

AOIFE'S ONLY SON

Hammy Sgìth

"Hammy is making waves from Scrabster to the Solway Firth." The Scottish Sun

Aoife's Only Son is a collection of new songs in Gàidhlig and English inspired by the story 'Bàs Mac Chù Chulainn' from the literary epic *The Tain*. Following **Hammy Sgìth's** Sonic Bites in January, **Aoife's Only Son** invites you into the world of a wee boy who lived thousands of years ago. Fusing rap and dance music with traditional storytelling, Sgìth has created a playful performance that draws on his experiences of learning Gàidhlig and joining an online community of speakers during lockdown, making music for the craic.

"Aoife's Only Son was inspired by a bronze age story about a young boy who grows up without his dad, and then must fight everyone he meets. The audience can expect genre-hopping beats, witty lyrics and a modern take on old traditions" says Hammy.

"I'm excited to be working with Cryptic. After my first piece with them, Rachamaid, was finished, I bought the computer I made the album on. It feels like completing the story of the music."

Hammy Sgìth (aka Liam McCormick) was born in a flat in Glasgow, hopefully into a bathtub, in 1996. Before his first parents night he asked his mum to tell his teacher that he was done with school and that he was going to leave to become an Art Attackist. He left school at 16 and became a kitchen porter. His solo-work, *The Death of Aoife's Only Son*, was performed at the Tron Theatre in 2019. In 2017, he was cast as Billy in Louie from Hector Bizerk's play, *Inheritance*. He was also part of Radio 1xtra's Words First Programme, and he performed his work *Arms in Arms* live to over 3,000 people in the Roundhouse and it was broadcast by the BBC.

Additional television work includes football poems written for the Scottish and League Cup finals, for BBC Scotland and BT Sport respectively. In 2019, McCormick went to college to 'get his life back on track'. "Why Gaelic?" his Career Advisor asked him, pointedly. "Because I have been promised a sense of fulfilment by a lot of things. Food, beer, work, creativity, independence. But none of them work. What works for me is learning new words and using them to make memes with little lines above the letters and sending them into a group chat that is named after farming terminology from the Jacobite era. "S Hamaidh Sgìth a chanas iad ris, agus 's toil leis eachdraidh. Nì e Hip-Hop anns a' ghaidhlig agus faodaidh tu a lorg an ceol aige an-seo."

Thanks to: Granma Jean, Granda Karl, Coinneach, Dubhaltach, Ishbel, Keith, Konchis, Lucid Raccoon, Muireann, and Robbie Mcleòid.

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Coming up:

Emma Smith: *The Relentless Approach of Better Times*

The Relentless Approach of Better Times is Emma Smith's testimony to the importance of galvanised positive action in response to forced mass migration, climate change, and political corruption. An urgent and compelling solo double bass performance with electronics, it features film and recordings from Smith's work for Musicians Without Borders in Palestine & El Salvador. ***The Relentless Approach of Better Times*** offers a space to reflect on the effects of trauma and invites you to experience how music helps to bridge divides and connect communities in post-conflict areas across the world.

Thu 18 November // 20.00

£9/£6 + booking fee // CCA, Glasgow

Box office: 0141 352 4900 // cca-glasgow.com

[Cryptic Nights](#), presented in partnership with CCA, supports Scottish based artists with fresh ideas, crossing creative boundaries with live music, visual and sonic art. Since 2009, Cryptic Nights has presented over 300 artists.

[Cryptic](#) presents today's most imaginative, innovative artists whilst also nurturing the creative talent of tomorrow. We create memorable experiences that engage and inspire our audiences, 'ravishing the senses' with multimedia performances that fuse music, sonic and visual art.

Cryptic Angels

Nurturing creative talent is at the heart of everything we do

Since 1994, **we have programmed 1,100+ artists** whose work has been experienced by **over 456,000 people in 30 countries**. Emerging from the pandemic, more than ever before, we are depending on committed audience members like you **to help us to continue supporting artists to create new works**.

To find out how you can help, please visit our [website](#).

Thank you to our current Angels:

Gold: April Chamberlain, Martin & Jan, Derek Mitchell, Dame Seona Reid & Gina Wilson

Silver: Cathie Boyd, Eunice Crook & Allan Orr

Bronze: Paul Climie, Björn Heile, Mary Macleod & Douglas Scott

