

Maureen Malcolm-Gourley is a songwriter, artist and producer from Glasgow. Her songs gather from diverse genres such as folk, jazz, dance and meditation. She explores vulnerability, hope and mental health using storytelling and myth.

Is recognisable by her wa

Amanda Palmer is a best-selling author, feminist, songwriter, community leader, pianist and ukulele-enthusiast who simultaneously embraces and explodes traditional frameworks of music, theatre, and art.

KARINE POLWART is a multi-award-winning Scottish songwriter, folk singer, and storyteller. Her songs evoke a richness of place, hidden histories, scientific curiosity and folklore. Trees and rocks speak. Birds flit in and out of vision. And the stars know everything. She conjures the beauty and magic, the sorrow and complexity of the world out of the corner of her eye, with lyricism and tenderness.

Karine's many collaborative projects include - Still As Your Sleeping, a duo with pianist Dave Milligan; a longstanding trio with brother Steven Polwart and multi-instrumentalist Inge Thomson; her Scottish Songbook re-imaginings of classic Scottish pop; Spell Songs, a multi-artist response to environmental loss; and Wind Resistance, her peatbog-inspired theatre show for The Royal Lyceum in Edinburgh.

In collaboration with sound designer and composer, Pippa Murphy, she has been commissioned over the past two years by both the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh and the Scottish Chamber Orchestra. And 2023 will see her collaborate with Pippa again on Seek the Light, a poetic three-part BBC Radio 4 documentary series combining science, music and folklore.

Following in the footsteps of Feist, Ane Buru

Maureen Malcolm-Gourley – better known as Malba – is recognizable by her warm, haunting voice and unique style that draws on folk, jazz, dance and meditation. As a songwriter, poet and sound artist she explores the themes of vulnerability explore vulnerability, trauma, hope and mental health using

With her lilting vocals, theatrical arrangements and delicate alt folk Scottish singer/songwriter

Singer/songwriter sound artist sometimes brutal and draws from cinematic soundscapes

Her evocative blend of gospel folk and blues drawing from diverse artists as Bonobo, Mike Posner,

Malba is a Scottish songwriter, folk singer and storyteller. Her songs evoke her creative spirit intense honesty

From Stepps in Glasgow, Scotland, Malba was a latecomer to songwriting after being a vocalist for thirty years in St. Aloysius College Choir and a career as a Project Manager in the NHS for eighteen years it was only after the death of her father in 2013 that she realised how fleeting life is and embarked on a course for singer songwriters with books full of poetry and the ability to play Karine Polwart's 'I'm gonna do it all' on guitar. This led to further study and release of her first EP and art exhibition under the name 'Maumamo' at The Thistle Gallery in Glasgow in 2016.

The songs are restless questioning self reflection

With the voice of an angel, Maureen facilitates community, healing and spirituality through her use of melody, rhythm & harmony. I've seen her compose a chant in-the-moment for someone in need – now that's a creative gift! I highly recommend her.

Christine Stevens

[Upbeat Drum Circles](#)

Maureen has a beautiful warmth and sense of spirit which she brings to her singing and music. A pleasure to work with.

Gillian McLaren Scott

McLaren Scott Vocals

Maureen is a great collaborator to work with. She comes in to our writing sessions armed with ideas and material. Always willing to reach compromise for the good of the

song and always adds original touches that really enhances the work

Stu Kidd

KIDD

Maureen enables you to immediately feel at ease in any setting with her gentle humour and warmth. She has a wide range of musical talents, including a beautiful voice, together with a thirst for knowledge and learning.

Paul John Dear

Rhythmbridge

“So atmospheric and such evocative lyrics”

— Claire Neilson (Blueflint)

I've worked with Maureen on a collaborative exhibition blending music and art. It was a wonderful experience embedding myself in Maureen's music and interpreting the audio into visual. Maureen's communication and open mindedness was lovely and encouraged experimentation and freedom of creativity. Her music comes from the heart and inspires the same from anyone she works with, in whatever medium.

Jackie Forbes Henderson

HOLA COMRADES!

here we are again....! the next frontier of crowdfunding, the future of sustainable art, the final exam in asking & giving, whatever you wanna call it....this is it, we're doin' it. i'm currently waylaid in new zealand - i was touring here in march 2020 when covid hit - and it's been a real financial and emotional roller coaster. my patrons have carried me though. they've been my guiding light and true north. this community has saved me...again.

ever since i launched this patreon community over six years ago, i've been trying to find a succinct way of explaining WHAT it is. mostly: this patreon is for people who want me to work without a boss. you give me a salary, basically, to help sustain my ability and freedom to make whatever i think needs making - liberated from commercial interests, media companies, boardrooms, labels, or corporations - by paying me a sustainable, ongoing salary. everybody pitching in a little goes a long, long way.

i LOVE working this way, directly with my community, as opposed to working with a for-profit company, like a label or a sponsor. i am able to make my own decisions, keep my principals, make my own time-lines (i'm a mother, it really helps), and work without censoring myself.

for an overview of how patreon works in general, they've got a great primer [HERE](#). basically: you give patreon your credit card # (or paypal) and you're charged \$1 (or more, if you choose) at the end every month. that money supports me and my collaborators (whether it's a drummer, a lighting engineer, a podcast producer, a photographer, a video editor, or a graphic designer) helps me to pay my general costs-of-doing-business (my office, my equipment, my staff, my rent, my life, basically).

almost ALL of the money from this patreon goes back into paying my staff and costs, and funnels to other artists and makers. we also often shave off portions of the profit to give to charities who need the dough more than i do. the community - the patrons - often guide me about where help is needed.

THE VIDEO UP TOP explains a lot about what i've been up to here over the last few years, and how wonderful the effects have been.

if you wanna, go look at this LIST OF THINGS that i've released via the patreon over the last few years:

<http://amandapalmer.net/things>

as you can see, there's over 100 (whaaaaa!) things, ranging from **songs**, to **whole albums & EPs**, to **webcasts**, to **podcasts**, to **documentaries** about weird charity performance art projects that support libraries, to anti-trump **music videos**, to **animations** made using old voice memos i left for myself in the middle of the night so i wouldn't forget the weird & emotionally revealing shit my weird husband mumbles in his sleep. all of this work has employed HUNDREDS of other musicians, filmmakers, engineers, graphic designers, painters, you name it....we've become our own little organic-art-farm ecosystem.

the main thing to keep in mind as you look at this list is that ALMOST NONE OF THIS WORK IS COMMERCIALY VIABLE! there's really just no way in today's marketplace to "make a profit" from a youtube video with just a few thousand views, or a webcast of a beautiful orchestra show, or a weird animation (which are very time-consuming and expensive to produce) unless you're a *massive* mainstream artist putting up huge paywalls and/or selling your soul to corporate advertisers. i don't wanna do that, that's not who i am.

as of this writing, there's over 13,000 amazing, unique patrons here and i am perpetually in awe and profoundly grateful that it's working. it's changed the way i write, produce and release music...it's just inspired the hell out of me and a lot of people here on this page, and mark my words, we're just getting started. and the community is also a great, extended family. people meet here, they help each other, they see each other, and they care for each other. it's a smart, safe, space, and i'm really proud of it.

now, a little backstory.

back in 2012, when i broke free of my soul-sucking major label and used kickstarter to sell my record "theatre is evil" (which [25,000 people pre-ordered](#)), people were still getting the gist of crowdfunding and patronage. nowadays people are really getting it: artists need ongoing, reliable support – akin to a salary in the "real world" – if they're going to make it and be happy, working artists. the internet and micropayments are making that possible.

patreon is a great platform for organizing this concept, including the huge advantage that patrons on a budget (who can only afford \$1 per month) don't have to worry about getting charged too much, whereas people with a lot to give (i have a few \$100 and \$250 patrons) are also welcome to support, without expecting huge amounts of time-sinking rewards which drain energy from the artist.

i treasure my \$1 patrons as much as my \$250 patrons. it's like the obama campaign: every goddamn dollar counts. it's also sort of like NPR (that's american for "National Public Radio", for you foreigners): even though you donate, nobody expects you to be glued and tuned into the radio 24/7 just because you made an annual donation. you donated BECAUSE YOU WANT EVERYONE ELSE to be able to enjoy the top-quality (and free) content that NPR provides. this is a community. everybody pitches in what they can, and i try to keep my content as free as possible, so that EVERYBODY, even the people who cannot afford to be part of this patreon, can enjoy my songwriting and my other artistic undertakings.

more good news: i'm also able to employ a TON of other artists, which in these dying days of arts-funding feels really wonderful and satisfying. as far as that goes, you're trusting me to be a curator and choose where to spread your money around, so it trickles into improving the lives of a ton of other artists, creators and makers.

call me a commun-ist or a social-ist if you want. mostly i'm just an art-ist that thinks that art is for sharing, not for selling.

this patreon is my starting point, my homebase, my workshop where everything happens in transparent realtime. sometimes i take my finished work and haul it onto the art-wagon and traipse it out into the world marketplace (i.e. i work with real labels/distributors/publicists, etc). i'm planning to do this in 2019 with a GIANT NEW ALBUM. but mostly, those moments are few and far

between and don't cover the rent and the costs of being a full-time artist with a full-time office and a full-time team.

the feedback from the patrons already gathered here has been SO HELPFUL. my patrons have gotten to know me and my team INTIMATELY; how we work, how i work, how it ALL works. we all talk a lot. even though my team sometimes stumbles in the dark and makes mistakes, and even though not everybody subscribing to the patreon LOVES every little thing i produce (how could they??) this system is working BEAUTIFULLY. It's HUMAN. i cherish and ponder feedback. we are figuring this system out as we go along. it's a constant discussion. it's a tribe.

i blog A LOT - a few times a week, sometimes more. i talk about everything...my life, the work, my inspirations, my troubles, my process. my blogs get sent out to the patrons automatically by email (if you've enabled email notifications), and i ask a lot of questions and i ask for a lot of input and feedback. you're never expected to answer, but i read every comment, because i care a shit-ton about this community and whether it's working for everybody.

if you guys know me, you know i LISTEN. we're here to make this work, and we will. not a lot of songwriters are using this platform, but more are joining every day, and this community is kind of a trail-blazer, since we are making up the rules as we go along.

so. whether you've been a fan of mine since the days of The Dresden Dolls or whether you've just recently found me through my book, [my TED talk](#) (which is about EXACTLY this topic of art and asking) or you've stumbled across my songs or videos online, i would love to invite you to join this community and see what we are doing.

and if you're already one of my patrons...THANK YOU. i love you and you are making me possible.

and now.....

ALL THE THIIIIIIIIINGS!!!
MOAR THINGS FOREVER!!
let's DO THIS SHIT.

love,
AFP

p.s. one more thing: if you're not familiar with my music, i've made a great primer page to acquaint you, it's called "a walk through amandalanda" and has streams of my biggest records and best videos:

<http://amandalanda.amandapalmer.net/>

p.p.s. if you have questions, please submit them on twitter, on facebook, on my blog, or here on the patron stream once you sign up. you can also read a FAQ (frequently asked questions) on my site, HERE: <http://amandapalmer.net/patreonfaq> or send us an email at patreonhelp@amandapalmer.net and we'll get you sorted. if you'd like more information about How Patreon Works or need help with your patreon account you can view a ton of resources on patreon's support page and contact their support team directly: <http://support.patreon.com>

\$1 DOWNLOAD TIER

you are here! you're supporting me, my team, and my collaborators, and that's huge. you'll get access to patron-only posts, early access to tickets and invites to special events/gatherings when i'm on the road. you'll also get downloads of some of my larger/main projects. so you know: your support is just as important as some well-off mofo giving me \$100. THANK YOU.

\$3 DOWNLOAD TIER

this one's for keeps. you're supporting me, my team and my collaborators and you are awesome. thank you. you'll get access to the **patron-only posts**, and you'll also be **DIRECTLY emailed keepable/playable/readable downloads of any content (PDFs, MP3s, MOVs, etc.)**.

\$5 – RANDOM SURPRISES TIER

you're supporting me a lot here, dear one, and \$5 a song (or Thing) is really generous. thank you! you'll get all of the above, plus **you'll get random surprises**. i'll share extra stuff with you every once in a while....that i don't want out in the public. in the past i've sent random little digital tidbits (photos, musings, voice memos, videos, demos) every few months that seem to really delight people. i'm always open to ideas and feedback about how to get weirder.

\$10 WEBCHAT TIER

this is a lot of money to give to an artist, and you are really showing me some serious art-love & support here. THANK YOU. i'll try to make it worth it: you'll get all of the above, random surprises and all, **plus access to my patron-only webchats** in which i'll chat/perform live/discuss things with you. for the last few years, i've really enjoyed and appreciated these talks with the higher-level patrons, and we discuss everything from patreon projects to politics to life and death. i usually do these chats from my home or from whatever recording studio i'm working in, so you get a glimpse of what real life is looking like - i also really enjoy bringing patrons from around the world onto the screen for a check in and chat, and members of team AFP usually join in to touch base. i love doing small webcasts where real conversation can take place. these happen sporadically, sometimes monthly but sometimes less often if the touring schedule is a bit nuts (all webchats are archived and available to this tier in perpetuity).

\$25 ART IN THE MAIL TIER

i have been thinking for ages about how to reward people who want to support at a higher level, and i've found it! introducing ART-IN-THE-MAIL. this tier will get all of the above (access to all downloads, webchats, etc) AND every once in a while (usually a couple of times a year), as a gesture of my extreme gratitude, you can **opt-in** to receive a piece of beautiful physical art. the art may be something i draw and print in a limited edition, or something i commission from another painter/artist/maker. it may be a watercolor print that was created for a tour or an album, it may be a rolled-up print of a panel from a comic i'm working on. in december 2019 we mailed custom AFP socks to everyone. if we can fit it in an envelope, we can call it art. we're gonna have fun with this one.

\$75 (Signed) ART-IN-THE-MAIL + GUESTLIST

same as the ART-IN-THE-MAIL Tier, except you have the option to have your art personalized + signed by me; the personalization can be for anyone (including you). it's a massive undertaking to get things signed/shipped from place to place (especially if i'm in japan and you're in brazil), so we try not to do too much of this....but i love the idea of being able to do this as a gesture of gratitude for the massive amount of dough you are contributing. you will also get access to the guestlist (+1 - note that not every appearance i do has a guestlist, i.e. if i'm playing a festival. but for my own headlining shows, we should be able to accommodate everybody). THANK YOU AND I LOVE YOU.

\$100 OLS SCHOOL POSTCARD TIER

hello, Amazing Art Angel. this is massive. you'll get all of the above...patron-feed, random surprises, webchats, plus i'll also **send you weird postcards (preferably weird/vintage/kitschy ones) from the weird places i wind up** (i've been having a TON fun with this). and you'll get access to the guestlist, +1, anywhere. we will email.

note: this tier is VERY FULL, but spots open up occasionally.

Maureen Malcolm-Gourley, known by her stage name Malba, is a Scottish singer-songwriter, folk singer, and storyteller. Drawing inspiration from artists such as Karine Polwart, Feist, Ane Brun, Bonobo, and Mike Posner, Malba has developed a unique style that blends folk, jazz, dance, and meditation. Her warm and haunting voice, accompanied by theatrical arrangements and delicate alt-folk soundscapes, creates an evocative blend of gospel, folk, and blues.

As a songwriter, poet, and sound artist, Malba explores themes of vulnerability, trauma, hope, and mental health with intense honesty. Her songs reflect her creative spirit and offer a space for self-reflection and questioning. Despite being a latecomer to songwriting, Malba's passion for music was ignited after the passing of her father in 2013. This realization of life's fleeting nature prompted her to pursue a career as a singer-songwriter.

Having previously served as a vocalist for thirty years in the St. Aloysius College Choir and worked as a Project Manager in the NHS for eighteen years, Malba's diverse background adds depth to her music. She honed her skills by studying songwriting and immersing herself in poetry, eventually releasing her first EP and showcasing her art at The Thistle Gallery in Glasgow under the name 'Mau-mamo' in 2016.

Malba's music is characterized by its restless nature and introspective lyrics, inviting listeners to embark on a journey of self-discovery. With her captivating vocals and thought-provoking compositions, Malba continues to captivate audiences with her unique blend of genres and her ability to convey raw emotions through her music.

Maureen Malcolm-Gourley, known by her stage name Malba, is an enigmatic Scottish singer-songwriter, folk singer, and storyteller. Her music is a melting pot of influences, drawing inspiration from a diverse range of artists such as Karine Polwart, Feist, Deva Primal, Bonobo, and Mike Posner. With her distinctive blend of folk, jazz, dance, and meditation, Malba has carved out a unique and captivating sound that is entirely her own.

At the core of Malba's artistry is her warm and haunting voice. With a vocal style that is equal parts soulful and ethereal, she effortlessly weaves her way through intricate and theatrical arrangements. Her delicate alt-folk soundscapes create a mesmerizing atmosphere, transporting listeners to a world of gospel, folk, and blues.

As a songwriter, poet, and sound artist, Malba fearlessly delves into the depths of human experience. Her introspective lyrics touch upon themes of vulnerability, trauma, hope, and mental health with an intense honesty. Through her music, she offers a space for self-reflection and invites listeners to question the complexities of life. Despite her late entry into the world of songwriting, Malba's passion for music was ignited after the passing of her father in 2013. This profound loss spurred her on to pursue a career as a singer-songwriter, a decision that has become a testament to the fragility and beauty of life.

Malba's expertise in her craft stems from her long journey as a vocalist. For thirty years, she served as a valuable member of the St. Aloysius College Choir. Her deep commitment to music was complemented by her professional career as a Project Manager in the NHS for eighteen years. These diverse experiences have added layers of depth and maturity to her music, allowing her to create compositions that resonate with authenticity and emotion.

Further honing her skills, Malba pursued a Masters in Songwriting, earning a distinction for her exceptional work. This academic endeavor provided her with the space and support to fully develop as an artist. During this time, Malba also ventured into other artistic mediums, with a one-woman show, a book of poetry, and artwork in the making. Her voice now resonates not just in her music but through various creative outlets.

Malba's journey into the realm of sound and songwriting has also led her to explore the power of music as a therapeutic tool. Her vlog, 'Weegie Wisdom,' delves into topics such as mental health, gratitude, and authenticity. Through her candid and honest discussions, Malba offers her viewers an insight into her own journey and serves as a beacon of hope and understanding.

As Malba continues to push the boundaries of her artistry, her soulful vocals and thought-provoking compositions cement her status as an artist with a message. With each song she creates, she invites audiences to embark on an introspective and cathartic journey, giving voice to emotions and experiences that are often left unspoken.

In a world hungry for genuine connection and meaningful expression, Malba has emerged as a beacon of hope. Her music serves as a powerful reminder that through vulnerability and art, we can find healing, strength, and our own authentic voice.

Malba

Maureen Malcolm-Gourley, known by her stage name Malba, is not just a singer-songwriter but also a facilitator of community, healing, and spirituality through her music. With her voice, often described as angelic, Malba utilizes the power of melody, rhythm, and harmony to create a transformative experience for her listeners.

Malba's ability to connect with others on a deep level goes beyond performing her own compositions. She has a unique gift for composing in the moment, creating chants that are tailored to individuals in need. Through this spontaneous act of musical creation, she taps into a higher realm of creativity, providing solace, comfort, and inspiration to those seeking healing.

With each chant or melody, Malba creates a sacred space where the community can come together, share their burdens, and find solace in the music. Her performances have the remarkable ability to uplift even the heaviest hearts and to foster a sense of unity among those who listen. Through her gift, Malba encourages individuals to connect not only with themselves but also with one another, fostering a sense of belonging and understanding.

Beyond the realm of spirituality and healing, Malba's music serves as a conduit for personal growth and self-expression. With her melodic compositions, she invites her listeners to explore their own vulnerabilities, fears, and hopes. Her music holds a mirror to the human experience, encouraging individuals to reflect, question, and evolve.

As the world yearns for connection and meaning, Malba's ability to facilitate community, healing, and spirituality through her music becomes increasingly essential. With her angelic voice guiding the way, she empowers individuals to find strength, solace, and a renewed sense of purpose, reminding us all of the transformative power of song.

Malba - The Soulful Songstress

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