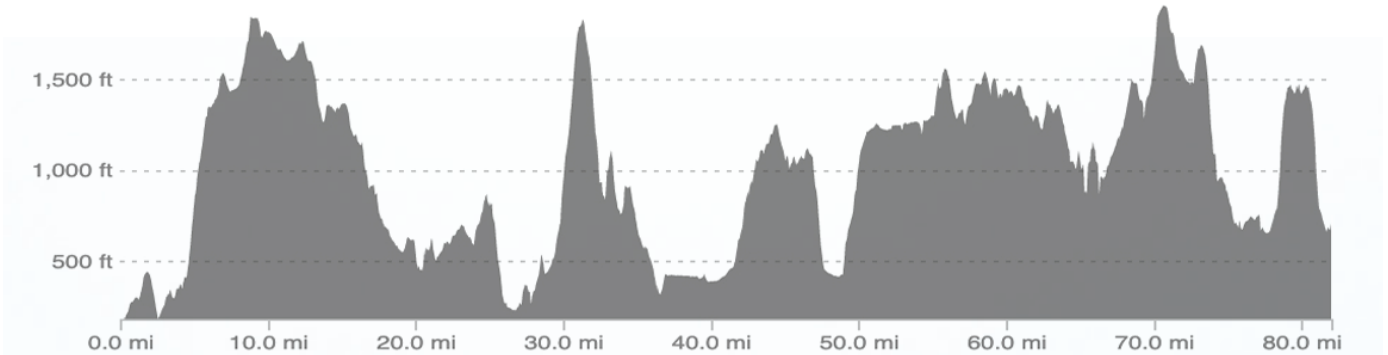


These Hills Are Ours



Daniel Bye & Boff Whalley

Do you ever want to run away from it all?

In story and in song, *These Hills Are Ours* is a story about escaping it all by running to wild places. Escaping the city, escaping your past, escaping the restrictions of upbringing or class or politics. It's a celebration of wild places and our freedom to roam them.



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Daniel Bye (Writer/Performer) is a theatremaker, writer and director from the north east of England. His award-winning, internationally touring solo shows include *The Price of Everything*, *Going Viral*, *Instructions for Border Crossing* and *Arthur*.

His work has been commissioned by organisations including Oxford Playhouse, Northern Stage, HOME Manchester and Leeds Playhouse. Recent directing includes *Sleeping Beauty* (Dukes Lancaster), *666 Comments* (Alikì Chapple), *Tensile Strength* (Holly Gallagher) and the Jarman Award-nominated *I Was Naked, Smelling of Rain* (Aidan Moesby).

Earlier directing includes work for Leeds Playhouse, Royal & Derngate and Red Ladder. In 2009 he directed *Play Up! Play Up!*, a show for I Love West Leeds Festival written by a certain Boff Whalley. Since then he has collaborated with Boff on a series of extremely large-scale site-specific community performance projects including *Wonderstruck* (Manchester Museum/People United), *We're Here* (Somerset House/King's College Cultural Institute) and *Everything There Ever Was*, the first and only show he's made to have its own AA brown sign.

He is an Associate Artist of ARC Stockton, a visiting lecturer at Lancaster University, and he is currently working towards a new solo show, two games (one outdoors, one online) and a book.

Boff Whalley (Writer/Performer) was born in Lancashire. He worked as a postman and supermarket shelf-stacker and dropped out of various colleges before starting the band Chumbawamba with friends in the Thatcher era. The band were together for over 25 years, in which time they straddled a variety of styles and ideas. After the band called it a day, Boff started to write music for theatre and community arts projects, coupling it with scriptwriting and choir-leading.

He has written several touring plays for Red Ladder Theatre and is working with Sarah Woods on a musical for Cardboard Citizens Theatre. He has also written large-scale musicals with residents of two East Leeds housing estates which were performed at West Yorkshire Playhouse. He has worked, often together with notorious theatre-maker Daniel Bye, on wide-ranging community-based projects in situations as diverse as

Manchester Museum, Somerset House and the Tate Gallery.

He has recently completed two modern operas for Welsh National Opera in collaboration with a Cardiff-based centre for refugees and asylum seekers. He has published two books (*'Footnote'* and *'Run Wild'*), writes for various magazines, runs Commoners Choir and has worked with comedian Mark Thomas on an alternative National Anthem.

Boff has been running on the fells and mountains since 1987.

Katharine Williams (Director, Lighting Designer) is a writer, lighting designer, and leader of projects. *These Hills Are Ours* is the first show she has directed, and working with Boff and Dan across the airwaves has been a touchstone during the pandemic.

Katharine has worked with Daniel Bye as lighting designer on: *Error 404*, *Going Viral*, *Instructions for Border Crossings*, *666 Comments*, and *Tensile Strength*.

Writing credits include: *Strangeways* (development with Stellar Quines); *Walk With Me* (Vault Festival, London).

Katharine was lead artist on the *Love Letters to the Home Office* project and was founder of *'Crew for Calais'*. She co-founded *People Powered* which ran in the UK to support the NHS and Frontline Services at the start of the pandemic.

Syeda Bukhari (Set) is a London based freelance prop maker. She completed an eighteen month apprenticeship program with the Royal National Theatre in 2015 and has since worked for multiple theatre companies such as The English National Opera, Shakespeare's Globe, The Royal Opera House and more. Her work has been featured in shows such as *'Angels in America - The National Theatre'* and *'Romeo & Juliet - Shakespeare's Globe'*. As a prop maker, Syeda is skilled in many fields such as carpentry, metalwork and sculpting. She is currently working on a giant elephant puppet for The Royal Shakespeare Company.

Louise Gregory (Production/Stage Manager) Credits include *The Believers Are But Brothers* (Javaad Alipoor); *salt.*, *Race Cards* and *The Missy Elliott Project* (Selina Thompson); *The Department of Distractions* and *Partus* (Third Angel); *Buzzcut Festival 2021*; and *Newcastle Fringe Festival 2021* (Alphabetti Theatre). She is Production/Health & Safety Director for *Moving Parts Puppetry Festival*. She also works as a Lighting Designer, and is Lead Artist on *NAVIGATE*, a programme for early-career Scottish artists from a disadvantaged or marginalized background to develop Covid-safe performances, including across new digital formats.

ARC Stockton Productions is a multi-artform performing arts centre in Stockton on Tees, in the North East of England. We are not a traditional producing theatre, but through our desire to present work that was contemporary and relevant to our audiences, we started to work more closely with artists – particularly theatre-makers – to support the development of their work.

Most of the theatre and performance work presented at ARC is now developed in association with us. Artists spend time in our building, often working with potential audiences during the development of their shows. This enables our audience development work to take place alongside the creative process.

We recognise that we cannot develop work in isolation, so since 2013 we have acted as producers for a small number of artists, to help them forge sustainable careers through touring their work. In addition to Daniel Bye, we currently produce Umar Butt, Holly Gallagher, Kitchen Zoo, Luca Rutherford, Scott Turnbull and Vici Wreford-Sinnott.