

Asunder

JOHNSON, Esther <<http://orcid.org/0000-0001-8884-4192>>

Available from Sheffield Hallam University Research Archive (SHURA) at:

<https://shura.shu.ac.uk/17499/>

This document is the Presentation

Citation:

JOHNSON, Esther (2017). Asunder. In: The Sound Of Memory Symposium: Sound-track / Sound-scape 2017, Whitechapel Gallery, London, 22nd April 2017 - 24th April 2017. (Unpublished) [Conference or Workshop Item]

Copyright and re-use policy

See <http://shura.shu.ac.uk/information.html>



2016 commemorative project for the centenary of the Battle of the Somme, with a particular focus on the North East

Primarily funded by:
14-18 NOW WW1 Centenary Art Commissions across the UK and
 Sunderland Cultural Partnership



PROJECT AIMS

- to uncover untold stories of WW1 with a focus on Sunderland and the North East of England
- to experiment with mixing archive with contemporary footage shot especially for the film
- to create a narrative that weaves oral history testimonies, diary entries and memoirs from those that lived through WW1 with newspaper stories published in 1914-18 editions of the *Sunderland Daily Echo and Shipping Gazette*
- to collaborate with musicians from the North East to create an original soundtrack to be performed live at the premiere

PERFORMANCES WITH LIVE MUSIC

Asunder sheet music



Conductor Hugh Brunt



Asunder premiere programme



Rehearsals and recording at Sage Gateshead




Asunder team with Royal Northern Sinfonia



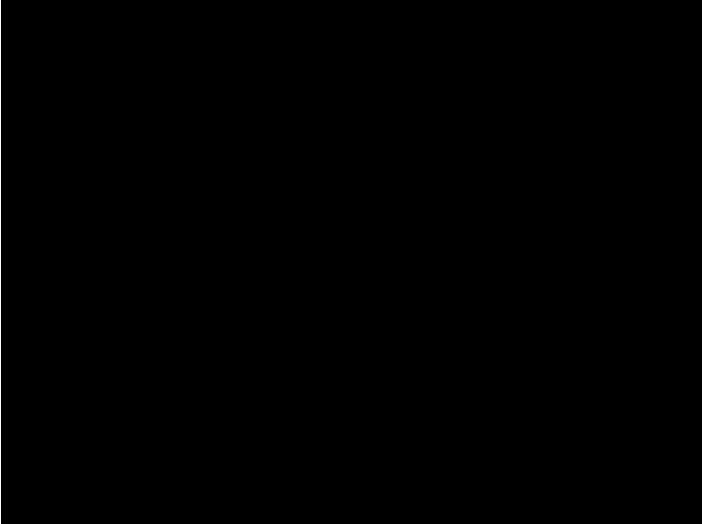
Performances with Live Music

PREMIERE – 10.07.16
Sunderland Empire Theatre
 Premiere included additional
Asunder inspired arts activities

Barbican London
 12.02.17



Asunder
 Sun 12 Feb, Milton Court
 Field Music and Warm
 Digits provide the live
 soundtrack to Esther Johnson's
 moving documentary about
 Sunderland during WW1



ARCHIVE RESEARCH



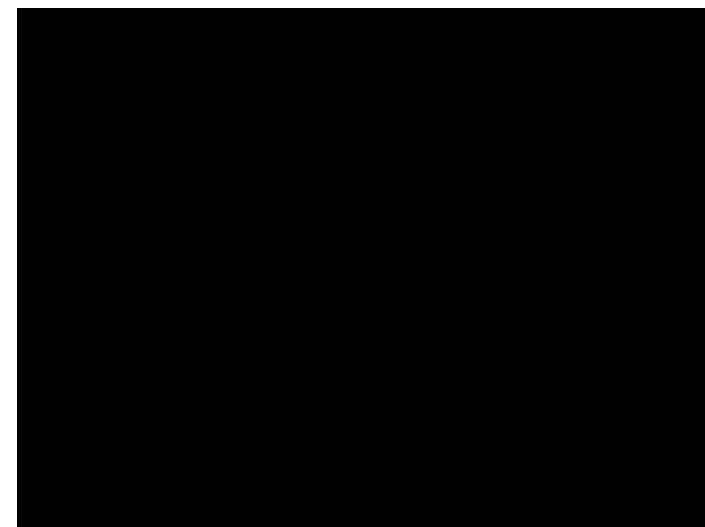
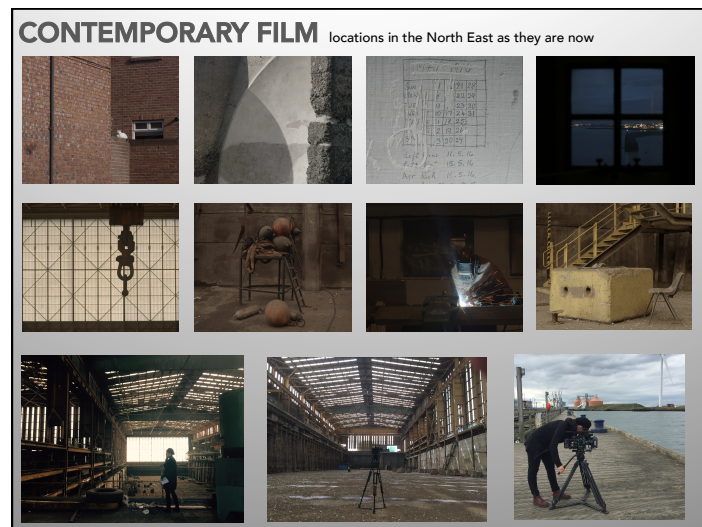
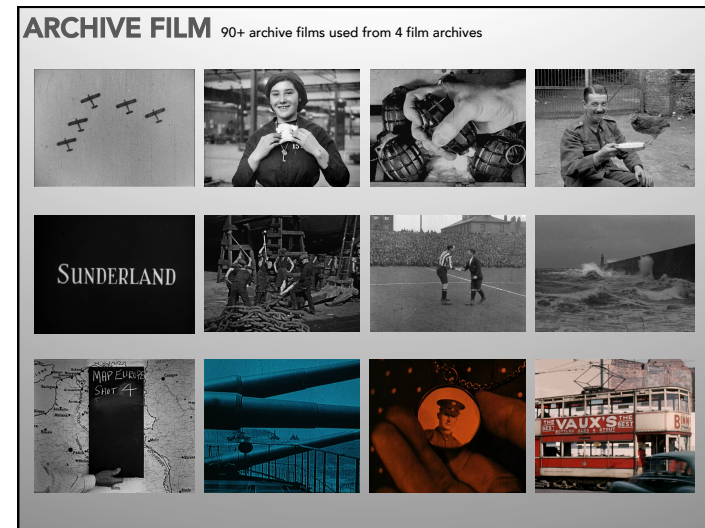












COMMUNITY SCREENINGS

Screenings taking place in locations in which the film characters once lived and knew:

e.g. Sunderland; Roker; Hendon; Blyth;
South Tyneside; Gateshead; Durham

CINEMA SCREENINGS

- Special screenings for schools
- Screenings with Q&As

Filmhouse Edinburgh 10.09.17

Sheffield Doc/Fest Date tbc

QUAD Derby 21.06.17

Tyneside Cinema Newcastle 21.05.17

Regent Street Cinema London 18.04.17

HOME Manchester 22.02.17

<http://asunder1916.uk/events>

2018 – Future performances include Sage Gatehead,
plus TV Broadcast and DVD release



a film by ESTHER JOHNSON
screened by FRED MURPHY and WARREN DIGGINS
with ROYAL NORTHERN SINFONIA
and THE GOSWOLD SISTERS

Community screenings 2017

Bank Of The Way 16 January

King's Hall 16 January

Whitton Parish Church 16 March

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

Stonewall Theatre 16 April

PREMIERE AUDIENCE FEEDBACK

"In the plethora of events marking the centenary of the First World War and especially the Somme, *Asunder* really stood out for me: its highly imaginative concept, brilliant storytelling, geographical and cultural specificity, above all its power to move and connect with the reality of events 100 years ago. A fantastic piece of work." – Michael Chaplin, Writer

"The film was meticulously researched and put together to evoke so many emotions, what a tribute... I think the resounding set of applause at the end of the show said it all!" – Vicky Willis, Sir James Knott Trust

"*Asunder* was phenomenal!"
– Brenda Graham, Sunderland Heritage Forum

"I thought it was amazing and loved every minute. The stories were so lovely and left you wanting to find out more – faultless."
– Louise Clamp, Sunderland Vibrancy Group

"The show was incredibly moving and powerful, I was very emotional at points."
– Lynne Patience, Sunderland resident

REVIEWS

"a fascinating kaleidoscope"

★★★★★ *Chronicle*

"very special indeed"

Living North

"*Asunder* casts its spell"

Sunderland Echo

AWARDS

Nominated for Focal International 2017

Best Use of Footage in a Factual Production

Nominated for Journal Culture 2017

Best Event of the Year

Shortlisted for Living North 2016

Performance of the Year

[@1916asunder](http://asunder1916.uk)

blanchepictures.com
esther@blanchepictures.com