

# CCANW

## **Art, Ecology and the Economy exhibitor information**

### **Nigel Shaw**

Composer, musician and traditional flute maker  
Postbridge

Nigel Shaw has been based for 17 years on an ancient central Dartmoor farm that he shares with his wife/creative partner. He has been carving flutes and teaching flute-making for many years, and has adapted an original 1000-year old design into instruments that express the music of our own ancient landscape.



All of Nigel's work is directly influenced by the wild and raw nature of Dartmoor, the inspiration for his music as well as the source of all the timber used in the flutes. His art is part of a wider ethical and environmentally-sustainable approach used on his farm, including an extensive tree planting

programme, organic farming practices and the protection of rare habitats.

Nigel has worked for many years with indigenous/tribal musicians and artists around the world including Japan, USA, Russia and the Arctic region. Some of these projects link in with the charity Survival International that works to protect the land of tribal peoples and inevitably address the issues of climate change. He runs regular events at his farm (including Rivenstone Festival) that promote the work of both tribal and local Dartmoor artists around the theme of how we treasure, and remain in balance with, the natural environment. These events specifically support local businesses providing accommodation, catering and other services.

Nigel has always wanted his work to support itself financially and does not apply for or receive arts funding for any of his projects. He sees creative diversification as a key to dealing with economically fragile times.

*Art, Ecology and the Economy* was shown at CCANW's Project Space in Haldon Forest Park and Duchy Square Centre for Creativity, Princetown, in two simultaneous parts in Winter 2010. It was supported by Arts Council England, Devon County Council and Greater Dartmoor LEAF, incorporating funding from the EU, Defra, SWRDA and LEADER.

For more information contact CCANW, Haldon Forest Park, Exeter EX6 7XR  
T 01392 832277 E [info@ccanw.co.uk](mailto:info@ccanw.co.uk) W [ccanw.co.uk](http://ccanw.co.uk)

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