



OSSIAN: WARRIOR POET

REKINDLING SCOTLAND'S ANCIENT SAGAS

An illustrated edition of Scotland's sagas for a new generation.

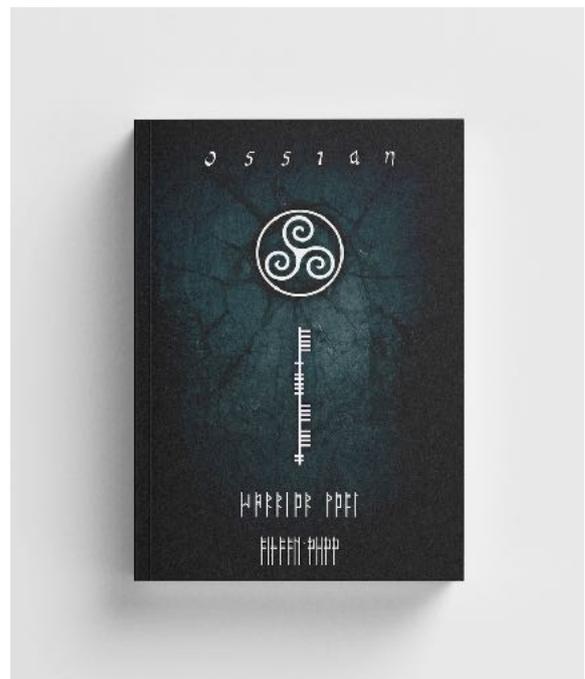
Scottish artist Eileen Budd has created **Ossian: Warrior Poet**, a new illustrated edition of the Poems of Ossian, which brings James Macpherson's text to life through colourful artwork, maps, and new commentaries.

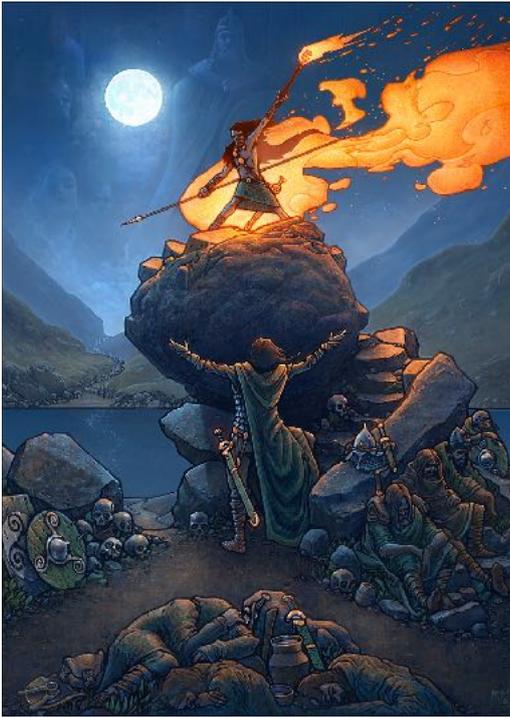
Ossian tells of Fingal, a warrior chief-among-chiefs who travelled with his army of heroes across the ancient mountains, seas and forests of third-century Alba. When published in the late 1700s, Ossian's dramatic tales had a huge influence on Romantic imaginations - despite controversy over their origins, they were celebrated by Napoleon, painted by Ingres and translated by Goethe.

Today, the tales of Ossian are little known outside academia. They deserve to be rediscovered.

Our new edition updates Macpherson's 1773 edition of the text, with lots of new additions:

- * Full-page illustrations of key moments in the story, bursting with colour, life and detail. These new illustrations are based on years of research into the archeological, linguistic and geological records.
- * A fresh introduction and commentary for each chapter to help summarise and explain the action.
- * Hand-drawn maps, showing the locations and routes of the poems.
- * Family trees for the main characters, setting out their inter-connections.
- * An index of hundreds of characters and locations, to help readers keep track!





Artist Eileen Budd first read Ossian as a teenager, growing up in Perthshire. She was captivated: ‘the battles were epic, and the language was so lyrically linked with the natural landscape of Scotland it felt like discovering a portal into our country’s ancient past. I imagined these warriors racing across the land and raising the stones for long-forgotten heroes fallen in war.

‘The poems correlate with historical events during the Roman occupation, showing the Caledonians to be far more civilised than the image painted by Roman historians... I want these stories to be known by a new generation because they are so important to the history and culture of Scotland.’

Publication information

Ossian: Warrior Poet will be released in summer 2021, by indie publisher Wide Open Sea. The book will be produced, designed and printed in Scotland.

This new illustrated edition of Ossian is aimed at a wide general readership, and we hope it will appeal to people interested in Scottish literature and culture, landscape and archaeology as well as graphic illustration, heroic sagas and legends.



Support the project

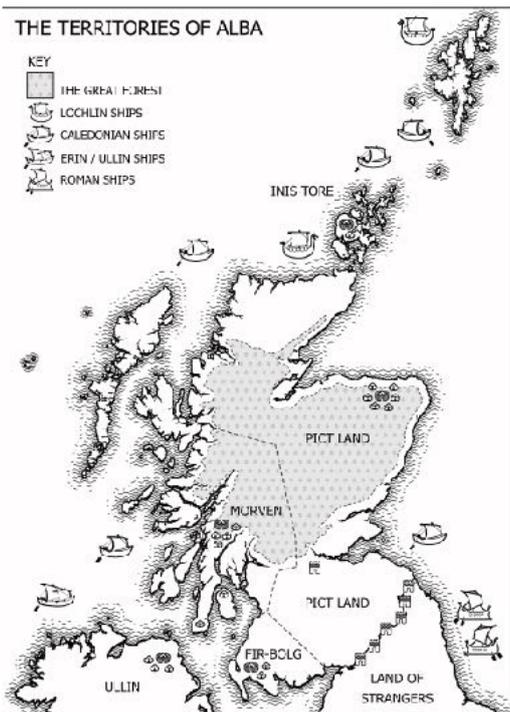
We are using the [Kickstarter](https://www.kickstarter.com) crowdfunding platform to collect pre-orders and fund the printing costs of the first edition. Wide Open Sea is a small press and we rely on personal connection and word of mouth.

Supporters can pre-order a copy of the book for £30.

We also offer a range of exciting rewards for those who choose to contribute more, including limited edition art prints and postcards.

We invite you to read more on our [kickstarter page](https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/wideopensea/ossian-warrior-poet), and hope you will help us to ignite the the tales of Ossian!

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For more information, please get in touch:

Email hello@wideopensea.co.uk

Or visit our website [wideopensea.co.uk](https://www.wideopensea.co.uk)