

NATIONAL TRUST FOR SCOTLAND MEDIA RELEASE

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For immediate release

Pitlochry Festival Theatre and the National Trust for Scotland collaborate on sound installation at Moirlanich Longhouse

In a new collaboration between Pitlochry Festival Theatre and the National Trust for Scotland, a specially-commissioned soundscape, has been installed at Moirlanich Longhouse, a beautifully conserved byre dwelling nestled in Glen Lochay near Killin. The installation can be heard until the end of September and then again when the property reopens in the Spring after its winter break.

Owned and managed by conservation charity, the National Trust for Scotland, the Longhouse offers a unique opportunity to visit a traditional rural home, virtually unchanged since its last inhabitant left in 1968.

The soundscape is the first in a series of projects between the Trust and Pitlochry Festival Theatre and is designed to enhance visitor experience and connect them with people in the past.

For the project's lead, Amy Liptrott, Associate Director at Pitlochry Festival Theatre, Moirlanich Longhouse is a time capsule. "It really felt like the outside world had been paused when I went inside. I knew immediately I wanted to create a soundscape inside the house to bring the sense of the hustle and bustle a busy, working house would have had."

The installation, which was created by sound designer Fraser Milroy features the voices of three actors; Elspeth Turner, Iain McRae and Fergus Munro. Visitors can hear residents going about their daily lives, minding the fire, laughing, talking, singing, milking and praying before bed. The soundscape hints at the world outside too.

According to Amy, she wanted to share the trials and tribulations of people from the past with people now and show that we're really not that different. She said: "The people who lived in and around Moirlanich Longhouse for 200 years between the early 1800s to late 1960s were skilled, in-tune with nature, got hungry and thirsty, wept at loss, rejoiced and celebrated, and didn't always mind their manners."

NTS' Eleanor Murray said: "The project at Moirlanich Longhouse brings the site to life through the sounds of the past and lets us hear the echoes of the people from the past. Since being installed in early September, visitor feedback has been positive, with comments mentioning that it was like listening to the ghosts of the house and that they'd taken more time looking about the rooms and thinking about the inhabitants lives. It really does make you experience the property in a different way and connects us with the people who lived and worked in this extraordinary place."

ENDS

Free use images show the Moirlanich Longhouse.

Issued on behalf of National Trust for Scotland by Frame PR. For media enquiries contact: Rory Weller, 07841 720 006, rory.weller@framecreates.co.uk

Editor's Notes:

The National Trust for Scotland

The National Trust for Scotland is the conservation charity that over 90 years has saved, maintained, and shared many of the country's most loved places, rich with history, heritage, nature, and culture. The charity celebrates Scotland's heritage and with almost 100 places in its care, there's a place for everyone to love.

The National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work of caring for the natural and built heritage that people from Scotland and across the world all love, ensuring its future for everyone to enjoy.

From coastlines to castles, art to architecture, wildlife to wildernesses, the National Trust for Scotland protects the national and natural treasures we all love. Support the National Trust for Scotland and help them protect the places we all love Become a member at www.nts.org.uk.

We would be grateful if, when referring to the National Trust for Scotland that our name is not shortened to 'the National Trust'. We are an independent organisation, separate from the National Trust. The National Trust for Scotland is commonly shortened to NTS or 'the Trust'.

About Pitlochry Festival Theatre

Theatre for Everyone. Theatre for a Lifetime

Our mission is to create, nurture and inspire.

We actively seek to embody our values (empathy, respect, integrity, creativity, collaboration, inspiration) in all encounters and communications.

Established 1951, PFT offers a unique theatrical experience, operating a daily repertoire system in the summer which means that audiences and visitors can enjoy six different productions (all performed by a resident acting company) in six days.

The BOP/Whetstone Feasibility Study of PFT (2012/13), commissioned jointly by Creative Scotland, Perth & Kinross Council and Scottish Enterprise, confirmed the conclusions of the 2007/8 Economic Impact Study of PFT carried out by Scottish Economic Research: PFT makes an annual contribution to Scotland's economy of between £13m and £20m, whilst every public pound invested in PFT produces a return of between £17 and £20.