



**PRESS RELEASE**

Patricia Fleming Gallery / Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute

[Available to download and listen to here](#)

[Transcript available here](#)

**Credits:**

Voices / Ilana Halperin, Andrew Patrizio & Veronica Geiger

Sound mix / Kaya Fraser

Mastering / John Harcus

Additional technical support / Charlotte Rogers

Design / After the News

As part of Glasgow International 2021 we are delighted to announce a new work by the artist Ilana Halperin. *Excerpts from the Library* is an audio field guide designed to take you on a journey from Glasgow to the Isle of Bute.

The field guide builds on Halperin's narrative performative lectures to tell a new story of love, lava, loss and the unexpected journeys that we now find ourselves on together. It also marks the artist's 20th anniversary of working on active, quiet and sleeping volcanoes. Listeners are invited to embark on a domestic geologic field excursion with the artist and contributors Andrew Patrizio and Veronica Geiger, which takes us into Halperin's solo exhibition *There Is A Volcano Behind My House*, Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute.

We encourage listeners to experience it whilst travelling, walking, working or engaging in other armchair expeditions. We recommend listening with headphones.

Commissioned in partnership with Mount Stuart Trust, with generous support from Creative Scotland.

Patricia Fleming Gallery is working off-site during GI - [Visit our viewing room here.](#)

*Excerpts from the Library* has been commissioned as part of Glasgow International 2021, 11 - 27 June 2021.

## **Ilana Halperin**

### ***There Is A Volcano Behind My House***

#### **Mount Stuart, Isle of Bute**

For one of her largest solo exhibitions to date, Ilana Halperin has created new works inspired by the geology of the island of Bute where she now spends much of her time. Situated throughout the house, four distinct yet contiguous series of sculptures, works on paper and textiles reference 'immigrant' minerals embedded in the fabric of the building, as well as geologic phenomena found on the island. Halperin describes this work as a constellation combining personal, poetic and corporeal responses to the house and island.

For over twenty years Halperin's work has explored the relationship between geology and daily life. Through drawing parallels between very personal events, for example when she was born or when her father died, with the birth of a volcano, she has allowed for a space to think about our place within the geological time continuum from a more intimate perspective. To articulate a corporeal sense of geological time, she forms sculptures using natural geological processes, which change within our own life spans - from high velocity calcifying springs in France to geothermal pools in Japan. Her work deals with geological intimacy, vivacity, and the uncanny fact that something as apparently inert and certain as stone was once liquid, airborne, ash and alive.

The exhibition runs from 6 June - 15 August 2021 in line with government guidelines.

Opening Hours: Mon - Fri, 12-3pm (last entry 2pm)

Pre-booking online is essential.

<https://www.mountstuart.com/arts/visual-arts-programm>

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### **About the artist**

Ilana Halperin (b.1973 in New York) is based between Glasgow and the Isle of Bute. She received her MFA from the Glasgow School of Art and her BFA from Brown University. Her work explores the relationship between geology and daily life. She combines fieldwork in diverse locations - on volcanoes in Hawaii, caves in France, geothermal springs in Japan, and in museum, archives and laboratories, with an active studio-based practice. She shares her birthday with the Eldfell volcano in Iceland.

Solo exhibitions include: *Minerals of New York*, The Hunterian, Glasgow and Leeds Arts University (2019); *The Rock Cycle*, Akiyoshidai Natural History Museum, Japan and touring (2019); *Geologic Intimacy*, Fujiya Gallery, Japan and touring (2017); *The Library*, National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh (2013); *Steine*, Berliner Medizinhistorisches Museum der Charité (2012); *Physical Geology: slow time*, Artists Space, New York (2009); *Physical Geology: part one*, Manchester Museum (2008). *The Library of Earth Anatomy*, a permanent commission at The Exploratorium in San Francisco opened 2017.

Her work has featured in numerous group exhibitions including: *Crystal Clear*, Pera Museum, Istanbul (2020); *Etre Pierre*, Musee Zadkine, Paris (2018); *The Forces Behind the Forms*, Kunstmuseum Thun, Switzerland and touring (2016); *Cristallisations - la naissance d'un ordre caché*, Musée du Cristal Saint-Louis curated by Centre Pompidou Metz, France (2015); *Allegory of the Cave Painting* curated by Mihnea Mircan, Extra City, Belgium (2014); *Estratos* curated by Nicolas Bourriaud, PAC Murcia, Spain (2008); *Sharjah Biennial 8*, UAE (2007) and *Experimental Geography* curated by Nato Thompson (2008-2011). Her exhibition *There Is A Volcano Behind My House* at Mount Stuart on the Isle of Bute was postponed due to Covid-19 and will open Spring 2021. *Felt Events*, a forthcoming volume on her work edited by Dr. Catriona McAra, will be published by Strange Attractor/MIT Press in Autumn 2021.

### **About Patricia Fleming Gallery**

Patricia Fleming Gallery was founded in 2012 in a former industrial building in Glasgow's Merchant City. It represents emerging, mid-career and established contemporary artists, covering a breadth of artistic practices. Since its opening the gallery has been committed to providing the support required for artists to take risks with their practice, while working closely with artists to develop a route to the market, often for the first time.

The gallery champions work that engages the public, while developing the conditions for adventurous collecting; socially engaged works, sculpture, installation, film and performance. December 2020, marked the beginning of its reconfigured programme, SHIFT, which includes the representation of new artists and exciting collaborations.

More info: [www.patricia-fleming.com](http://www.patricia-fleming.com)

**About Mount Stuart**

Mount Stuart is an extraordinary Neo-Gothic mansion on the Island of Bute, sitting between Glasgow, Argyll and Ayrshire on the Firth of Clyde. Since 2001, this unorthodox building has provided both the inspiration and location for an acclaimed Contemporary Visual Arts Programme. The Programme enables the Trust to promote and facilitate interest in the contemporary visual arts and bring exhibitions of international standard to Bute and Argyll. Each exhibition is complemented by a programme of events, publications and educational activities.

More info: [www.mountstuart.com/arts/visual-arts-programme](http://www.mountstuart.com/arts/visual-arts-programme)

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**About Glasgow International**

Glasgow International is Scotland's largest festival for contemporary art, taking place over three weeks every two years across the city of Glasgow. Renowned as a centre for contemporary art, the festival draws on the city's strengths as a vibrant and distinctive centre of artistic production and display. Combining the characteristics of a visual arts biennial with an open submission model for artists and curators based in the city, Glasgow International is a unique event in the European cultural calendar.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic the 2020 festival was postponed to 2021 and will now take place Fri 11 - Sun 27 June 2021.

[www.glasgowinternational.org](http://www.glasgowinternational.org)