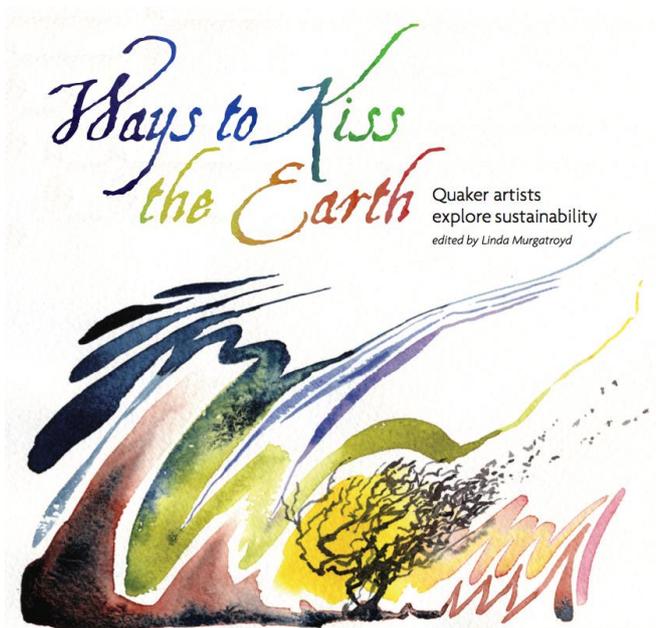


Quaker Arts News **QAn**

September 2020



First QAN book published: *Ways to Kiss the Earth*

We are delighted to announce that this little book is now published. It draws on last year's Seeking Routes exhibition at Swarthmoor Hall, curated by Sally Oliver, and presents works by 26 contemporary Quaker artists responding to the challenges of environmental breakdown, in a diversity of styles and media.

The art (40 colour images) is accompanied and enhanced by brief statements by the artists and presented under themes of: Wonder and reverence; Spiritual and creative processes; Climate emergency; Simple and sustainable; Witness and activism. A final section illustrates the beginnings of the *Loving Earth Project*, a community textile project aimed at helping people to engage creatively with environmental issues without becoming overwhelmed.

We'd love to see more online events for Friends to explore what we can say in relation to a different art form together. Please get in touch if you'd like to offer one or be involved.

Any events connected with Quakers and the arts can be added to our website at <http://quakerarts.net/events/> . Please add others to help publicise them. They will be moderated so will not appear instantly. If you have difficulty, email us.

Arts contributions for consideration for BoD Review invited

The Book of Discipline Revision Committee is inviting and and sharing possible contributions to the new BoD. More information and some of the contributions can be seen at <https://padlet.com/bdrc/OpenToNewLight>

The BODRC writes: At Yearly Meeting Gathering in Bath, the revision committee planned to invite you to draw, paint or write something for inclusion in a hard copy book which would contribute to our ongoing work. The postponement of YMG has inspired us to invite you to contribute to an electronic version of this, which will be used in our work in the coming months and years. Contributions from Quakers of all backgrounds, ages, religious perspectives within Britain Yearly Meeting, are welcome. It would help us if you could let us know your first name, initials and Local/Area Meeting, or Quaker body to whom you are attached. If you prefer not to use the website you are welcome to email your contributions to us opentonewlight@quaker.org.uk or send them via post to BDRC: Open to new Light, Quakers in Britain, Book of Discipline Revision Committee, 173 -177 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BJ

The project continues to grow with more workshops and local projects being organised in different parts of Britain and beyond. Friends and others have been busy making textile panels to bear witness to what we love, and what we are doing to help prevent further environmental damage and heal our fragile home planet.

Woodbrooke is now offering an online course based around this project, as part of their work on sustainability for BYM and workshops can be requested for particular groups. We hope that this will help Friends and others to engage creatively with sustainability issues without becoming overwhelmed. The website has a range of resources individuals and groups can use in their own way; they work well online or for groups meeting together.

Please consider whether anyone you know might be interested in joining the project. You might wish to organise an event for local Friends, or use the project as an opportunity for interfaith community building or outreach. In some places plans are being developed with local community groups (e.g. craft groups, environmental groups, church groups, community centres) for making panels over the coming dark months and with local displays in the spring prior to sending panels to join the main travelling exhibition.

More information at <https://lovingearth-project.uk>

To subscribe to the LEP newsletter, email lovingearthproject@woodbrooke.org.uk

Please like and share our postings [@LovingEarthProject](#) to support and publicise the project.

Online COVID peace dove workshops from South African Friends

Shane A Petzer from Barrydale Meeting in South Africa found QAN on Facebook and sent us information about his wonderful weekly Tuesday online workshops for making peace doves out of old plastic milk bottles. Some of them have even been turned into an installation in their vegetable garden! Thanks, Shane.

<http://www.magpieartcollective.com/magpiepeacedove/4594180221>

With Full Conviction

Neil MacDonald writes: This drama project is a Concern of Sussex West Area Quaker Meeting. In the near future, we'll be doing some crowdfunding to raise money to develop our second play *Realising the Magnolia*, which is based on the story of the man possessed by demons in St Mark's Gospel. It is an imaginative reflection using contemporary language and issues, and performances will be followed by a discussion and contemplation. We also need to pay our staff! Watch out for more details of this soon.

To listen free to our first play *With Full Conviction* or to view four short talks given by our writer, Neil, exploring the themes raised in the play, visit our website and follow the

instructions: <http://www.withfullconviction.com/>. And please like and follow our Facebook page to stay up to date with what we're doing: <https://www.facebook.com/withfullconviction>'

QUAKER ARTS NETWORK - opportunities for service

COVID -19 has affected us all in different ways, with some people working harder than ever and others finding we have more time on our hands at home. Many of those working in the arts have been particularly hard-hit . Many of us are revisiting priorities, and developing new ways of working and maintaining our communities and relationships with the world around us.

The QAN committee is no exception. Some committee members have less time than anticipated to serve and others are finding particular roles more demanding than expected. We would welcome offers of help with communications, social media, and perhaps admin or finance jobs. Basic IT communications skills essential.

Please get in touch quakerartsuk@gmail.com if you'd be interested in helping.

In Friendship,

Linda Murgatroyd, (clerk)

PS - Don't forget to keep an eye for news on the website and to put your events up there, and to post and share Quaker arts news via Facebook, if you can.

To unsubscribe or change your email address on the list, email us at quakerartsuk@gmail.com.

Contributions to future newsletters, news items for the website, or items that you have difficulty with posting on Facebook can be emailed to us at quakerartsuk@gmail.com.

This newsletter and past newsletters are available at <https://quakerarts.net/documents/> .

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