

SCOTTISH
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

Sponsored by:



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Electra Perivolaris

THE BLURRED LINES OF ARCHIPELAGOS

7 Feb – 7 Mar 2022 | *Part of SCO New Stories*

SCO.ORG.UK



PROGRAMME

Season 2021/22

THE BLURRED LINES OF ARCHIPELAGOS

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7 February – 7 March 2022



Electra Perivolaris The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos

Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra as part of the SCO New Stories.

Peter Nelson Conductor



SCOTTISH
CHAMBER
ORCHESTRA

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The Scottish Chamber Orchestra is a charity registered in Scotland No. SC015039.
Company registration No. SC075079.

The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos

PLAYERS AND CREDITS

VIOLIN

Aisling O'Dea

VIOLA

Felix Tanner

CELLO

Philip Higham

FLUTE

Emma Roche

OBOE

Fraser Kelman

CLARINET

William Stafford

BASSOON

Anthea Wood

PRODUCED BY

EikCaffery Creative

Electra Perivolaris

Lily Caunt

AUDIO

Phil McBride,

The Sonic Lodge

FILMED AND EDITED BY

John EikCaffery

ADDITIONAL CAMERA

AND THANKS TO

Ryan Bain

With thanks to SCO Associate
Composer Anna Clyne and Storyteller
Janis Mackay for their mentorship
through the SCO New Stories scheme
in association with TRACS

TRACS TRADITIONAL
ARTS-CULTURE
SCOTLAND

Anna Clyne
SCO Associate Composer



WHAT YOU ARE ABOUT TO HEAR

ELECTRA PERIVOLARIS (b.1996)

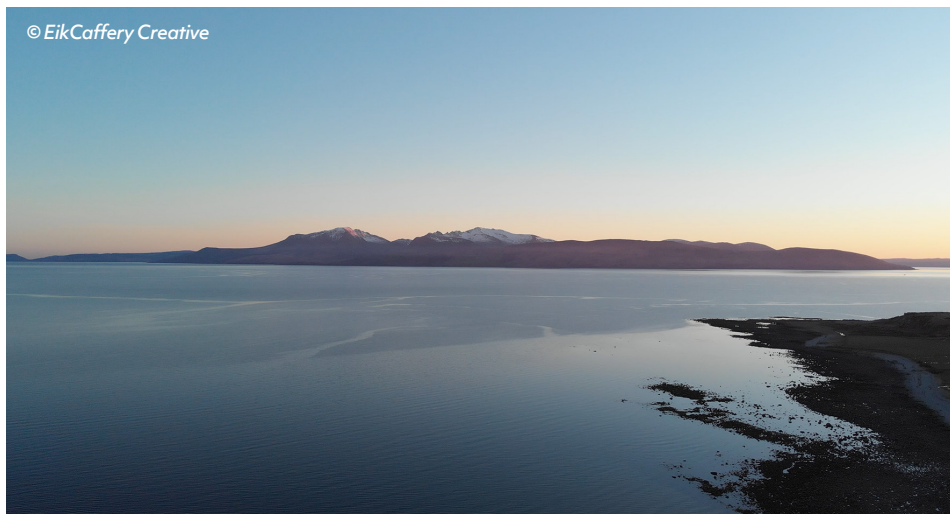
The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos
(2021)

*Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra as
part of the SCO New Stories.*

Through my interest in traditional Scottish storytelling, I became aware of the liminal space that storytelling often seems to inhabit, crossing thresholds between the realms of fantasy and reality, between the old and the new, between the human world and the animal kingdom, and between diverse world cultures. In the piece of creative writing which I crafted in the early months of the New Stories scheme, I dissolve the boundaries between my two island heritages, of the Scottish islands and the Greek Aegean islands. I brought together mythology from both Scottish and Greek cultures, weaving my version of the Scottish myth of the selkie, a seal which takes on a human form on the land, with an original version of the Greek myth of Pandora, told from a female perspective. These approaches to storytelling were influenced by Janis Mackay's 'Global Lab' event in the Scottish International Storytelling Festival and Natalie Haynes's book, 'Pandora's Jar'.

The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos is influenced by the piece of creative writing, and by traditional Shetland folk music, Gaelic psalm singing, and Greek Cretan Lyre traditional music. Through the piece I link elements from these different folk musics to create a new musical language which might conjure a shifting island seascape, influenced by my mixed cultural identities, and blurring between the Shetland islands of my childhood, the home of my Greek family in the Aegean islands, and my current home in the West of Scotland, on the Isle of Arran.

The piece follows the narrative, images, and sounds explored in the piece of creative writing, starting with music which portrays the pulsing sea and the energy of the Shetland and Aegean islands. The piece then moves into a section formed of pitch bends which are



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reminiscent of the plaintive calls of seals, and these seal calls develop into long, fluid lines. The ensemble shifts between unison moments and thick textures formed of interweaving lines, like a single, extended instrument, or like the voices of Precentor and Congregation in Gaelic psalm singing. A wordless selkie song opens out in the viola and expands through the whole ensemble, until the oboe takes on the character of Pandora, breaking free and leading a free time section formed of fluid cascades of sound.

SCO New Stories

The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos was composed for the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, through the SCO New Stories scheme for emerging women composers. The New Stories scheme is centred around exploring the links between storytelling and composition with mentoring from composer, Anna Clyne, and writer/storyteller, Janis Mackay.

Composer

ELECTRA PERIVOLARIS



Electra Perivolaris has been described as “one of a new generation of female trailblazers” by BBC Radio 3’s Verity Sharp, a “Classical Star of the Future” by BBC Introducing, and “one of the most exciting composers emerging in Scotland today” by Sir James MacMillan. Following studies at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, Electra recently graduated with Distinction from the Master of Music degree at the Royal Academy of Music, London, where she won the Diploma of the Royal Academy of Music Award in Composition. Electra was profiled by The Scotsman in their ‘Ones to Watch in 2022’ feature.

Website: www.electraperivolariscomposer.com

Twitter: [@EPerivolaris](https://twitter.com/EPerivolaris)

Instagram: [@electraperivolaris](https://www.instagram.com/electraperivolaris)



The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos is part of the SCO New Stories scheme, which supports three women composers to bridge the gap between study and the profession by providing them with mentorship.

Three exciting new Scottish voices. Three vivid new works of musical storytelling. Electra Perivolaris, Gillian Walker and Georgina MacDonell Finlayson have each written a brand new work for SCO musicians, inspired by the traditional Scottish art of storytelling, and receiving their world premiere performances online to coincide with Scotland's Year of Stories.

The three exceptional young women composers have worked closely with the SCO's Associate Composer Anna Clyne in writing these dramatic new pieces as part of the Orchestra's New Stories project, creating tales that draw on their own lives and experiences in collaboration with writer and storyteller Janis Mackay.

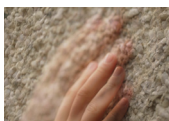
Three compelling new voices, and three compelling approaches to stories in music: be among the first to experience these new sounds and ideas.



Electra Perivolaris

The Blurred Lines of Archipelagos

Mon 7 Feb - Sun 6 Mar



Gillian Walker

White City

Mon 21 Feb - Sun 20 Mar



Georgina Macdonell Finlayson

Do you remember when the rain came?

Sat 5 Mar - Mon 4 Apr

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Thank You

FUNDING PARTNERS

The SCO is extremely grateful to the Scottish Government and to The City of Edinburgh Council for their continued support, and we would like to thank Dunard Fund for the foresight and understanding which their Trustees showed by supporting us through the exceptional gifts they granted in 2020 and 2021. We are also indebted to our Business Partners, all of the charitable trusts, foundations and lottery funders which support our projects, and the very many individuals who give financial support to our work and who enable us to do so much. Thank you.

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Our Principal Conductor's Circle is made up of individuals who share the SCO's vision to bring the joy of music to as many people as possible. These individuals are a special part of our musical family, and their commitment and generosity benefit us all – musicians, audiences and creative learning participants alike. We would like to extend our grateful thanks to them for playing such a key part in the future of the SCO.

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Monthly or annual contributions from our donors make a real difference to the SCO's ability to budget and plan ahead with more confidence. In these extraordinarily challenging times, your support is more valuable than ever.

For more information on how you can become a regular donor, please get in touch with Mary Clayton on 0131 478 8369 or email mary.clayton@sco.org.uk.

[SCO.ORG.UK/SUPPORT-US](https://sco.org.uk/support-us)

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