

Daniel Patrick Quinn

Independent cultural researcher, writer, explorer and experimental musician

At a glance...

20+ years - independent cultural and research projects

2006 - 2025 - One More Grain music and performances

2009 - present - Gunung Bagging

7,150+ - Earth Ribus catalogued

2026 - Lunar Ribus research published

2027 - *The Ribu Bagger's Guide to the Solar System*



For more than two decades I have developed independent projects combining cultural exploration, geographical research, writing, music and new ways of understanding landscapes.

My work has taken me from documenting mountains in Indonesia and Malaysia to creating experimental music influenced by Indonesian gamelan, and more recently to developing a global system for identifying and comparing mountains on Earth and other planetary bodies.

My work has been covered by a wide range of international and specialist media, including **The Sunday Times, BBC, The Independent, The Quietus, Bandcamp, Geographical, Al Jazeera, The Jakarta Post, Tempo** and **Asian Geographic**.

Three projects in particular represent the breadth of this work.

One More Grain

One More Grain is my long-running experimental music project, combining electronic and acoustic composition with ideas drawn from place, rhythm, movement and Indonesian musical traditions.

The project has produced numerous albums and collaborations, including work with Indonesian composer and musician Iwan Gunawan, as well as *Where Is The City From? Renditions Of Gamelan Music*.

My music has also developed through extensive engagement with landscape and place, including recordings made in the Outer Hebrides. Recent releases include *Step-Selection* (2025), a microtonal work completed after the One More Grain trilogy.

Alongside composition and recording, I have performed internationally and worked across the boundaries between experimental music, Indonesian culture and contemporary artistic practice.

Gunung Bagging

In 2009 I co-founded **Gunung Bagging**, an independent project documenting the mountains of Indonesia and Malaysia.

Over many years the project has developed into a substantial geographical and cultural resource, combining original field research, route information, mountain databases, writing, photography and exploration.

The project grew from my extensive travel through Southeast Asia and my interest in the relationships between mountains, people, routes and landscapes. It has involved thousands of

hours of research and fieldwork and has become a long-running online resource for people interested in climbing and exploring the mountains of Indonesia, Malaysia and wider Southeast Asia.

My books *Gunung Nusantara* and *Exploring Malaysia's Mountains* developed from this work.

World Ribus

World Ribus is my most substantial recent research project a systematic global project to identify and catalogue the world's most topographically prominent mountains.

The project developed from five years of independent research and culminated in the publication of *The Relative Mountains of Earth: The Ribus* in 2024.

The book catalogues approximately **7,150 mountains worldwide with at least 1,000 metres of topographic prominence**, applying a consistent geographical methodology to a subject that had previously lacked a comprehensive global catalogue.

World Ribus has subsequently expanded beyond Earth. Current research covers the Moon, Mars, Venus, Mercury and other planetary bodies, developing methods for applying the concepts of topographic prominence and anti-prominence to extraterrestrial landscapes, including both mountains and major depressions such as impact craters.

This work combines geographical research, digital terrain analysis, database construction, cartography, writing and scientific communication.

Selected press & reviews

“Man of the moment” — *The Sunday Times*

“A singular vision... Daniel Patrick Quinn is pushing its remit to new limits” — *The Independent*

“International man of mystery” — *Bandcamp*

“The global project redefining mountain mapping” — *Geographical*

“A rarity in his generation... a fundamental force” — *The Quietus*

Recent coverage of World Ribus has included features in **Geographical**, **UK Hillwalking** and **UKClimbing**, including coverage of the global Ribus catalogue, Lunar Ribus and people climbing Ribu peaks.

The *Relative Hills Society* and *Munro Society* have also published reviews of *The Relative Mountains of Earth*, describing it as “an amazing book” and “a really interesting read”.

A broader practice

Although these projects operate in different fields, they share a common interest in **place, landscape, exploration, mapping and unconventional ways of seeing the world**.

My work has consequently moved between cultural production and independent research: from experimental music and Indonesian cultural collaboration, through long-term geographical documentation, to the development of new systems for understanding planetary landscapes.

Selected outputs

- *The Relative Mountains of Earth: The Ribus* — book, 2024
- *Gunung Nusantara* — book, 2021
- *Exploring Malaysia's Mountains* — book, 2024
- One More Grain — multiple albums and international performances, 2006–2025
- *Where Is The City From? Renditions Of Gamelan Music* — 2024
- *Step-Selection* — One More Grain, 2025
- *A Global Catalogue of Lunar Topographic Prominence ≥ 1 km* — 2026, with Oscar Argudo and Jim Singh
- *The Ribu Bagger's Guide to the Solar System* — forthcoming 2027, with Oscar Argudo and Jim Singh

I am available for selected commissions, collaborations, talks, research and advisory work with organisations and individuals interested in **culture, geography, landscape, exploration, environmental communication, independent research and unconventional cultural projects**.

Daniel Patrick Quinn

www.gunung.org

dan@gunung.org

+44 7735 115013