

[>> CLICK HERE to watch the Film](#)

based on

SIX THOUSAND YEARS OF SUNLIGHT

Poetry by GEORGE GUNN

EMBODYING THE PEATLANDS: FLOW

Music by EMILY & JOHN DE SIMONE

in collaboration with

MIRE TREND RESEARCH PROJECT

KIRSI LAURÉN & PAULIINA LATVALA-HARVILAHTI

THE DREAMING BOG

A ROBERT AITKEN FILM

SCREENSTORY by ROBERT AITKEN & ALISON STEWART

"6000 years ago...we light footed hunters slipped beneath the hill.
Time has put a stone in our mouth..."

An eco-poetic film on Climate Change told through the history and mythology of the Peatlands of Northern Scotland and the Mires of Finland - an exploration of the punishment and preservation by humankind on these vulnerable landscapes.

THE DREAMING BOG: THE VISION

The Dreaming Bog seeks to seed a new wave of discussion on Climate Change where humans are placed back into the heart and narrative of nature and honour that place. The film draws the viewer into the poetry of place, to engage with our environment at a more emotional level.

Gathered feedback from screening events will inform and enhance the process of creating further stories in film, whilst remaining true to the ethos of illuminating on our relationship to vulnerable landscapes; reflecting and recording on this pivotal period in our human history.



Film-maker:
Robert Aitken



Screenstory writer:
Alison Stewart

NARRATIVES

A Human Story

Human beings are storytellers. We respond with all kinds of narratives about our families, fights and fears in life. We use all manner of stories to make sense of our world and our place in it. The issue we face today is lots of information on Climate Change but we lack an effecting story on the fate of our civilisation with a narrative that has us firmly rooted in it.

Time for New Stories

We've known about the most direct sign of the emerging Anthropocene, global warming, for over 50 years and done little collectively to deal with it. Our global politics, economics and societies have all failed to drive any action of consequence to ensure the long term future of humanity. For a narrative that connects with people today we need a different approach. In short, we need new stories...

Stories in Film

The human aspect in any new story on Climate Change needs just as much attention as the science and data that informs it. THE DREAMING BOG, and future films, will harness the power of art & culture, science & technology and music & poetry; a creative and inventive approach that has been adopted by the filmmaking team to explore new ways of presenting stories and mythologies for this new era of environmental crisis we now live in.

We need new stories that reflect the epic struggle of humanity with Climate Change, stories that place us as participants with nature not as users and passive observers; stories that illuminate on our relationship with the environment, what we value, what we hold dear as human life. THE DREAMING BOG is the beginning of this story anthology.



Caithness Writer, Poet & Playright:
George Gunn



**UHI Environmental Researcher:
Magnus Davidson**

SCREENING EVENTS

Support and funding are required to take THE DREAMING BOG on a screening tour across Scotland, venues in the UK and Finland. The producers are keen to promote the film to diverse and inclusive audiences, in urban and rural areas, with three screening partner hosts in mind:

1. National Art, Culture and Film Orgs/Festivals
2. Regional, Local Community and Interest Groups
3. Education and Environment/Climate Change Organisations

Open to All

It is vital that any new discourse and discussion raised through the film on Climate Change is not prohibitive to anyone to attend. In this we wish to:

- Raise essential funding to help facilitate an accessible film tour of events
- Coordinate a screening tour campaign with host partners
- Maximise resources and audience attendance and participation
- Engage with communities about relationships with the 'Carbon-rich' Peatbogs.
- Covering all associated events costs
- Cover associated publicity and marketing costs



**Ethnologist, Researcher & Writer:
Cáit O'Neill McCullagh**

Live Screenings

Live discourse and discussion will be encouraged at screening events as well as online platforms. This will enable key areas of topic engagement including:

- An outlet for voices after a period of a collective pandemic
- Inclusive content; everyone needs an opportunity to watch and respond
- Putting people face-to-face with Climate Change themes
- Involving communities in the discussion and debate
- Cross panel discourse



Timespan Heritage & Digital Curator:
Jacquie Aitken



Mire Trend Project Researchers, Finland:
Pauliina Latvala-Harvilahti & Kirsi Laurén



Future Films

THE DREAMING BOG is the beginning of an ecopoetic filmed story, set within a larger body of planned work, that continues our exploratory journey and builds on the collaborative content and narrative of the inceptive film. Audiences can look forward to:

- The remaining evocative stanzas of George Gunn's modern epic poem
- Testimonies and expert views highlighting natural and human driven climate-based activity
- Collaborative storytelling from peatlands around the world
- Cross culture science, art, archaeology, mythology, music, and ethnology etc.
- Humanity-centric stories around people, place, and community
- Expanding on the global importance of bogs, mires, and peatlands
- Enquiry into our energy needs, materialism, and waste culture
- Investigating future living scenarios and predictions
- Examination of Climate Change concept myths - wilderness, remoteness of landscapes etc.

Key Film Principles

THE DREAMING BOG was created as a multi-partnered collaborative project. This collective ethos of creativity and story-telling will continue to drive the filmmaking process by:

- Allowing diverse filmed production opportunities
- Engaging with communities and groups
- Connecting local to international audiences
- Offering opportunities for involvement and skills training
- Extensive public screenings as well as streamed media

PROJECTED COSTS & OUTCOMES

Screenings & Community Events

THE DREAMING BOG will bring audiences together to enjoy a cinematic experience and engage in meaningful discourse and discussion during the after-film community events.

Screenings, Projected Costs & Funding Opportunities

- Targeting an initial film screening live tour of approx. 20 selected locations around Scotland
- Support film festivals, online screening events and video link conferences
- Funding is required to cover venue cost, transport, screening equipment, publicity, and event marketing
(We are aware that not all venues will have suitable screening equipment, audio capabilities, and IT support)
- Offering film screening equipment kit to use in the longer term and as part of the film legacy.
- Sourcing diverse funding streams, as well as sponsorship, in-kind donations, and crowd-funding etc.
- Raising £50k in total to secure and facilitate the screening vision of THE DREAMING BOG.

Audience Outcomes

THE DREAMING BOG screenings event are expected to reach a live audience in excess of 10K. We anticipate high levels of engagement through our promotional channels and media interest, locally to internationally. The viewer interest is expected to range in excess of 1 million as a realistic outcome from all platforms.

Robert Aitken Filmproduction

[Hoy Waterfall Weather Phenomena \(micro-clip\)](#) >> **[CLICK HERE to read a Press Article](#)**

1000 Shares on social media with over 1 million clicks from people worldwide*

[Threads from the Deep \(short film\)](#) >> **[CLICK HERE to watch the Short Film](#)**

Facebook premiere with over 4000 attendees globally from over 40 countries*

**Statistics sourced from social media platform analytics and printed press coverage figures*

A Filmed Legacy

The serious debate around Climate Change has only just begun. It will ebb and flow as we come to terms with the great challenges in our future and the changes required. THE DREAMING BOG seeks to mark this era in our history by a constellation of stories and poetry, chronicling our journey as we look to a hopeful future. Whatever our dreams, portent, or paradigm...these eco-poetic films will be voiced and woven into a dreamscape narrative; a sensory journey; an imagining - echoing memory, language, history, and our relationship to mother nature's silent nurturer; the Carbon-rich Peatbogs.

THE DREAMING BOG **PRESS KIT, ONLINE MEDIA & CONTACT**

Film Press Kit can be found at this secure online link: [>> PRESS KIT](#)

Film Facebook page: [>> FACEBOOK](#)

Film on Instagram: [>> INSTAGRAM](#)

Film Web page: [>> WEBPAGE](#)

Highland News and Media Ltd. press article: [>> PRESS ARTICLE](#)

Social Media hashtags: **#thedreamingbog #thedreamingbogfilm**

For further media information and screening enquiries please contact Robert Aitken: robert@aitken.online