

Event set to explore Annan's New York link

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By Zachary Hannay 10:00 AM, 6 AUG 2023

Annan and Eskdale



WHAT links the magnificent staircase known as 'The Million Dollar Staircase' with Dumfries and Galloway?

And does the statue of Liberty in New York really sit on Annan sandstone?

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Go along to St Andrew's Church Hall later this month and have these questions, and others, answered.

Dumfries and Galloway artist and publisher Hugh Bryden and Maddy Rosenberg artist and curator from New York, will provide answers and launch a prestigious new arts project involving poets, musicians and artists from both sides of the Atlantic.

On August 12 and 13, Maddy and Hugh will be in the hall, from 11 am – 4 pm on Saturday and 1-4 pm on Sunday, to talk about the project and give a short presentation.

This will be part of Annan History Town's exhibition on Industries and Buildings.

Sandstone Steps is a multi-disciplinary cultural event in a box, an artist's book in three parts: with a musical element, a literary element and a visual art element. The box, in a shape of a staircase with drawers, will contain specially commissioned music, poetry and relief prints in each of its three "steps".

Produced by prominent practitioners from Dumfries and Galloway and New York, next year it will be at the centre of a programme of exhibitions, concerts, poetry readings and related events.

As well as exploring and celebrating the cultural links between the region and the USA, dating back over 150 years, these elements are brought together into a cultural compendium. Hugh and Maddy want to build on these links and strengthen the bond between the two places.

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