

MUSIC

Cape Breton's Diversity in Unity

Aftermath

© Al Provoe.

There are tears today around Westray;
They have a hurt, the pain will stay.
The dust of coal and cruel methane
Destroyed a driving bid for gain.

With drill and loader close at hand,
He'd bore and scrape and watch and plan.
He feared the roof stone, hanging tough,
That sometimes crashed mid'st clouds of dust.

No need for haste now, want or speed,
To bolt the roof for safety need,
To aid a man in quest for wealth,
Who operate with ken and stealth.

And now these colliery men from home,
Shall never see their families grow,
Shall nevermore hear tiny feet
That ran to greet them from the street.

Devastated, anxious, and sad,
We rue the chance they never had.
We damn the need to place a blame,
When all you have is down the drain.

But morning sun will rise again,
As sure the rooster crows,
And man will toil beneath the soil
Where'er the coal seams grow.

Recording:

[Aftermath](#), 1996. The Men of the Deeps. FT-59. Beaton Institute, Cape Breton University.