

#MDXPD

PRODUCT DESIGN 2016

Middlesex University School of Science and Technology

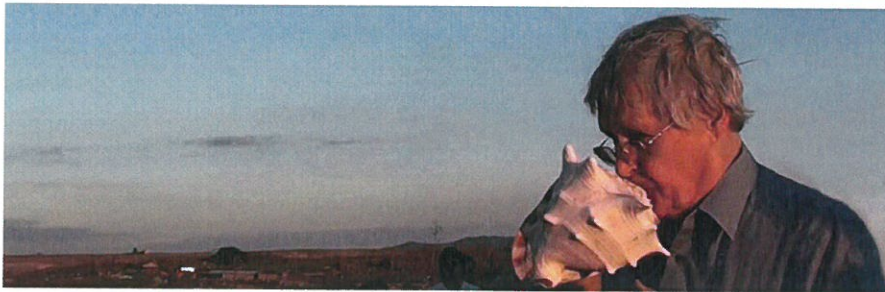


Middlesex
University
London

EMAP

The European Music Archaeology Project

Dr Peter Holmes, one of Department of Design Engineering and Mathematics' Designers-in-residence, has worked with Middlesex University over many years and rejoined us recently as part of EMAP, an exciting collaborative trans-European project



'Music is the "sound-evidence" of Europe's ancient common roots.'

DR PETER HOLMES is an engineer and trumpet player who has been making and playing reproductions of ancient instruments since the 1960s, while still an apprentice. Having completed his PhD in ancient musical instruments in the 1970s, he has continued researching, making and blowing ever since. Within EMAP, he is acting as consultant for instrument reconstruction and coordinator of the Ancient Brass Team as well as making, playing and talking about some of the brass instruments.

Long before the Old Continent became known as Europe and before the presumed "history of music" began, musical instruments played a key role in

creating a network of interconnections, cross-references and shared features among the various European cultures. The European Music Archaeology Project (EMAP) is the first organic journey from the sounds of Prehistory through to traditions which still survive today, taking us from very early music to the present day composer and blending archaeology and art, science and creativity.

Peter explains his, and Middlesex University's, involvement in the project: "I became involved with the project some five years or so ago when we first put the original application to the EU together. At that time, my connections with Middlesex were rather



weak as I had retired from there some ten years or so earlier. Previously, in 1978, I received my PhD from Middlesex Polytechnic/ Cambridge University and, I believe, this was among the first to be awarded by the CNAA at Middlesex. The topic was, of course, the design manufacture and performance of ancient European brass instruments.

When, much to our surprise in EMAP, we received a grant of some 4million Euros from the EU, I set out to re-establish my connections with Middlesex and met one of my former students, Prof Mehmet Karamanoglu who invited me to re-establish contact with the university as a Designer in Residence. The University

then became an Associated Partner in the Project.

Next, I met Spike (Neil Melton), Senior Technical Tutor at MDXDEM, who has been the kingpin in my relationship with the university. He was with me last weekend in Ystad, Sweden, when the exhibition was finally put together and opened.

Middlesex's contribution has been on many levels and many exhibits bear my, Spike's or Middlesex's name and we have used a wide range of technologies in the process. One exhibit, the Brudevaelte Lurs was actually made in Middlesex in the 1980s at Cat Hill!

Overall, my position has been as co-ordinator of the

'Ancient Brass Project', i.e., looking after all the brass instruments, research, acoustic design, physical design and manufacture.

The exhibition was due to come to the UK (Cardiff) in May 2018 but this has fallen through because of delays in the building which was to house the exhibition. I am now keen to find a new venue in the UK or we will lose this slot to another European country.

Middlesex University are Partners in **EMAP**

<http://www.emaproject.eu/component/content/article/35-barra/emap/112-associated-partners.html?Itemid=109>

For more information visit www.emaproject.eu & contact Peter by email peter@peterholmes.info