

# DISCOVERIES 8

## **Pete Stollery**

STOLEN VOICES 10'24

OF THE BAT 5'00

OF THE SWAN 7'06

## Suk-Jun Kim

ON THE WAY TO FWARRHEU 12'46
THE PASSION 13'26

PRESENTED BY

SERG (SOUND EMPORIUM RESEARCH GROUP)

AND

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC

THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN

AT

BUTCHART RECREATION HALL THURSDAY, 05 OCTOBER 2017 19:30 - 20:30







#### ON THE WAY TO FWARRHEU (2009)

**SUK-JUN KIM** 

On the Way to Fwarrheu is the second piece completed as part of the Hasla series. Following Welcome to Hasla, On the Way to Fwarrheu continues my on-going investigation of our sense of place through aural experiences and the creation of a journey to imaginary cities. Fwarrheu is one of the 76 imaginary cities written by Sungeun Kim, my wife. On the Way to Fwarrheu was composed with the support of the Artists-in-Berlin Programme by DAAD (Der Deutsche Akademishe Austauschdlenst) and was premiered at SYNTHESIS 2009 in Bourges, France.

#### STOLEN VOICES (2017)

PETE STOLLERY

Stolen Voices, 8-channel electroacoustic music, was created as part of a larger performance project as part of Aberdeen's Silver City Stories project in June 2017. It was brought together by performance artists Johanna Linsley and Rebecca Collins The project, and, indeed, the piece, deal with the idea of eavesdropping. It is made entirely from recordings made around the city of Aberdeen, capturing half-heard phrases allowing the listener to formulate their own narratives around what they are hearing, based on their own experience of similar places. Thanks to Bernie Morrison (CEO, Pangeo Subsea) and Kimberley's Mum

### OF THE BAT (2017)

PETE STOLLERY

#### **OF THE SWAN (2014)**

Of the Swan and Of the Bat, 5.1-channel electroacoustic music, form part of Aberdeen Bestiary: Sound-Image-Narrative, an artistic research project led by Pete Stollery and Suk-Jun Kim from SERG (<a href="www.serg-aberdeen.net">www.serg-aberdeen.net</a>) at the University of Aberdeen. The project aims to examine and explore the transformative possibilities of the text-image-narrative structure of the Aberdeen Bestiary by situating (and resituating) the Aberdeen Bestiary Collection in imaginative aural settings.

In the project, both composers have selected and created electroacoustic music for the image and text of real and imaginative animals from the Bestiary Collection - <a href="http://www.abdn.ac.uk/bestiary/">http://www.abdn.ac.uk/bestiary/</a>. The project was supported by the Aberdeen Humanities Fund at the University of Aberdeen.

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From The Aberdeen Bestiary:

The **swan** is totally white and has a wonderfully melodious voice. The story about the swan's song, often repeated, is untrue. The animal depicted is the mute swan. The characteristic knob at the base of the beak should be black instead of white as shown here. The swan, olor, is the bird which the Greeks call cygnus. It is called olor because its plumage is wholly white; noone can recall seeing a black swan. In Greek olos means 'entire'. The swan is called cignus, from its singing; it pours forth the sweetness of song in a melodious voice. They say that the swan sings so sweetly because it has a long, curved neck; inevitably, a voice forcing its way through a long, flexible passage produces a variety of tones. They say, moreover, that in the far north, when bards are singing to their lyres, large numbers of swans are summoned by the sound and sing in harmony with them. But when, at the very end, the swan dies, it is said to sing very sweetly as it is dying. Likewise, when the proud man departs this life, he still delights in the sweetness of this present world and, dying, remembers the evil he has done.

The **bat**, a lowly animal, gets its name from vesper, the evening, when it emerges. It is a winged creature but also a four-footed one, and it has teeth, which you would not usually find in birds. It gives birth like a quadruped, not to eggs but to live young. It flies, but not on wings; it supports itself by making a rowing motion with its skin, and, suspended just as on wings, it darts around. There is one thing which these mean creatures do, however: they cling to each other and hang together from one place looking like a cluster of grapes, and if the last lets go, the whole group disintegrate; it a kind of act of love of a sort which is difficult to find among men.

#### THE PASSION (2015)

SUK-JUN KIM

The Passion, 4-channel electroacoustic music composed during my residency at VICC, Sweden, in January 2015, uses the recording of a poem written and read by Imogene Newland by cutting up and playing sounds randomly using Extempore, a program language often used in live coding. The title of the piece is loosely based on Andrei Tarkovsky's *Andrei Lublev*, a film that has hugely influenced the composer before and during the process.

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