

EQUINOX

A day with an ocean's edge

<https://vimeo.com/886815617/6cd2ec49c1?share=copy>

PART ONE - DAWN

[SALTMARSH]

**and in the morning
a day at an ocean's edge
welcoming the tide**

**saltmarsh asks of sea,
what do you know of future?
how will things turn out?**

[SEA]

connect over time
the relationship between
of patterns shifting

foresight becoming
many futures come to pass
one tide at a time

dynamic of space
graceful possibilities
through fluid futures

[SALTMARSH]

**the tide comes from where?
how do we know things we know?
where does the tide go?**

[SEA]

other ways to know
tide leaving the sea behind
to think and to breathe

listen from behind
questions float to the surface
it's never the same

all around the world
water turns from salt to sweet
tidal relations

[SALTMARSH]

**how do the tides work?
what does the moon do to them?
at this ocean's edge**

[SEA]

as the moon attracts
ebb and flow regenerate
cycle of the tides

where sea and land rhyme
contiguous estuaries
currents passing through

coming together
gyre of Morecambe Bay
connecting Duddon

[SALTMARSH]

**who cares for this place?
as climate accelerates
more species are lost**

[SEA]

places get managed
spaces must be left alone
depictions of space

a critical zone
where anything can happen
potential for life

let new life emerge
beneath surface reflections
novel ways to see

[SALTMARSH]

**what value this space?
to benefit each other
sea, marsh and mudflats**

[SEA]

here's somewhere special
designated area
conserve and protect

forces of nature
life's creative energy
held in the moment

habitats evolve
a sanctuary for wildlife
capturing carbon

[SALTMARSH]

**waiting for no man
and what do you know of time?
when the tide comes in**

[SEA]

over time things pass
everything passes by
waiting for the tide

rhyming moon and sun
harmonising dialogue
gravity matters

never the same time
move on give way with grace
shift from tide to tide

PART TWO – SPECIES

**as climate changes
space for species in crisis
regenerate time**

**culture in chaos
nobody knows the number
only the outcome**

**values shift and change
seeing things differently
give sanctuary**

**space for plants to grow
pioneer communities
back of the storm ridge**

**saltmarsh and grasslands
rich vegetated shingle
mud and sand awash**

drift seaweed

sea beet
sea-kale
curled dock
sea campion
scarce eelgrasses

oraches
common scurvy grass
yellow horned-poppy
may weeds
sticky groundsel
sea sandwort
portland spurge
oyster plant

red fescue grassland
moss-lichen grassland
common sea lavender
sea purslane
common saltmarsh grass

sea milkwort
sea sandwort
maram grass
sand couch-grass
lyme-grass
wild pansy
sea spurge
common restharrow
dune fescue

flax flowered sea lavender
sea aster
long-bracted sedge
sea pink
glasswort
seablite
sea couch-grass
sea rush
common reed
common cord-grass

**algae breathe in space
to play with water and sun
making oxygen**

green alga
red algae
brown fucoid algae

**invertebrate space
a food chain of existence
eat and be eaten**

sponges
barnacles
keelworm
sea mats
sea firs
occasional sea squirts
anemones
sand mason
red calcareous
mussels
periwinkles
lugworm
ragworm

**space for moths' night flight
caterpillars to cocoons
dance of life and death**

sand dart
coast dart
shore wainscot

**space and time for birds
to feed, roost, breed and migrate
populations shift**

**egrets moving north
a cormorant spreads its wings
crows search at the edge**

**breaking the silence
geese trumpeting arrival
curlew high above**

eider duck
oystercatcher
dunlin
grey plover
redshank
knot
shelduck
herring gull
lesser black-backed gull
sanderling

sandwich tern
little tern
common tern

**arctic tern transits
between the poles and summers
seeking lost sandeels**

PART THREE - DUSK

[SEA]
one cycle has passed
held in balance, dawn to dusk
as waters empty

light passing over
a lunar resurrection
regeneration

saltmarsh asks of sea
what do you know of future?
how will things turn out?

**[SALTMARSH]
in the evening
beneath the surface
another mode of living**

**saline solution
submerged underwater
life support system**

**between sea and land
tide flows in and tide flows out
only time will tell**

[SEA]
sea says to saltmarsh
with your bountiful nature
how will you survive?

**[SALTMARSH]
in resilience
it's not about duration
sustainable myths**

**there's no permanence
just adapting from collapse
life as potential**

**an emerging space
drawn into a vacuum
a graceful exchange**

[SEA]
make space for questions
not so much an emptiness
more a way of life

seeking difference
renewing relationships
finding more questions

tidal meanders
wild garden sanctuary
so, what is this place?

**[SALTMARSH]
somewhere and nowhere
where anything may happen
energy exchange**

**offering refuge
a barrier from the tides
shelter from the storms**

[SEA]
intertidal flats
un-grazed saltmarsh
shingle and mudflats

in the lee of winds
out of sight and out of mud
so how will we know?

**[SALTMARSH]
facing the mainland
sediment of effluent
facing certainty**

[SEA]
tidal poetics
twice a day my tide visits
twice a day it leaves

pressing not pushing
dynamic equilibrium
yielding not pulling

**[SALTMARSH]
causing disturbance
these exceptional wetlands
harboring secrets**

**beyond Interest
a site, a place and the space
life capacity**

[SEA]
generous drifting
let's have a conversation
a fluid culture

tide rises and falls
renewing relationships
seeking difference

**[SALTMARSH]
oxygen - carbon
an atmosphere of breathing
carbon - oxygen**

**not so much a vacuum
more a way of life
making space for questions**

[SEA]
drawn into this space
a rigid culture persists
create and destroy

time of equinox
in a dynamic balance
tipping points pass by

tides come and tides go
squelching mud, swishing shingle
our time may soon come

with a new climate
yield to the force of nature
as sea levels rise

[SALTMARSH]
the way we depict space
determines our fate
must be seeing things

of a voice unheard
listening to each other
as the sea sees us

the land's perspective
seeing things differently
the sea's perspective

[SEA]
tide-swept haws
twix bay and estuaries
meandering scars

breath in and breath out
oxygen turns to carbon
we return to earth

tide in and tide out
carbon turns to oxygen
oceans maintain Earth

day in and day out
twice a day, everyday
cosmos comes to Earth

[SALTMARSH]
when the tide comes in
a rigid culture persists
when the tide goes out

an egret arrives
pulling back emptying out
more egrets fly in

quietly filling
seeking spaces with new life
egret flies away

[SEA]
what remains 'special'?
things arrive, things disappear
over time, what now?

what use is saltmarsh?
is it not a waste of space?
they could build something

[SALTMARSH]
to growth and progress
pushing back the boundaries
boundaries push back

social dementia
baselines shift, memory lost
new norms becoming

on the waterfront
cruising with the Titanic
cycle of abuse

industry marches
unintended consequence
in conflict with Earth

[SEA]
whispering waters
listen behind, gaze ahead
peripheral sight

high tide and new moon
under cover of darkness
a sub slips away

waiting on the tide
three birds of another kind
half-lives manifest

deafening silence
the wise monkey sees nothing
to know no evil

space for dialogue
it's ok to disagree
space to move onwards

a transformation
culture remaining fluid
life begins again

SEA: Jess Dandy
SALTMARSH: David Haley
WRITTEN BY: David Haley