How to Catch the Echoes



1. *Pick up an MP3 player* from the entrance kiosk to hear the stories. Loan a device free of charge.



2. Or if you prefer you can swipe your smart phone over the special QR markers around the park and access the echoes via our online soundfiles. *Appropriate reader app required*

About the Project

Writer David Hughes has imagined a moment in the life of just six of the hundreds of people who have worked, visited or lived on the estate over the centuries.

In addition the writers from the Pontardawe Script Café and the Neath Port Talbot Young Writer's Squad have each created a montage of the voices that might have been heard at two other moments in the stories of the village of Margam.

In eight spots in the park, as you pause to take in your surroundings, you can listen to the villagers as they gossip, grumble, and confide their thoughts about their lives.

Recorded by actors from the area, with musical introductions specially composed and played by Andy Jones, the sequence combines to give us a unique and dramatic glimpse of Margam's story.

The eight stories are also available on the Neath Port Talbot website: catchtheechoes.com

While the eight stories form a sequence, if you prefer you can listen to just one, or hear the voices in any order.

Each story lasts approximately 6 - 7 minutes.

Available during all park opening times (01639) 881635 www.catchtheechoes.com



Written by David Hughes

with contributions by the Neath Port Talbot Young Writers Squad and The Pontardawe Arts Centre Script Café

Music Composed and Played by Andy Jones

Created and Directed by **Derek Cobley**

Performed by

Thomos Humphreys Nicole Moran Francine Morgan Meyrick Sheen Ken Tucker Joanna Ward with Maisie Noon Bethan Golding Steffan Davies Tracey Davies Richard Shepherd from Coed Hiwaun Primary School

Young Writers Squad Writers James Carver, Chloe Evans, Samuel Harris, Becky Hopkin, Jemina Howell, Pepe Lukas, Sophie Pain, Nia Williams,

Pontardawe Script Café Writers: Brian Cainen, Julie Ann Grey, Emily Hinshelwood, Gerri Hughes, Caroline James, Anna Smith, Celia Thomas, Ceri Thomas, Tina Walker, Emma Whitney, Hilary Whickers.

Recorded at Vibe TV Studios Recording Engineer Eoin McLoughlin

A Pontardawe Arts Centre production funded through the Arts Council of Wales





catch the

Eavesdrop on voices from the past at Margam Park

FRFF

A digital sound installation







Eavesdrop on voices from the past at Margam Park

1181 The Archbishop visits Margam recruiting men to go on the Crusade. - OWAIN'S STORY



1538 After Henry V111's closure of the Abbey, the community up around the Abbey adjusts to a new world. - **RHIANNON'S STORY**

3

1630After a storm a wreck is found on the beach.THE VILLAGER'S STORIES



1802

Admiral Nelson accompanied by Emma Hamilton and her husband visit Margam. - ARTHUR'S STORY

5 1820 The M

The Mansel family plan to return from Gower to their new House. The village of Margam is cleared to make way for a new road. - THE VILLAGER'S STORIES



1853 Guests at the castle take some of the first photographs. - NANCY'S STORY

1944 American troops are in residence at the castle training for D Day. - **GRIFF'S STORY**



2012 - **Eileen's story**





Who lived here? Who worked in the park? What stories might they have to tell? As you explore the park eavesdrop on those who once walked where you are walking.

www.catchtheechoes.com