

Author's Acknowledgements – 'Dear Dr Chekhov'

I drew on various books and works of research for the writing of this radioplay and am very thankful for these excellent resources.

In relation to guano and mining these works include Gregory T. Cushman's *Guano and the Opening of the Pacific World: A Global Ecological History* (Cambridge University Press); David Northrup's *Indentured Labour in the Age of Imperialism 1834-1922* (Cambridge University Press); *Japanese-American History: an A-Z Reference from 1868 to Present*, ed. Brian Niiya, (Japanese American National Association, 1993); Bill Willmott, 'Chinese contract labour in the Pacific Islands during the nineteenth century', *The Journal of Pacific Studies*, Volume 27, no.2, 2004; Shlomowitz Ralph, Munro Doug. 'The Ocean Island (Banaba) and Nauru labour trade 1900-1940', *Journal de la Société des océanistes*. 94, 1992-1; Ben Daley, 'Mining the Reefs and Cays: Coral, Guano and Rock Phosphate Extraction in the Great Barrier Reef, Australia, 1844-1940', *Environment and History* 12 (2006); and Albert F. Ellis's first hand accounts particularly, *Adventuring in Coral Seas*, and other documents held by the National Archives of Australia. The line 'materially enhancing the output and the wealth of the world's real agricultural assets' is quoted from Rt Hon Viscount Bledisloe's Introduction to Ellis's *Adventuring in Coral Seas*.

The characterization of Phoebe Jane Phillips and history of Lady Elliott Island drew on resources from the National Archives of Australia and Lady Elliot Island's online site, and the author's first hand research on the island (1995).

Information about Sakhalin Island has been sourced from various print and online publications, including Anton Chekhov's *The Island of Sakhalin*, trans Luba and Michael Terpak (The Folio Society); the Sakhalin Regional Museum digital archive; the online Environmental Justice Atlas (<https://ejatlas.org/>); Pacific Environment – Protecting the Living Environment of the Pacific Rim (<http://pacificenvironment.org/>); and Andrew Gentes, 'The Institution of Russia's Sakhalin Island Policy, from 1868 to 1875', *Journal of Asian History* (2002) 36(1).

Texts about and by Chekhov have been drawn upon in the creation of Chekhov's fictional letters and the Narrator's commentary. The line 'Darkness is on the waters...' is adapted from *Anton Chekhov, A Journey to the End of the Russian Empire*, translated by Rosamund Bartlet (2004). The line 'The serf is still in him. The debt still there' is adapted from Seamus Heaney's poem 'Chekhov on Sakhalin'; the line 'try for the right tone-not tract, not thesis' is quoted from that poem. Other fragments of Chekhov's speech and his short stories are adapted and quoted from *The Island of Sakhalin*, trans Luba and Michael Terpak (The Folio Society); *Anton Chekhov's Life and Thought: Selected Letters and Commentary*, by Antón Pavlovich Chejón, trans Michael H. Hein, with S. Karlinsky (Northwestern University Press); and *Forty Stories by Anton Chekhov*, Trans Robert Payne (Vintage Classics). The Chekhov short story from which Phoebe reads, is 'The Lady with the Dog', in *Anton Chekhov's Short Stories*, (Ed. Ralph E. Matlaw), New York: W.W. Norton 1979, 224-25. The list of implements at the Sakhalin infirmaries is adapted from the article 'Mania Sakhalinosa: an episode in the life of Dr. Anton Chekhov', by John Coope and published in *Medical History*, Volume 23, Issue 1, 1979.

Atsuo's first haiku 'Kochira muke [...] Aki no kure' by Matsuo Bashō is adapted from *Bashō and His Interpreters: Selected Hokku with Commentary*, Makoto Ueda (Stanford University Press). All the following haikus are by Jane Messer.

Program credits:

Actors

Narrator: Ella Scott Lynch

Anton Chekhov: Shai Alexander

Phoebe Jane Phillips: Freya Irving

Atsuo Goto: Kengo Hasuo

Raj Kumar: Gerard Miranda

Ship's captain, Albert Ellis: Greg Refeld

James Phillips, lighthouse keeper: Gary Bryson

Mrs Phillips, lighthouse keeper's wife: Margaret Irving

First Officer, Fred Angel: Adam Beale

Sakhalin Convicts: As Gusev, Dimitry Nikolaev and as Anya, Esther Krause with Galina Lazareva and Greg Refeld

Music

Singer: Galina Lazareva

Musical improvisations: Violin—Christopher Latham and Veren Grigorov, wind instruments—Jim Denley, piano—Chris Abrahams, percussion—Nightflight to Venus

Incorporated into one of the violin improvisations was a melody composed by Hollis Taylor for the ABC Radio program *Dance of the Hungry Ghosts*.

Production

Writer: Jane Messer

Field recordings, sound design: Jane Ulman

Final mix: Phillip Ulman

Voice recordings and additional mix: Peter Ring

Produced at Macquarie University's Faculty of Arts sound and drama studios.

Dear Dr Chekhov was produced and directed by Jane Messer and Jane Ulman.

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body, the Ian Reed Foundation, and Macquarie University, Faculty of Arts.



MACQUARIE
University



Australian Government

Australia
Council
for the Arts

The logo for the Australia Council for the Arts includes a stylized graphic of a person with arms raised, forming a circle, positioned to the right of the text.

