



Jane Lloyd Francis

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## Another Day in Borth

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This is an account of my impressions of another wild and windy day in Borth. The Cymerau Launch event. I was reminded of the soaking I got while meeting with Tom Payne yesterday, watching Hurricane Barney playing in Cardigan Bay

Walking to the source of the river Dyfi and then to the source of the river Leri was a sort of meditation, if that does n 't sound to self important.

I wanted to think about what it meant to be part of the Cymerau project, to be a hydrocitizen to create a project that might have some relevance.

The Dyfi and the Leri encompass the landscape that the project is drawing on, they cradle Gors Fochno – Borth Bog in watery arms before escaping into the sea.

I hoped to bring a token of the wild mountainous landscape that birthed these rivers to the sea level launch of this significant local project.

I had been experimenting with clay to make something to hold/contain these source waters, as a water pilgrim my initial attempts to make something resulted in a ceramic scallop shaped vessel that could be worn around the neck inspired by medieval pilgrim ampoule.

Meanwhile Jenny Hall had been commissioned to build a sea urchin, a wonderful land born but seaworthy pod to be ceremoniously launched from the Victoria Inn, setting afloat the Cymerau project.

My part in this was to pour a single drop of mixed source waters in to the waiting hands of dancer Jo Shapland who then rolled this drop through many transformations until it became the urchin, which she then sailed out to sea.

The urchin made me smile, it made me want to be in it to playing in the waves released into moments of joyful escape and laughter. From inside the urchin the landscape is framed in willow segments, which dance about in a very satisfying way.

My abiding memory of the event was of Cor Y Gors conducted by Nick Jones, as they stood against a gray and grumbling sea, hair whipping across their faces, totally focused on their leader, who stood eyes closed feeling for the rhythms of his composition. The audience, mainly friends and family living in the community were captivated; it was a moment of symbiosis. The choir sang music inspired by the unique Borth landscape, back to the people who live within it.

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This is really lovely Jane!



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