



***When Mountains Meet*** is a music and storytelling show inspired by real events with a vibrant live score influenced by South-Asian and Scottish music. Multi-role storytelling relates a woman's journey to find her father in Pakistan, her travels through his land and discovery that she is taboo in a culture to which she longs to belong. Despite seemingly insurmountable challenges, love eventually prevails.

*When Mountains Meet* premiered to sell-out houses at Celtic Connections festival in Glasgow, January 2023.

***"When Mountains Meet is a fascinating and richly enjoyable show... It tells a very personal story with great skill, feeling and insight, and opens up what should be an ever-richer theme for the arts in Scotland, as we become more aware of the myriad human links that bind our history and society here in Scotland to the story of Empire, and its long legacy".***

Joyce McMillan – The Scotsman Theatre Critic

[Watch the trailer](#)

[See the full performance from Celtic Connections Festival January 2023](#)

### Audience Experience

*When Mountains Meet* offers audiences an immersive experience that stimulates all the senses. It is richly visual, musically complex, tactile and tasty.

More like being invited to a party or a wedding than a show, audiences are welcomed by the cast, seated cabaret-style, meanwhile the band are on stage, improvising and warming up. During the performance, the audience are invited to make paper aeroplanes, to conjure memories while holding ancient stones from the Scottish Highlands, are served speciality kahwa tea and South-Asian sweets and encouraged to sit back and enjoy vivid swirling visuals projected onto the 'mountains' of the set.



Drawing on the tradition of generous Pakistani hospitality, audiences experience a warm, intimate, almost village-hall style friendliness, while simultaneously being offered first-class entertainment.

***"A vibrant, powerful, and immersive experience... from the moment I stepped into the theatre I knew I was in for an amazing treat"***

*Saqib Hazzaq, Colourful Heritage*

### Who is it for?

- Audiences who enjoy music from different cultures, human stories, sights, sounds, tastes and smells.
- Audiences who are not necessarily theatre-goers but might come to something that has music and food!
- Family audiences - recommended age 8+. (Our experience is that children really enjoy the show and its invitations to participate.)
- Diverse audiences interested in seeing their own communities on stage: South-Asian/Scottish/female-led.
- Audiences with access needs – it can be presented with BSL-interpretation and audio description.



**“Easily the best piece of immersive theatre I have seen in years”**

*Jideofor Muotune, Afrowegian*

**“We had no idea what we were coming to see and we were totally enthralled by the whole evening”.**

*South-Asian audience member*

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### More about the Music



The music is composed by violinist Anne Wood, whose personal story is at the heart of the show. Classically trained at the Royal Academy of Music, Anne later studied Ethnomusicology at SOAS and continues to train in sarangi and Hindustani vocal technique. Anne has previously written music for theatre including Liz Lohead’s *Mary Queen of Scots Got Her Head Chopped Off* (Lyceum Edinburgh). The band consists of Anne on violin, sarangi and tambura, Mary Macmaster on electro-harp and vocals, Rick Wilson on percussion, including chenda and tamboor-style drums, and Rakae Jamil on sitar. Conceived by Anne as a conversation between Scottish and South-Asian

music, it combines alap, raag, reel and strathspey, as well as English, Gaelic and Hindustani vocals.

You can [hear some of the tracks here](#).

**“Joyful crossover of music and humanity...straight to the heart”**

*Paul Bassett, Stageleft*

### Creative Team

Anne Wood  
Kath Burlinson  
Niloo-Far Khan  
Kate Taylor  
Mashal Peerzada  
Ali Maclaurin  
Louise Gregory  
Aqsa Arif  
Taylor Wilson

composer, ethnomusicologist, musician  
director, adapter, deviser  
dramaturg, co-director  
producer  
cultural consultant  
space & costume designer  
lighting designer  
digital artist  
vocal coach

### Practical Information:

The performance is approximately 75 mins with no interval.

Stage size: min 3.5 x 5m plus floor playing area 3.5 x 5m

Cabaret layout with 4/5 people per table. We tour the tables, chairs are required.

[Click here for detailed technical information](#)



### Community Engagement

The associated wraparound activity is a hybrid live/online engagement event led by our Cultural Consultant, Mashal Peerzada of Yellow Brick Creative Development, Lahore, Pakistan.

Using the theme of Father/Daughter relationships, female participants are invited use a range of exercises and experiences to consider their own relationships. At the end of the workshop, they are invited to write an unsent letter. It is especially applicable to venues wishing to engage South-Asian communities directly and meaningfully.

### What Next?

We seek interest from UK and international venues and festivals for touring, short runs or one-off engagements.

Contact: Kate Taylor, Producer, [katetaylorwork@outlook.com](mailto:kate.taylor@outlook.com)

**“Remarkable, beautiful, refreshing and soulful”**

*Daniel Donnelly, Mumble Music*