ACTING NOW

FOR THE SAKE OF THE WORLD
During the Fringe, in addition to hosting events and installations physically located within the Summerhall basement space, XR Edinburgh will be curating and promoting a parallel programme of transformative direct actions in the city guided by the mantra that “in the ecological emergency, no-one is a spectator.” The Summerhall space will act as a hub and incubator for these activities, workshopping Transformation pieces every Monday evening.

**THE POCHOIR DETACHMENT WORKSHOP**
A STENCIL PRINTMAKING WORKSHOP LED BY ARTIST JODI LE BIGRE

The Pochoir Detachment is an artistic working group of participants concerned with the current climate crisis. Inspired by French pochoir (stencil) studios of the early 1900s, we will come together to collaboratively create editions of original, handmade, stencilled prints which explore the climate and ecological emergency. Bring old paint brushes, stencil-cutting tools and ideas. Jodi Le Bigre is an Etching Technician at Edinburgh Printmakers and a Lithography Technician at Glasgow School of Art. Her work is informed by investigations into scientific thought and the disciplinary history of natural history, as well as by concepts such as ‘natural resources’ and ‘wilderness’.

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**STAND UP AGAINST EXTINCTION**
STAND UP BY TOM NEENAN ET AL.

“Let’s go to the Winchester, have a nice cold pint, and wait for this all to blow over.” A night of stand up curated by Tom Neenan and inspired by our collective ability to retreat to the Winchester with our tails between our legs. Tom Neenan is a BAFTA nominated writer and comedian. He is head writer of BBC Two’s leading satirical show The Mash Report and star of his own Radio 4 series The Hauntening.

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**THE REBELLION WILL BE HARMONISED**
REBELLIOUS SINGERS’ SINGING AND SONGWRITING WORKSHOPS

Two workshops - a singing workshop and a songwriting workshop - will draw on original harmony songs written for XR, songs written for campaign choirs across the UK, and historical songs expressing solidarity with environmental and social justice campaigns around the world. There will be an opportunity to sing some of the songs learnt as part of a ‘Transformance’ - taking creative direct action out into the streets of Edinburgh. Jane Lewis is the song leader of Rebellious Singers and has over 25 years’ experience in leading radical singing groups and workshops.

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**THE TRUTH ABOUT SUPERHEROES**
THEATRE STAND UP BY MATTHEW TODD

Matthew Todd looks at the secrets and lies of his favourite blockbuster films and how, today, those superheroes might really save us all. Matthew Todd is a broadcaster, performer and award winning writer who was editor of Attitude magazine for 8 years and is the author of three books.

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**FRAGMENTED LAND, DR. DAMIEN GILLIS, FIONA RAYHER**
FILM SCREENINGS AND DISCUSSIONS PRESENTED BY TAKE ONE ACTION

‘This Changes Everything’ is the basis for this programme by Avi Lewis, who directed the film with the help of Naomi Klein. The film was released in 2015 and profiles seven Canadian communities who are fighting to protect their lands, water, and natural resources. The screening will be followed by a discussion featuring XR member Saul Kenrick, XR artist Muramatsu, XR artist Beck Elphinstone and XR artist Thomas Gotz.

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**WHERE DOES THE WISDOM LIE?**
PERFORMANCE BY KATE CLAYTON

Informed by a recent residency in the continental heat of Gorna Lipnitsa, Bulgaria, Kate’s performance responds to strategies of keeping cool adopted by the older inhabitants of the village and her fellow artists-in-residents. It asks, where does the wisdom lie? Kate is a feminist performance artist based in Glasgow whose interests focus on the visibility of older women, ageing, friendship and the collaborative process.

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**THE LAND THAT FORGOT**
POEM WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY LESLEY WILSON

The poem tells of a world where forgetting is at epidemic levels. In a world where the living no longer remember the songs of its soul and a way of saving it. The soundscape to this piece, created by Lisa Olsen, weaves together sounds recorded from the natural world, man-made sound and an original score by musician Ailie Robertson. Lesley Wilson’s work seeks to bring the stories of people who are often invisible and unheard in our society. Lisa Olsen is a responsive artist working between space and the sonic.

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**OCEANALLOVER: GUEST PERFORMANCE OUTDOOR PERFORMANCE BY OCEANALLOVER**

Oceanallover will make a guest appearance as part of XR at Summerhall during the Edinburgh Fringe. They will present elements of recent work near the front of the building. Beginning at 7pm on Saturday the 10th of August and lasting for approximately 30 minutes. The company Oceanallover often show their work in...
unusual locations and in collaboration with conservation groups, such as the Slovak Wildlife Society and the South of Scotland Golden Eagles Project.

SCRAH NIGHT: CLIMATE BREAKDOWN COLLECTIVE SHARING

SCRAH NIGHT CURATED BY MIM BLACK FEATURING LESLEY WILSON, LISE OLSEN, SUSANA MEDINA AND CHRISTIANA SPENS.

With the upwells of international civil disobedience creative responses to the climate crisis are percolating through. We invite you to a collective sharing of your creative process in any area, your ideas and scratchs of performance, writing or music. Mm Black is the media co-coordinator for XR Scotland and arts publicist at StorytellingPR and Summerhall.

ANTHROPOCENE ARCHITECTURE SCHOOL: CLIMATE EMERGENCY COMPLIANT CITIES NETWORKING AND PLANNING SESSION LED BY SCOTT MCAULAY

The Anthropocene Architecture School are hosting a hackathon in the spirit of getting what needs to be done urgently done in our time of climate crisis, greenwashed declarations and lacklustre government targets. By connecting key players in the sector with Edinburgh’s policy makers, we aim to foster connections and catalyse immediate actions that can be taken to make our city Climate Emergency Ready. XR Glasgow rebel, Scott Mcaulay, is an architecture graduate and founder of the de-centralised initiative, the Anthropocene Architecture School. He supports the work of the Scottish Ecological Design Association in various capacities.

RAGE BUT HOPE

PLAY BY STEPHANIE MARTIN, DEVELOPED BY FLORA SPENCER-LONGHURST

This new play by award-winning writer Stephanie Martin stages seven interconnected, vibrant and diverse stories taken from eye witness accounts from within the Extinction Rebellion uprising. Flora Spencer-Longhurst (Actor/activist) and Stephanie Martin (Writer/Activist) both share a single minded determination to make art that addresses climate catastrophe and instigate change across the community. Stephanie’s first play ‘Joy’, featured on channel4 news. Flora is an actor/musician combining her many years of experience as a performer with passion for XR to make this project.

EARTH ENSEMBLE

WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCES BY EARTH ENSEMBLE

Inspired by citizens’ assemblies, the Earth Ensemble is a non-hierarchical group of musicians, writers and theatre practitioners whose work puts XR’s aims into direct action. Their repertoire for the Summerhall exhibition includes: Earth Quake! (theatre about the climate crisis by writers including April de Angelis, John Farndon and Tamera von Werthern, with music from Ben Comeau and crew), Confessions of a Carbon Addict (immersive theatre by Earth Ensemble and Laura Lomas based on AA meetings) and Theatre of the Oppressed (drawing on methods developed by Augusto Boal in the 1970s which helped overturn fascist rule in Brazil. Earth Ensemble are reclaiming Boal’s techniques to use in the climate rebellion).

THE DEEP WEALTH OF THIS NATION, SCOTLAND: A FRAMEWORK FOR THOUGHT AND ACTION PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION LED BY ANNE DOUGLAS AND MARK HOPE

This presentation will explore XR’s demands in relation to a single artwork by Newton Harrison, The Deep Wealth of this Nation, Scotland (2017), with its call for a commons of natural resources and ‘the mind’. Our presentation will explore in what ways The Deep Wealth, in the context of a fifty year art ecology practice, addresses XR’s three demands: to speak the truth, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and halt biodiversity loss, and to create Citizens’ Assemblies to inform governance. Anne Douglas and Mark Hope are Trustees and Co-chair of Woodend Arts, a not-for-profit company which runs the Barn in Banchory, Aberdeenshire.

THE TALK: HEADINGS FOR EXTINCTION (AND WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT)

PRESENTATION BY XR REBELS

Come and hear us make our case for rebellion based on unequivocal climate and social science, and the belief that our world is absolutely worth fighting for, no matter what the odds.

INSECT WORKSHOPS AND PERFORMANCE

THREE DAYTIME PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS, AND EVENING PERFORMANCE LED BY MONSTER CHETWYND

Responding to themes of plummeting insect populations, specifically bees and butterflies, Monster Chetwynd will dedicate this day to the awareness of insects, weaving consideration of them into our day-to-day lives. Using recycled materials as well as willow and latex, participants will be making props for a collective performance on Sunday evening. Monster Chetwynd’s intermediate practice incorporates elements of folk plays, street spectacles, popular culture and Surrealist cinema. She was shortlisted for the Turner Prize in 2012 and exhibited at the Tate Britain, London (2018-2019) and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art, in (2018-2019).

BANQUET OF THE BEASTS

READING AND Q&A BY TIM COWEN

Join writer and XR activist Tim Cowen for a reading from his debut novel Banquet of the Beasts, a dark tail that explores the nature of power and the power of nature. XR Scotland member Tim is a longstanding campaigner on environmental and social justice issues. His debut novel, exploring issues around GM food and the rise of foodbanks, is a passionate call for a different relationship between man and beast.

AND AGAIN, SHOULD WE WASH UPON, LOCH AWE SHORE...

PERFORMANCE AND DISCUSSION LED BY GAVIN MACGREGOR

Responding to the work of Joseph Beuys, this event is a presentation exploring the inter-relationships between archaeology, art, anthropocene, a performance on encounters on Loch Awe shore, and a discussion on short term imperatives / long term visions. Gavin MacGregor is an archaeologist and artist, who has been exploring past dimensions of landscapes for over twenty years.

THIS BITCH CAN HEAL

PLAY BY TASMIN OMOND

Summer 2019: one of the hottest on record. Jack is on their way to join Extinction Rebellion protests that have taken over the city and captured London’s imagination. This is the movement that they have been waiting for and they are going to give it everything they have got. But will joining these protests be enough to avert catastrophe or does this existential threat need more than action for action’s sake? An intimate solo show told at the speed of a bike. Regenerative culture advocate member of XR’s media team, Tasmin, performed her debut of This Bitch Can Heal in the wake of the April Rebellion as part of the Otherland Festival at the Actor’s Centre in London.

TELL THE TRUTH

WORKSHOP BY TASMIN OMOND

The ‘Tell the Truth’ workshop is core to XR Spokespeople training and opens up a space for deep honesty about how and why we are responding to the climate and ecological emergency. From this honesty, we find new, brave ways to articulate our truth when speaking to the public and to the media about Extinction Rebellion.

XR IN COLLABORATION WITH UNFIX

TWO EVENINGS OF PERFORMANCE, FEATURING WORK BY PAUL MICHAEL HENRY AND JAMIE WARDROP, VIDIV, KAY MICHAEL, TAMSIN OSMOND ET AL.

UNFIX Festival use ecological catastrophe and climate change as levers to question everything about late capitalism, absurd inequality, rampant consumerism and humanity’s divorce from its own life support systems. By contributing gestures of love and snarls of outrage to XR’s programme during the Edinburgh Fringe, they ask: does it need to be this way? Is the path we’re on really fixed? UNFIX is an evolving festival of ecological performance, dance, music, film and discussion curated by Paul Michael Henry. Over the last four years it has put on events in Glasgow, New York and Tokyo. In 2019 UNFIX invited Extinction Rebellion to contribute to their primary festival in Glasgow.
The Extinction Rebellion exhibition at Summerhall moves in two directions. Encapsulated by Gabrielle Gillott’s Safe Haven installation, it moves inwards, observing innermost sensations of primal fear and emergency-mode thinking roused by an inadequate response to climate breakdown. It also moves outwards as a platform for constructive solutions, calling on all of us - artists, city councillors, young families, comedians, etc. - to resist what is not yet inevitable. In processional, collective pieces by Ocean all over, Earth Ensemble and Monster Chetwynd, surreal protest moves beyond the gallery and onto the streets, breaching the everyday and putting XR’s core tactic of vibrant and joyful nonviolent disruption into practice.