and mixed choir.

**Mairearad Green** was introduced to folk music at an early age. She is renowned for her deft and fluent accordion style, as well as her dextrous piping.

**Joseph Peach** is a freelance composer, instrumentalist, recording engineer and producer. His work explores intersections between folk and traditional music.



## Project Team

The project has been delivered by a small team with funding from Creative Scotland, CCDC, CALLP, Farrpoint and RYBKA.

Team members: Susan Christie (curator), Ann Marie Firth-Bernard, Abigail Anne Campbell and Julia Campbell.

**Susan Christie** is an experienced independent curator and producer who is based on the Black Isle with a special interest in rural contexts.

**Ann Marie Firth-Bernard** lives in Achiltibuie and is a development officer, a musician and a textiles designer-maker.

**Abigail Anne Campbell** is a native of Achiltibuie and works as a project officer for Coigach and Assynt Living Landscape and specialises in crofting.

**Julia Campbell** trained as a visual artist and particularly enjoys making things from wood and textiles. She works as a development officer for CCDC.

## The Sharing

The group will spend the week in Achiltibuie recording the new music. The communities of Coigach & Assynt are invited to be part of this process. We would like to welcome the communities to come to an informal sharing of the work-in-progress on **Sunday 12th September – The Sharing**.

**film workshop with school - Jess Phillimore**  
Wed 8th September

**walk + talk + live music**  
Wed 8th September  
Acheninver Hostel  
Achiltibuie 6:00pm

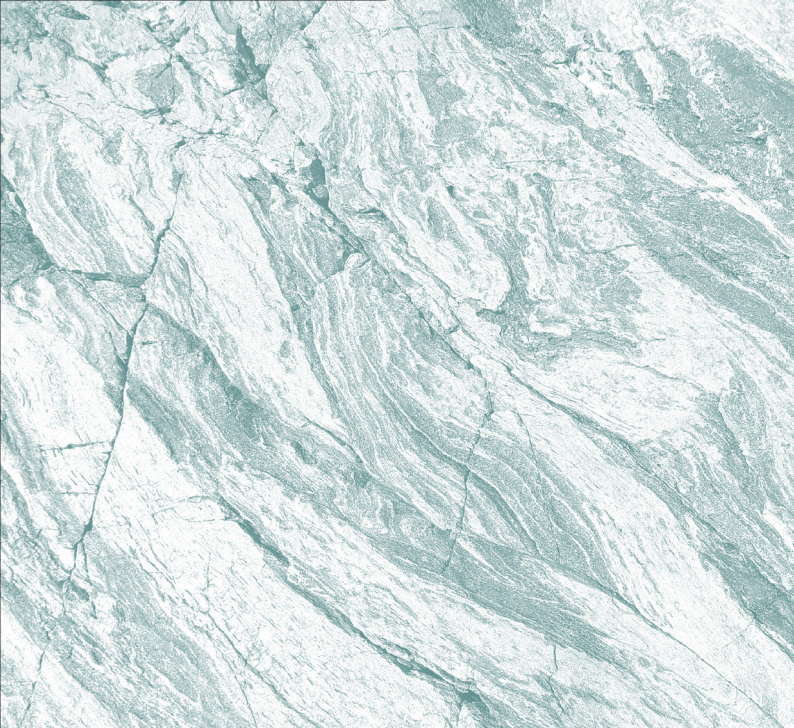
**walk + talk + live music**  
Fri 10th September  
Old Village Hall  
Achiltibuie 6:00pm

There will be two informal gatherings, one in Achiltibuie and one in Elphin. New live music will be performed along with stories and insights shared by the musicians. These events are open to all, beginning with a short film by Jess Phillimore who has been part of the collaborative process.

**THE SHARING**  
live music + film  
+ conversation  
Sunday 12th September

Coigach Community Hall  
3:00pm - 4:00pm

Elphin Hall  
7:00 - 8:00pm



LOTTERY FUNDED

Coigach & Assynt  
LIVING LANDSCAPE



Made possible with

Heritage  
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