



from Garth...



Greenbelt's 50th Anniversary!



'Voice in the Wilderness', painting by Suleiman Mansour

My Name Is Palestine

Sunday, 11.30am

Orchard Stage

Fifty years ago I was invited to a brand new festival called Greenbelt. I went along with the poet Steve Turner - as I always feel safer when I have poets around!

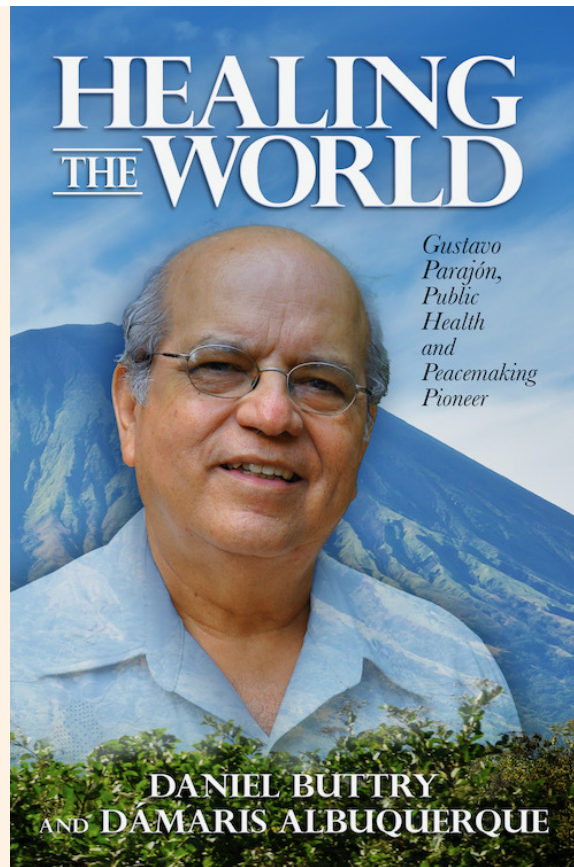
To be playing at the 50th anniversary is both a privilege and slightly worrying - how old was I when I did the first one! I'm thoroughly looking forward to this next Greenbelt - this newsletter will simply give updates of the things that I am involved in at this year's festival.

For my main contribution to Greenbelt's 50th anniversary I have chosen a set highlighting Palestine, as it continues to experience the pain of a history of injustice, inequality, and exclusion.

Many of you will know that my song **My Name is Palestine** was inspired by a painting by Suleiman Mansour, of a woman with the Palestinian flag in the desert - we had extraordinary feedback on this song throughout Palestine and the Middle East.

Some songs in the set will be recent and some will be old friends.

I will be joined by a small band: Dave Perry on guitar, Claire Tabraham on backing vocals, Chris Rogers on fiddle, and **I'm delighted to have a special guest, Pete Banks, joining us for a couple of songs!**



Click this image for information about how to buy this book

A Lasting Legacy: Remembering Gustavo Parajón

Saturday 10.30am

Glade Main Stage

On the day before I do my set I will be doing a song as part of a tribute to Gustavo and the new biography about him.

Bruce Cockburn will be doing a song as well - he visited Nicaragua and was also influenced by Gustavo. This should be an event to bring back some good memories. Special guest Roberto Martinez will be speaking. Gustavo brought him to Greenbelt in 2003 and now he is a doctor and the Chair of Amos Health and Hope in Nicaragua - and he helped me with the chorus of the song I'll be singing, "Yo Creo en Nicaragua", by translating it into Spanish!

Some words from the publicity for the book say, "In a world ravaged by crises, this inspiring biography of Nicaraguan public health pioneer and peacemaker Gustavo Parajón encourages readers to courageously reach out to the world's neediest people. From his family, Parajón inherited a deep Christian faith that made him a fearless example of how to navigate dangerous conflicts and public health crises.

Gustavo described his mission as simply following the example of Jesus.

Those who follow his example now circle the world."

Quotes from a couple of people who knew Gustavo - one is Sue Plater, an Associate

Director of Amos Trust in its earlier days and who formerly chaired Greenbelt, another is by former President Jimmy Carter, who sadly couldn't make Greenbelt but did meet up with Gustavo!

"Whenever I travelled with Dr. Gustavo Parajón, in both Nicaragua and the UK—which I was privileged to do over a period of 24 years of friendship and work—I saw the same thing. He found the most unassuming person in the room and engaged with them. Then he would tell the rest of us what he had learned from them and how we could all respond to it. He just loved being part of a community—of family, friends, or strangers—and gently bringing us together to achieve something remarkable. This book shows how much was achieved as a result. It's a fascinating read; a true record of an amazing life, very well lived (and full of fun and laughter)."

Sue Plater, former Chair, Greenbelt Festivals

"Gustavo Parajón, a true Christian peacemaker, dedicated his life to putting his faith into action with intelligence and compassion."

President Jimmy Carter



Damaris Albuquerque

Our good friend Damaris Albuquerque co-authored this book - she is well known to Amos Trust. Not only did she work with Gustavo, but she was Executive Director of CEPAD until she retired, and she was the wife of Gilberto Aguirrez - who attended Greenbelt in 2001.



Garth with Roberto Martinez, Chair of the Board of Directors for Amos Health & Hope, the medical side of CEPAD. Gustavo named this Amos and checked whether we minded, and of course we counted it a privilege!

Christian Aid at Greenbelt - partners for 30 years

Sunday 2pm

Christian Aid Tent

To mark Christian Aid's 30 years of partnership with Greenbelt, they are inviting friends of Christian Aid to pop by their tent throughout the weekend for informal drop in or meet and greet sessions. I will be dropping in around 2pm on the Sunday.

Christian Aid say, "Greenbelt's partnership with Christian Aid began thanks to the vision of Garth Hewitt. He'll be calling in to chat and reflect on the importance of partnership and the journey we have been on together over the last 30 years. He may even sing us a song or two!" Christian Aid have arranged for William Bell to be there at the same time as I am there, to particularly focus on our shared agenda around Palestine.

Prayer



Go with peace, go with love, go with justice in your heart
As members of the Easter Revolution
Go with peace, go with love, go with justice in your heart

From a wounded land
Comes a cry for hope
Comes straight from the heart
Of Palestinian suffering
They are asking for support
Asking us to speak up
Time to take a stand
For justice and love

Jesus our leader, our teacher, our guide
Our liberator, healer and friend
You're the inspiration for the community of love
You walk beside us right till the end

Go with peace, go with love, go with justice in your heart

Amen

words taken from the Palestinian Christians' call for support, Cry For Hope

Garth Hewitt

CD Sales

available all weekend

Look for Garth's CDs available for sale in G-Source all weekend - there will be copies of his latest album, [Easter Revolution](#) with it's accompanying booklet, the [My Name Is Palestine](#) album, and the [My Name Is Palestine](#) vinyl 12"single
[Or buy them from the music page of his website here](#)



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