PILGRIMAGE to GALLIPOLI

CHRIS CREE BROWN
For my generation Gallipoli was that distant battle memorialized on Anzac day. At the obligatory dawn service when we were exhorted “We will remember them, we will remember them....". But in my youth the only real war, gleaned from comic books, was World War II, with the Evil Nazis in Europe, the Yellow Peril in the Pacific, and our parents’ stories of life in wartime, the hardships, the losses. Gallipoli belonged to another time, another place, altogether too remote. And then came Peter Weir’s 1981 film “Gallipoli” and suddenly our consciousness was illuminated regarding that doomed campaign and what it meant for the Anzac soldiers, the resentment at the incompetence of the British command that led to such slaughter, but also pride at the Anzac soldiers’ courage and determination in the face of impossible odds. In popular parlance Gallipoli is now regarded as a pivotal moment in the history of NZ and Australia, the point at which a sense of true nationhood was born.

In 2008 there are no longer any living veterans of the Gallipoli campaign. Instead the place, Çanakkale/Gallipoli, has become a place of pilgrimage for later generations of Kiwis and Aussies. The personal significance of Gallipoli is unique for every individual. This moving sound document is Chris Cree Brown’s journey to Gallipoli. 

Jack Body
Part I  39'45"
Part II  34'45"

Pilgrimage to Gallipoli is a Radiophonic work that is an attempt to express something of the experience of attending the ANZAC day commemoration at ANZAC cove in Turkey.

In a live performance, the bugle at the end of the work is best played live.