

Media release

THREE CULTURES CELEBRATED IN A FILM OF SONG AND STORY - TIME AFTER TIME

SHORT VERSION:

Time After Time is a symphony of images, an astonishing feat of true artistry, taking the music and the muses of three of the most ancient cultures and weaving them into a film of enormous, moving beauty.

After four years filming beautiful landscapes, sacred gathering places, and ancient symbols and icons, in Ireland, North America and Australia, the filmmakers have married song, music, and image to create this lyrical and jubilant interpretation of the human spirit through time and cultures.

MEDIUM LENGTH VERSION:

TIME AFTER TIME

Irish songstress and Celtic chronicler Mairéid Sullivan received enormous critical praise for her rich, pure voice and poet's vision when her latest CD *Never Drift Apart* was released in 2003.

Now, Mairéid and her partner and collaborator Ben Kettlewell have produced the film, *Time after Time*, celebrating three ancient cultures through songs, poetry, prose and pictures.

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From a glorious view of earth as shot by astronauts *Time After Time* takes us on a journey through time and space to Ireland as the ancients saw and knew it, a land of drums and drama, forests and legend, a rich culture proud and determined to be free.

On a North American journey, Ben powerfully evokes the land of his Cherokee ancestors, then reads from the celebrated speeches of their great leaders.

Here is struggle and faith, the newcomers being welcomed by the original inhabitants, yet from all of this comes the blues.

Time After Time celebrates Aboriginal art and culture as we are taken to rarely seen places in footage of great beauty and style.

This is an important film that everyone should see.

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LONG VERSION:

THREE CULTURES CELEBRATED IN A FILM OF SONG AND STORY TIME AFTER TIME

Australia has seen the flowering of amazing talent. Among the latest and most fascinating is the combination of a traditional Irish singer and a Native American who have produced a film celebrating three ancient cultures in song, story, prose and pictures.

Time After Time is a symphony of images, an astonishingly beautiful film wrought over three years by Mairéid Sullivan and Ben Kettlewell. The film is a feast and a feat of editing, composing, artistic vision and integrity.

Mairéid, whose last album *Never Drift Apart* received enormous critical acclaim for her pure, rich voice and poetic vision, brings to the film not only her gifts as a singer, but also her composition and passion, while Ben is a true voice and vision of his people.

There is magic here, and wonder, as the film takes us to Ireland, land of the traditional drum, which summons us from across the sea and towering cliffs to behold that country as it once was, forested and fertile. How fitting then that there are words of love from the genius Yeats, songs of magic and a story of the world of magic.

Time After Time moves us with a love ballad as we behold sacred sites, the mystical peaks of mountains and holy wells.

The North American journey embraces the superb landscape, captured by an instrumental work by Ben, who then gives a moving reading of the famous speech by Chief Seattle.

Seamlessly the film moves a hymn to celebrate the struggles and faith of the new arrivals as Ben plays some blues that mark these experiences and those of the original inhabitants.

There are further legendary speeches of profound wisdom heard before the film takes leave of the American Southwest for Australia and a composition of Mairéid's telling of time before records were kept.

The wondrous art of the outback and the deep-based stories and legends are revealed as we behold rare footage shot during a mapping and dictionary-writing expedition in Arnhem Land in 2003.

For people of feeling, wrote the French novelist Gustave Flaubert art has no other end, than to conjure away the burden and bitterness. *Time After Time* proves his words.

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