



Susie's preparatory sketches for Natural Progression

INSTALLATION ON THE LOWER BIRCH LAWN: NATURAL PROGRESSION *Susie Brown*

This sculpture, made from 600 shoots of black bamboo (*Phyllostachys nigra*), creates a stage for dancers and musicians. *Natural Progression* reflects the natural growth pattern and life cycle of a plant revered for its many uses, highlighting the need for a symbiotic relationship between people and our biological habitat. After flowering this black bamboo dies with sometimes devastating consequences for people depending on the plant for food and building materials. But the natural cycle of flowering and death leads to another cycle of new life and new growth. www.susiemaroon.co.uk

Susie Brown, an artist and designer, uses sustainably sourced and produced materials whenever possible to explore our human relationship with the environment. Since graduating from Gray's School of Art, Aberdeen in 2002, Susie Brown has worked with film, textiles, paint and graphic design. Her film, *Rootes*, won best film award in *Triptych* in 2004. Her installations featured in solo exhibitions in Edinburgh in 2005 and in Aberdeen in 2005 and 2006. In 2007 she was awarded an artist's residency in Spain for the Festival Internacional de Arte Pirinio.

Installation on display from 14 – 29 June visit: imapimap.com/windandbamboo for more information

Nowadays a lot of artists are very specialised and focused on their own art form. We may spend a lot of time studying just one part of the jigsaw puzzle. We need many different voices to help us find the bigger picture. Kimho Ip

In a funny kind of way you are talking about conservation, about keeping what is best in the world. In conservation biology there is a widespread view that keeping all the pieces, all the parts of nature, is very important to our survival. Stephen Blackmore

BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS PERFORMING

Kimho Ip, composer, musician and director of *Dialogues of Wind and Bamboo*. Originally from Hong Kong, Kimho studied in Germany and Scotland and now works in the UK as composer, director, producer and Yangchin performer. As creative director of iMAP (Intercultural Music and Arts Project) he explores interculturalism through music working on such projects as "Cathay House Blend" and multi-media work "Tea with Mahler". For Cinema China 2007, he composed a soundtrack for the historical Chinese silent film, "The Goddess". In 2008 he composed and performed "Song of the Fishermen" in the Five Circles series at Royal Opera House, London. www.kimhoip.com

FOUND are an arts collective / experimental pop band based in Edinburgh. They love working with sound and have undertaken a wide range of weird and sometimes wonderful projects. As a band, their members include: Ziggy Campbell, Tommy Perman, Kev Sim, Alan Stockdale and Gav Sutherland. As an arts collective they collaborate with many different artists. They have worked with Kimho Ip on several occasions – including his FEAST project which took place in August 2007. Kimho's influence is also evident on FOUND's current album *This Mess We Keep Reshaping*, where they sampled his yang-chin and reference a 1930s Shanghai Jazz standard, *Shanghai Nights*. found.surfacepressure.net

Shanghai Jazz Project are Lynn Sampsell, Jess Abrams and Kimho Ip. Jess is a jazz singer (and like Lynn, a former New Yorker). Lynn, a rock bassist and songwriter, has a special interest in Chinese culture. With Kimho they share an interest in intercultural dialogue, crossing diverse musical styles. The idea of performing Chinese jazz from 1930s Shanghai offers exciting challenges. The Shanghai Jazz Project was launched for Chinese New Year celebrations in Edinburgh in 2007. Since then, the three musicians have developed their interpretations of the songs and explored the historical and cultural context of the music.

IN DIALOGUES OF WIND AND BAMBOO

Harmony Chinese Ensemble was founded in 2002 by Yanmei Wu and Eddie McGuire following informal music sessions. Their collaboration, bringing together Harmony and Scottish folk group, Whistlebinkies, in a new ballet *Tian di Yuan* for Celtic Connections was nominated for Pearl Award in 2005. The group also collaborates with Kimho Ip's iMAP and Paragon Internationals. For *Dialogues of Wind and Bamboo*, the ensemble will be joined by guest musicians Cheng-Ying Chuang and Mei-Chi Law. Cheng-Ying Chuang a countertenor and zhongruan player (Chinese lute) from Taiwan, completed his studies in the Department of Vocal and Operatic Studies at the Birmingham Conservatoire in 2006-7.

Chang Zhang has a Master of Design from Edinburgh College of Art, with 13 years experience of being professional dancer and choreographer especially in Chinese Traditional and Folk dance. She has a degree in Dance Education and Dancing Performance from Beijing Dance Academy, where she also taught. Continuing her work in Scotland, she teaches at Dance Base, Phelan School of Dance, Edinburgh Chinese Community school at Telford College, and has successfully led dance workshops for St. George's School in Edinburgh and dance theatre in Dundee.

For more on Dialogues of Wind and Bamboo please visit our blog: imapimap.com/windandbamboo

Bob Lowey is the Founder and Principal Instructor of the 7 Stars School of Taijiquan which runs classes throughout Scotland. Bob has been involved with Chinese Martial Arts since the late sixties and founded this School in 1985. He was awarded Instructor of Wang Kung Shou Tao in 1979 and currently studies under Master You Xuande of Wudang Chang San Feng Academy, Wudang, Hobei Province China.

Anne-Marie Culhane, dancer and choreographer, performs solo and collaboratively across the UK. Her movement style is inspired by elements of Butoh, improvised and authentic movement. Much of her work is in response to different environments, architecture and atmospheres of place. Recent work includes a dance film commission for Groundwork East Midlands and Architecture Week in inner city Nottingham; a Swaledale Festival commission with the Fitzwilliam Quartet; collaboration with Miriam Keye (dancer) – Transglobal Duets at City Moves in Aberdeen. She has been collaborating with Kimho over the last four years. www.amculhane.co.uk



Three Pieces in construction: a yang chin being played by robotic bamboo fingers in the workshop

INSTALLATION IN TEMPERATE PALMHOUSE: THREE PIECES *Ziggy Campbell & Simon Kirby*

This installation is a collaboration between robots, traditional instruments, and living things. A traditional Chinese dulcimer is played by a robot with many bamboo fingers while the surrounding foliage hides an ensemble of robotic chimes. Despite being separate individuals, the robots communicate and perform together. Their mood alters with atmospheric changes as plants absorb moisture from the soil and air temperature changes as people (and other animals) move within the space. You are part of the music – the result of unpredictable interactions between plants and people, robots and traditional instruments, composer and audience. www.foundelectronics.net

Ziggy Campbell co-founded the multimedia art collective (and later pop group) FOUND after graduating from art school. He has participated in residencies in Scotland, the Pyrenees, and Norway. As inventor of a unique hand-built musical instrument he will perform in New York in August. He formed FOUND Electronics with Simon Kirby.

Simon Kirby is Reader in the Evolution of Language and Cognition at the University of Edinburgh. His written works cover topics such as cultural evolution, human and animal communication, and the evolution of music. Previous collaborations with FOUND include the *Etiquette* installation for the Edinburgh Sculpture Workshop in 2007.

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