



**EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**



EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

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7-29 AUGUST 2021

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FÀILTE / WELCOME

Welcome to the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival. More than any other Festival, this year's programme is an act of optimism. We hope that in the following pages you find a thoughtful, reassuring and joyful route back to live performance.

When considering what to plan for the 2021 Festival, we were faced with many questions. Should it exist only online? Should we organise our usual type of Festival? Or should we design a different type of programme that prioritises social distancing and outdoor settings? As you read on, you will see that we have chosen the latter alongside a generous programme of digital streams and broadcasts.

The majority of this programme takes place in covered outdoor auditoria with a few carefully planned indoor events. Each project is the result of detailed and innovative thinking from artists to Government officials in health, planning and licensing. Our thanks to the Scottish Government, EventScotland and colleagues from the City of Edinburgh for their patience and support.

In the midst of so many challenges, it has been a delight to hear the voice of the artist re-emerge. Much of this programme centres on the juxtaposition of the familiar and the new. Errollyn Wallen weaves new composition through Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*,

singer Lisa O'Neill joins Lau in a celebration of past and present musical bonds between Scotland and Ireland and Damon Albarn introduces audiences to his new ambient project, *The Nearer the Fountain, More Pure the Stream Flows*. While it is not yet safe to welcome large international companies, artists such as Irish actor Domhnall Gleeson, South African soprano Golda Schultz and Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov, will make special appearances. Some of Scotland's best-loved artists including Alan Cumming, Nicola Benedetti and Hannah Lavery offer exciting works alongside commissioned digital pieces from Alice Ripoll (São Paulo), Omar Rajeh (Beirut) and Gregory Maqoma (Soweto).

A full Festival Chorus reunion and the live participation of community groups and students from schools across Edinburgh will have to wait for another time. For now, engagement remains mostly online, but we look forward to welcoming everyone back to the world's greatest stage when it is safe to do so.

The 2021 programme is a collective effort between artists, arts workers, local audiences, funders and supporters. We are not certain of what the coming months will bring. We are, however, committed to working together on a return to sharing in the joy of live performance.

Fergus Linehan
Festival Director

Francesca Hegyi
Executive Director

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ABERDEEN STANDARD INVESTMENTS OPENING EVENT: NIGHT LIGHT

Compagnie Carabosse

6-8 Aug From 8pm
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDEN EDINBURGH
FREE tickets required
Visit eif.co.uk for full details of the event and how to book tickets.

Sponsored by
AberdeenStandard
Investments

Supported by
EventScotland

In collaboration with
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

We celebrate the opening of the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival with a night walk that engages all the senses: the warmth, sound and scent of fire collide with the crisp air and an engrossing backdrop of traditional Scottish music. French artistic collective Compagnie Carabosse paint with a palette of fire, illuminating our Festival City's Botanic Garden with a bespoke creation for visitors to explore.

This welcome back to the International Festival is accompanied by a live soundtrack of tunes from Scotland and beyond, exploring a rich history of cultural exchange.

★★★★★

'A primal experience, a respectful celebration of the beauty and power of the elements: there is fire of course, but also air and water. It's a truly beautiful sight to behold this holy trinity.'

Arts Hub on Fire Gardens at Adelaide Festival



DIGITAL PROGRAMME

Sharing the joy of discovery with viewers at home

Our digital programme offers audiences the opportunity to discover artists from this year's International Festival at home for free. The programme includes performance streams of Isata Kanneh-Mason's virtuosic concert with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the explosive sounds of Scottish folk trio Talisk and the invigorating stylings of the Zehetmair Quartet.

We are also hosting three digital-only performances, allowing audiences to journey through different cultures without the need for physical travel. Specially commissioned performance, *Dancing in the Streets*, features four dance films from around the world, created in response to performers' experiences of the past year, while *Chotto Xenos* delves into the untold stories of colonial soldiers in the First World War. Lastly, *Niqabi Ninja* is a unique audio journey through the streets of Cairo, which Edinburgh audiences can experience whilst wandering the Scottish capital.

For more information go to p68 and visit eif.co.uk/athome



ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

Richard Strauss
Sir Andrew Davis / Louisa Muller
Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Concert performance

25, 27, 29 Aug 7.30pm
2hrs 15mins approx. (no interval)

EDINBURGH ACADEMY
JUNIOR SCHOOL
£35-£40

Royal Scottish National Orchestra
Sir Andrew Davis Conductor
Louisa Muller Staging

Cast includes
Dorothea Röschmann Ariadne
David Butt Philip Bacchus
Brenda Rae Zerbinetta
Catriona Morison Composer
Martin Gantner Music Master
Sunnyboy Dladla Brighella
Serena Saenz Naiad
Soraya Mafi Echo
Jonathan McGovern Wigmaker
Filipe Manu Officer
Thomas Quasthoff Major-Domo

Strauss Ariadne auf Naxos
(1916 version)

Sung in German with
English supertitles

Supported by
Dunard Fund
James and Morag Anderson

It's the party to end all parties. But two entertainments have been double-booked to mark the evening's climax – a serious opera and a slapstick comedy. The star soprano is throwing a tantrum, and the staff are hiding the chaos from the boss. There's only one solution: perform both shows at the same time.

Under conductor Sir Andrew Davis, the Royal Scottish National Orchestra gave unforgettable performances of two parts of Wagner's *Ring* cycle at the International Festival in recent years. The same performers return with another sumptuous, late-Romantic opera: Richard Strauss's comedy about high art and low art, life, love and fidelity.

This is a brand new concert staging by brilliant young director Louisa Muller. Among the specially selected cast are revered German soprano Dorothea Röschmann as the opera's wronged heroine, Thomas Quasthoff as the house's major-domo and prize-winning Scottish singer Catriona Morison as the Composer.

As an opera within an opera and as a sly commentary on the struggles between high culture and low entertainment, Strauss's comic creation was far ahead of its time. Bursting with life, vigour and humour, it's also an opera that shows you can rediscover love in even the most unexpected places.



DIDO'S GHOST

Errollyn Wallen
John Butt / Frederic Wake-Walker
Dunedin Consort

A new opera incorporating
Henry Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*

Concert performance

20–22 Aug 7.30pm
1hr 45mins approx. (no interval)

EDINBURGH ACADEMY
JUNIOR SCHOOL
£29 – £34

Dunedin Consort
John Butt Conductor
Frederic Wake-Walker Director

Golda Schultz Dido/Anna
Matthew Brook Aeneas
Nardus Williams Belinda
Allison Cook Lavinia
Henry Waddington Sorcerer

Errollyn Wallen Dido's Ghost

A new opera incorporating
Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*

Sung in English with supertitles

Co-commissioned by
Edinburgh International Festival,
Dunedin Consort and
Mahogany Opera,
the Barbican Centre,
Buxton International Festival
and Philharmonia Baroque
Orchestra & Chorale

Supported by
James and Morag Anderson
Binks Trust

The story of Dido and Aeneas didn't end with Dido's death. Discover what happened next and how memories wield a power all of their own, as composer Errollyn Wallen continues the tale, interweaving a full performance of Purcell's great operatic tragedy within her own brilliant new opera.

Belize-born British composer Errollyn Wallen has written pop- and jazz-influenced songs alongside contemporary classical music, and her reimagining of Parry's *Jerusalem* was heard at last year's Last Night of the Proms. Her arresting new opera, with a libretto by Wesley Stace, stars South African soprano Golda Schultz as Dido, and is staged by British director Frederic Wake-Walker.

Under the leadership of scholar and Baroque music authority John Butt, the Dunedin Consort is Scotland's own early music ensemble, renowned for bringing ancient sounds into the present day, and rediscovering familiar music in new and surprising ways.

Dido's Ghost reframes, illuminates and expands Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas*, which exists in its entirety as a flashback within Wallen's new drama. Performed on period instruments, *Dido's Ghost* bridges the gap between worlds, as past blurs into present, and memory becomes emotion, in a new blending of ancient and modern.



FALSTAFF

Giuseppe Verdi
Stuart Stratford / Sir David McVicar
Scottish Opera

8, 10, 12, 14 Aug 7.15pm
2hrs 20mins approx. (one interval)

FESTIVAL THEATRE
£36 – £41


Scottish Opera
Stuart Stratford Conductor
Sir David McVicar Director
& Designer
Lizzie Powell Lighting Designer
Andrew George Choreographer

Cast includes

Roland Wood Sir John Falstaff
Jamie MacDougall Bardolfo
Elizabeth Llewellyn Alice Ford
Sioned Gwen Davies Meg Page
Louise Winter Mistress Quickly

Verdi Falstaff

Sung in English with
English supertitles

 12 & 14 Aug 7.15pm

Supported by
Sir Ewan and Lady Brown

Incorrigible rake, freeloader, past-it playboy – Sir John Falstaff needs a ruse so that he can continue his life of excess. He decides to try his luck with two of Windsor’s upstanding married women, writing them identical love letters in the hope of seducing them – and of bagging some cash from their rich husbands. But sly Alice Ford and shrewd Meg Page quickly spot his scheme – and resolve to teach the drunken rogue a lesson he won’t quickly forget.

Adapted from Shakespeare’s *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Verdi’s final opera *Falstaff* is a fast-paced, life-affirming comedy – a boisterous send-up of larger-than-life excess, but also an affectionate celebration of the irrepressibility of the human spirit.

Scottish Opera returns to the International Festival with a new production by Glasgow-born director Sir David McVicar, specially adapted from the outdoor presentation. His new staging gets to the bones of *Falstaff*, balancing the laugh-out-loud moments with a poignant tale of a childlike man who has outlived his own time – full of experience and regret, but ultimately a glorious celebration of life itself.

Written when the composer was nearing 80, *Falstaff* is Verdi’s big belly laugh of a sign-off to the operatic world, with a quicksilver score that bubbles with wit and revelry – a riotous comedy that’s as wise as it is witty.

NICOLA BENEDETTI IN RESIDENCE

This year's International Festival resident artist, Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti, is one of the world's most sought-after violinists of her generation. With a repertoire stretching from the Baroque to contemporary music, she combines her wide musical range with her passion for music education in three unique concerts throughout the Festival.

Benedetti Baroque Orchestra

Nicola Benedetti Director / Violin

Programme includes

Geminiani Concerto Grosso in D minor 'La Folia'

Vivaldi Concerto in D major RV211

Vivaldi Concerto in B minor RV386

Vivaldi 'Summer' from The Four Seasons

Nicola Benedetti begins her three-concert International Festival residency with a concert revealing the multifaceted musical creations of Vivaldi. She is joined by the Benedetti Baroque Orchestra of specially selected period-instrument players.

14 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 - £34

Supported by **Binks Trust**

The Story of the Violin

Nicola Benedetti Violin

Programme includes

Biber Passacaglia

Bach Chaconne

Paganini Caprices 1 & 24

Ysaÿe Sonata No 3

Nicola Benedetti puts the violin front and centre in this concert as she charts the history of this remarkable instrument. She begins with the spiritual symbolism of early Baroque composer Heinrich Biber and the richness of Bach's monumental Chaconne, taking in legendary Italian violinist Paganini, before pushing her instrument in entirely new directions with two new pieces from today.

17 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Claire and Mark Urquhart**

The Soldier's Tale

Nicola Benedetti Violin

Nicholas Bayley Double bass

Maximiliano Martín Clarinet

Ursula Leveaux Bassoon

Philip Cobb Cornet

Peter Moore Trombone

Louise Goodwin Percussion

Stravinsky The Soldier's Tale

A Faustian pact with the Devil and a charmed violin with uncanny powers over all who hear it. Benedetti's final performances as resident artist presents Stravinsky's darkly witty *The Soldier's Tale*, a unique mix of theatre and music, in which she's joined by a specially selected ensemble of musicians and actors.

Performed in English with supertitles

21 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 - £34

Supported by **Geoff and Mary Ball**



CHINEKE! CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Vaughan Williams Piano Quintet in C minor
Coleridge-Taylor Nonet in F minor

Chineke! Chamber Ensemble provides crucial opportunities for Black and Minority Ethnic classical musicians. The Ensemble performs the richly lyrical Nonet by British composer Coleridge-Taylor, alongside Vaughan Williams's Piano Quintet.

16 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Professor Ludmilla Jordanova**

CHINEKE! ORCHESTRA & WILLIAM EDDINS

William Eddins Conductor
Simone Ibbett-Brown Staging

Andrea Baker Mezzo soprano

Ayanna Witter-Johnson New Work WORLD PREMIERE
Judith Weir woman.life.song

Following the Chineke! Chamber Ensemble's performance on 16 August, the larger forces of the Chineke! Orchestra assemble under US conductor William Eddins for Judith Weir's remarkable orchestral song cycle on all aspects of womanhood, using texts by Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison and Clarissa Pinkola Estés.

Sung in English with supertitles

17 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx | No interval
£29 - £34

Supported by **Susie Thomson**

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sir Simon Rattle Conductor

Ibert Divertissement
Martinů Jazz Suite
Strauss *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme*

Sir Simon Rattle and the London Symphony Orchestra together form one of the UK's most esteemed musical partnerships. The LSO stands among the world's truly great orchestras, while Rattle has long been revered for his pioneering vision of music, his championing of little-known works and the power and spontaneity of his performances.

Despite their serious credentials, musical jokes are high on conductor and orchestra's agenda at their International Festival concert. After all, who couldn't do with some humour to lift the spirits?

In his riotous *Divertissement*, Ibert's sole intention was to put a smile on your face, with its nose-thumbing, mickey-taking pranks and devil-may-care tomfoolery. Strauss might be more sober in the incidental music he wrote for Molière's satirical *Le Bourgeois gentilhomme*, though it reaches its comic conclusion in a lavish musical feast that quotes classics from across the repertoire.

19 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 - £34



LAMENT FOR SHEKU BAYOH

National Theatre of Scotland

Hannah Lavery Writer & Director

Kirsty Currie Designer

Beldina Odenyo Composer & Musician

Cast includes

Saskia Ashdown, Patricia Panther,

Courtney Stoddart

'No problem here pal. None at all.'



In the early hours of the morning, 31 year-old Sheku Bayoh set out to walk home from his friend's place after watching a boxing match. Just hours later, he had lost his life in police custody. *Lament for Sheku Bayoh* is a poetic expression of grief for the human behind the headlines and a non-apologetic reflection on racism in Scotland today.

Lament for Sheku Bayoh inspires activities for schools as part of our year-round commitment to communities across Scotland. Find out more at eif.co.uk/L&E

Contains strong language and descriptions of brutality and racial violence

25–28 Aug 7.30pm 26, 28 Aug 2.30pm | THE LYCEUM
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval | £22

 25 Aug 7.30pm

  28 Aug 2.30pm

Co-produced by Edinburgh International Festival, National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**

HINDU TIMES

Jaimini Jethwa Writer



Caitlin Skinner Director



Hindu gods Vishnu and Brahma incarnate as two local wide boys in Dundee. They're here to save an Indian woman called Lakhi, AKA Lakshmi. She's in deep trouble. She's forgotten that she's a goddess.

Can the gods help her? Can they save the Earth? And find the elixir of life?

This rehearsed reading is presented by Dundee Rep Theatre, Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh and Pitlochry Festival Theatre in association with Stellar Quines Theatre Company.

Contains strong language and adult themes

Rehearsed reading 20 Aug 7.30pm
21 Aug 2.30pm & 7.30pm   | THE LYCEUM
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £11

  21 Aug 7.30pm

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**



YOU BURY ME

Ahlam Writer

Katie Posner Director

This is a story about young people discovering their own bodies and one another's. Bodies that are violated and brutalised by the State. Bodies that make history. Winner of the inaugural Women's Prize for Playwriting 2020, *You Bury Me* is about a generation fighting to live and love freely in post-Arab Spring Cairo. This rehearsed reading is presented by Paines Plough, Ellie Keel Productions and 45North.

Rehearsed reading 13, 14 Aug 7.30pm 14 Aug 2.30pm
THE LYCEUM | 1hr 30mins approx | No interval | £11

  14 Aug 7.30pm

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**



DANCING IN THE STREETS

Gregory Maqoma
Omar Rajeh
Alice Ripoll
Janice Parker

20 Aug 5pm, 21 Aug 11am
Gregory Maqoma

20 Aug 1pm, 21 Aug 3pm
Janice Parker

20 Aug 11am, 21 Aug 5pm
Omar Rajeh

20 Aug 3pm, 21 Aug 1pm
Alice Ripoll

1hr approx. (no interval)

DANCE BASE
£11

Choreographers
Gregory Maqoma
Janice Parker
Omar Rajeh
Alice Ripoll

Available to be streamed from
eif.co.uk

Made possible through
the **PLACE programme**

Research & Development
supported by the **British Council**

When the world paused, our relationship with the spaces around us changed. Confined to our homes, those brief excursions out into our surroundings provided a powerful and welcome sense of freedom and an opportunity to see things in a new light. You might have noticed your relationship with your city changing, enriched by the new appreciation of truly looking. This was a shared phenomenon.

Dancing in the Streets is a series of films from the streets of cities around the world. Edinburgh International Festival has commissioned four of the world's most acclaimed choreographers, Alice Ripoll from São Paulo, Omar Rajeh from Beirut, Gregory Maqoma from Soweto and Janice Parker from Edinburgh, to create short films with their dancers, responding to the past year and reflecting on their relationship with their home cities.

Join each choreographer as they present their film for the very first time.



CHOTTO XENOS

A Work for Families Akram Khan Company

Dance film

Akram Khan Choreographer
Sue Buckmaster Director & Adaptation

Inspired by Akram Khan's solo piece *XENOS*, *Chotto Xenos* is a cinematic journey exploring the often forgotten and untold stories of First World War colonial soldiers. Captured from the stage show, this tender yet epic film probes profound issues relevant for young audience members.

With direction by Sue Buckmaster (who directed *Chotto Desh*) in collaboration with video artist Maxime Dos and a powerful performance of Khan's choreography by Kennedy Junior Muntanga, the film features lighting by Guy Hoare, visuals by Lucy Cash, set design by Ingrid Hu, costumes by Kimie Nakano and a stirring original score by Domenico Angarano.

Chotto Xenos inspires activities for schools as part of our year-round commitment to communities across Scotland. Find out more at eif.co.uk/L&E

STREAMING 14–15 Aug via eif.co.uk
50mins approx. | FREE and ticketed

Co-produced by Edinburgh International Festival and Birmingham International Dance Festival

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**

NIQABI NINJA BY SARA SHAARAWI

Independent Arts Projects

Sara Shaarawi Writer
Catrin Evans Director

Combining street artwork, audio-story performance and a walk through your city, *Niqabi Ninja* is a graphic-novel style revenge story written in reaction to the 2012–2014 mob sexual assaults in Tahrir Square, Cairo.

Intimate, visceral and pulsating with a soundtrack to inspire your own resistance against gendered and state violence, this is a fearless, darkly comic reflection on the lengths Hana will go to, to keep herself and other women safe.

An intimate performance to be experienced in pairs or small groups.

Presented simultaneously in five locations across Scotland, this is a collective experience offering the space to think about what it means to walk in public without fear.

12–28 August
Hosted in Edinburgh by THE LYCEUM,
Grindlay Street, Edinburgh EH3 9AX

Full details can be found at NiqabiNinja.net
Book tickets at lyceum.org.uk



ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & VALERY GERGIEV

Valery Gergiev Conductor

Daniil Trifonov Piano
Christopher Hart Trumpet

Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings
Shostakovich Piano Concerto No 1
Stravinsky Apollon musagète

Russian powerhouse conductor Valery Gergiev and his compatriot, fiery pianist Daniil Trifonov, both regular and much-loved visitors to the International Festival, join the Royal Scottish National Orchestra for a glorious concert of heartfelt melody and mischievous humour: the fun and frolics of Shostakovich's youthful First Piano Concerto, Tchaikovsky's sunny *Serenade for Strings* and the classical beauty of Stravinsky's *Apollon musagète*.

18 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 20mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by
Dunard Fund

A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING

Edinburgh Festival Ensemble
Wayne Marshall Music Director
Kim Criswell Staging

Danielle de Niese Lynne
Kim Criswell Victoria
Anna-Jane Casey Alyson
Damian Humbley Jason
Richard Morrison Martin

Rodgers & Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing

Music by **Richard Rodgers**
Lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**

Musical Arrangements by **Fred Wells**
Orchestration by **Michael Gibson & Jonathan Tunick**
Conceived by **Walter Bobbie**

All the glitz, glamour and unforgettable songs of the classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals – but like you've never heard them before. This dazzling staged musical revue weaves a moving new storyline through iconic songs from *Carousel* and *Oklahoma!*, *The King and I*, *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music*, with performances from some of today's top names in musical theatre.

Conceived and created by Tony Award-winning director and choreographer Walter Bobbie, *A Grand Night for Singing* took Broadway by storm at its opening in 1993. This new staging is conceived by Kim Criswell, one of today's pre-eminent musical theatre singer/actors. She stars in the production, one of a handpicked cast of brilliant musical theatre performers that also includes lyric soprano Danielle de Niese.

8, 10, 12, 13 Aug 7.30pm 10, 13 Aug 3pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval | £35 – £40

Sung in English with supertitles

A Grand Night for Singing is presented
by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd



A GREAT DISORDERED HEART

Aidan O'Rourke

'And thus, as I fancied, the dense life within made itself faintly audible in my ears, family after family contributing its quota to the general hum, and the whole pile beating in tune to its timepieces, like a great disordered heart.'

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON ON EDINBURGH'S COWGATE, 1878

Fiddler, composer and producer Aidan O'Rourke brings a personal concert series and film project to life, considering the past and present of his home in the heart of Edinburgh's Little Ireland. This is a community built on centuries of immigration and on the brink of fading from memory. The recent hiatus in tourism has given the Cowgate and Old Town a chance to reconnect and these connections have led to this honest perspective on Scotland's relationship with Ireland and itself.

The Concerts

In *Shared Melodies*, Aidan O'Rourke is joined by piper Brighde Chaimbeul, concertina player Cormac Begley and a special guest. Irish singer Liam Ó Maonlaí, Scottish singer and piper Allan Macdonald, celebrated trio Sian and special guests explore the threads linking Gaelic song from both sides of the Irish Sea in *Shared Songs*. Finally, *Shared Futures* features Scotland's folk trio Lau together with Lisa O'Neill, one of the most original voices in Irish traditional song.

The Film

'A film about Edinburgh. About multiple Edinburghs, really. It's about centuries of layers. The Old Town has two main rhythms. One is the rhythm of the community. People who live here, go to school here, tend our communal gardens. The other is a rhythm of Airbnb-ers, bus tours and cashmere scarf shoppers. This year, the balance shifted.' AIDAN O'ROURKE

The film *A Great Disordered Heart*, created by Aidan O'Rourke with Mark Cousins, will be released in late 2021.

13 Aug 8pm **Shared Melodies**
Aidan O'Rourke, Cormac Begley
Brighde Chaimbeul and
special guest

14 Aug 8pm **Shared Songs**
Liam Ó Maonlaí, Allan Macdonald,
Sian and special guests

15 Aug 5pm & 8pm **Shared Futures**
Lau, Lisa O'Neill

1hr 15mins (no interval)

OLD COLLEGE QUAD
£26

Aidan O'Rourke Curator

Presented in association with
the **National Concert Hall of
Ireland** and **The Soundhouse
Organisation**



Supported through the
Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund

Supported by
**Edinburgh Futures Institute
at The University of Edinburgh
Culture Ireland**



MEDICINE

Landmark Productions
Galway International
Arts Festival
Enda Walsh

Enda Walsh Writer & Director
Jamie Vartan Set Designer
Adam Silverman
Lighting Designer
Teho Teardo Composer
Helen Atkinson Sound Designer
Joan O'Clery Costume Designer

Cast includes **Clare Barrett, Sean Carpio, Aoife Duffin, Domhnall Gleeson**

Domhnall Gleeson leads a formidable cast in a new play from revered Irish playwright Enda Walsh. Devastatingly funny and profoundly moving, *Medicine* examines social responses to mental health concerns, while deconstructing the fabric of theatrical performance.

John Kane sits on a hospital trolley. Very shortly, a giant lobster, two women called Mary, a very old man and a jazz percussionist arrive. Then everything starts.

Medicine is a dark and frequently absurdist work that shatters the boundary between cast and audience; actors are interrupted by crew members, technical mechanics happen on stage and performance becomes a kind of therapy.

Preview 4–6 Aug 8pm £32
7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 Aug 8pm
10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28 Aug 2pm
29 Aug 6.30pm | TRAVERSE THEATRE
1hr 30mins approx. (no interval) | £37

AD BSL CAP 18, 20 Aug 8pm

Supported by **Culture Ireland**

FIELD – SOMETHING FOR THE FUTURE NOW

Curious Seed

Christine Devaney Concept & Director
Karen Tennent Associate Artist & Designer
Skye Reynolds Associate Artist & Performer
Greg Sinclair Musical Director & Performer

Featuring an ensemble of Edinburgh-based performers

Field is a durational outdoor dance-happening conceived in a physically distanced world.

With the majestic Arthur's Seat as a backdrop, performers respond to the surrounding landscape and each other by following a series of movement and live sound scores.

There's enough room for everyone to immerse themselves in this uplifting work and the beautiful Holyrood Park provides the perfect setting for a joyful celebration.

Watch for a moment or stay for the duration.

22 Aug 1pm & 29 Aug 4pm | HOLYROOD PARK
4hrs approx. | FREE and unticketed

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**



ALAN CUMMING

ALAN CUMMING IS NOT ACTING HIS AGE

Middle-aged polymath Alan Cumming explores the mores of aging and rages against the rejuvenescence machine. In song obviously.

Alan Cumming makes a glorious return to the International Festival in an evening of story and song that joyfully and mischievously celebrates aging.

Winner of Tony and Olivier Awards, and a recipient of multiple Golden Globe and Emmy nominations, Cumming is a star of television, film and theatre, including the acclaimed *Alan Cumming Sings Sappy Songs* at the 2016 International Festival.

28, 29 Aug 7pm & 9.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £37

BALLAKÉ SISSOKO & VINCENT SÉGAL

After years of touring together, legendary kora authority Ballaké Sissoko and cellist Vincent Ségál have created their own hybrid tradition that draws on ancient West African troubadour songs and Baroque music with a clearly modern sensibility. Together the duo were awarded the Victoire de la Musique (often considered the French Grammy Award) for their album *Chamber Music*.

One of today's leading kora masters, Malian musician Sissoko found success as a recording artist, often in collaboration with other world-renowned artists, most notably his cousin Toumani Diabaté. Their spellbinding 1999 album *New Ancient Strings* paid tribute to the highly respected collection of kora duets recorded by their fathers in 1970, *Ancient Strings*.

Ségál, a former member of the French National Orchestra, joins Sissoko in an intimate performance combining classical cello and 21-string kora.

17 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**



SONA JOBARTEH

SONA JOBARTEH

Gambian kora virtuoso Sona Jobarteh comes from a prestigious West African Griot family. She is one of the first female musicians to break away from a tradition that has been dominated by men for seven centuries by telling ancient stories through her music.

After learning to play kora aged five, Jobarteh went on to study Western classical music and has composed cinematic scores and recorded vocals for various Hollywood films. She has collaborated with BBC Symphony Orchestra and headlined music festivals around the world. Jobarteh is a regular member of her brother Tunde Jegede's African Classical Music Ensemble, has set up a music school in The Gambia named after her grandfather and performed alongside her cousin, the Malian kora player, Toumani Diabaté. She makes a special appearance in Edinburgh with her five-piece band.

26 Aug 7.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 - £26

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**

LONELY HOUSE

Katharine Mehrling Actor/singer
Barrie Kosky Piano

Barrie Kosky, Artistic Director of Berlin's Komische Oper, and singer/actor Katharine Mehrling invite you to a sophisticated evening of cabaret. Discover little-known songs by one of Germany's most distinctive and controversial musical figures: Kurt Weill.

Weill is famed and adored for the biting social satires of capitalism, cronyism and corruption that he created with Bertolt Brecht in Berlin. But he fled – first to Paris, then to New York – after discovering he was about to be interned by the Nazis.

There, he continued his unmistakable musical style in a clutch of wildly successful musicals, from *Knickerbocker Holiday* to *Lady in the Dark* (written with Ira Gershwin), from *One Touch of Venus* to *Street Scene* (winner of the inaugural Tony Award for best original score).

Join Kosky and Mehrling in an intimate soirée to discover songs and chansons drawn from Weill's Paris and Broadway sensations.

20, 21 Aug 9.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by
Australian High Commission in the UK

A TOAST TO THE PEOPLE

*'But I don't want comfort. I want poetry. I want danger.
I want freedom. I want goodness. I want sin.'*

ALDOUS HUXLEY, BRAVE NEW WORLD

The Edinburgh International Festival and the Edinburgh International Book Festival partner to present a celebration of emergence and of a new world order that we can imagine and might make possible.


Over five nights, inspirational spoken word artists will present their ideas of what this might be. Celebratory or speculative, personal or political, comfortable or dangerous, these commissions are performed live and will be made into a series of short films to be released online after the event.

Each night includes the premiere of a newly commissioned piece inspired by Gil Scott-Heron and Brian Jackson's 'A Toast to the People', a set of the artists' own choosing and a hosted informal conversation with the artists.

23-27 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. (no interval)

OLD COLLEGE QUAD
£14

Artists include
Vanessa Kisuule
Safiya Sinclair
Wana Udobang
Saul Williams
Rafeef Ziadah

 23-27 Aug 8pm

In partnership with Edinburgh
International Book Festival

Made possible through
the **PLACE programme**



VANESSA KISUULE

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

GREAT FESTIVALS NEED GREAT SUPPORTERS

As a charity, we rely on your generosity
to help us bring art to everyone.

Please support the International Festival and our year-round
work with communities, schools and young people by making
a £5, £10 or £50 donation when booking your tickets.

You can also donate online at eif.co.uk/support-us
or call us on 0131 473 2065.

Edinburgh International Festival is a Registered Charity No SC004694

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

International Festival Stage

10 Arboretum Road, EH3 5PL

Venue subject to planning

Our new specially constructed covered pavilion on the grounds of Edinburgh Academy Junior School provides a relaxed and safe performance environment. Enjoy moving orchestral music, poignant and sometimes riotous concert opera and a spirited musical gala to remember. We invite you to experience the magic of outdoor evening performances with a diverse programme of music and opera in this scenic Edinburgh location.

THE OPENING CONCERT

BBC Symphony Orchestra
Dalia Stasevska Conductor

Anna Clyne New Work WORLD PREMIERE
Respighi Trittico Botticelliano
Stravinsky Pulcinella

The BBC Symphony Orchestra launches the 2021 International Festival's orchestral series with a concert full of the sun, wit and inspiration of Italy. Respighi provides musical reimaginings of a triptych of Botticelli paintings, while Stravinsky raided earlier Italian music for his delirious ballet score *Pulcinella*. To open, a brand new commission from Anna Clyne, one of today's most emotionally involving composers.

Sung in Italian with English supertitles

7 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust**

A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING

Edinburgh Festival Ensemble
Wayne Marshall Music Director
Kim Criswell Staging

Rodgers & Hammerstein's A Grand Night for Singing
Music by **Richard Rodgers**
Lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**

Musical Arrangements by **Fred Wells**
Orchestration by **Michael Gibson & Jonathan Tunick**
Conceived by **Walter Bobbie**

This dazzling staged musical revue weaves a moving new storyline through iconic songs from *Carousel* and *Oklahoma!*, *The King and I*, *South Pacific* and *The Sound of Music*.

8, 10, 12, 13 Aug 7.30pm 10, 13 Aug 3pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval | £35 – £40

Sung in English with supertitles

A Grand Night for Singing is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Vasily Petrenko Conductor

Isata Kanneh-Mason Piano

Clara Schumann Piano Concerto
Beethoven Symphony No 7

Discover Clara Schumann's remarkable Piano Concerto, begun when she was just 14, in the company of one of the composer's most devoted interpreters. Pianist Isata Kanneh-Mason first rose to prominence as one of her family's seven remarkable musical siblings and has since forged a hugely successful solo career. Russian-born conductor Vasily Petrenko and the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra close with the unstoppable rhythms of Beethoven's joyful Seventh Symphony.

9 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Joscelyn Fox**

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & THOMAS SØNDERGÅRD

Thomas Søndergård Conductor

Members of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus
Aidan Oliver Chorus Director

Mendelssohn A Midsummer Night's Dream

Mendelssohn's incidental music to Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* is one of his most comical, romantic, ethereal creations. Seldom performed in its entirety, this is your rare opportunity to discover the composer's magical musical world in the company of one of Scotland's most vibrant musical partnerships.

Sung in English with English supertitles

11 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34



BENEDETTI BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

Nicola Benedetti Director / Violin

Programme includes

Geminiani Concerto Grosso in D minor 'La Folia'

Vivaldi Concerto in D major RV211

Vivaldi Concerto in B minor RV386

Vivaldi 'Summer' from The Four Seasons

Nicola Benedetti begins her three-concert International Festival residency with a concert revealing the multifaceted musical creations of Vivaldi. She is joined by the Benedetti Baroque Orchestra of specially selected period-instrument players.

14 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Binks Trust**

BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Marin Alsop Conductor

Jessie Montgomery Strum

Maxwell Davies A Spell for Green Corn

Beethoven Symphony No 5

The most famous symphony ever written forms the climax of this wide-ranging concert from the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and conductor Marin Alsop. Beethoven's Fifth takes you on a journey through turmoil and mystery to joy and optimism, Maxwell Davies celebrates ancient Orcadian traditions in his folk-inspired *A Spell for Green Corn* and young New Yorker Jessie Montgomery brings unstoppable dance rhythms in her folk- and rock-inspired *Strum*.

15 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Donald and Louise MacDonald**

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & ELIM CHAN

Elim Chan Conductor

Sol Gabetta Cello

Caroline Shaw Entr'acte

Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto No 1

Beethoven Symphony No 1

Argentinian-born Sol Gabetta joins the RSNO in the sparkling wit and drama of Saint-Saëns's concise First Cello Concerto. Principal Guest Conductor Elim Chan completes the concert with Beethoven's pioneering First Symphony and the haunting *Entr'acte* by remarkable young US composer Caroline Shaw.

16 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

CHINEKE! ORCHESTRA & WILLIAM EDDINS

William Eddins Conductor

Simone Ibbett-Brown Staging

Andrea Baker Mezzo soprano

Ayanna Witter-Johnson New work WORLD PREMIERE

Judith Weir woman.life.song

The Chineke! Orchestra assembles under inspirational US conductor William Eddins for Judith Weir's remarkable orchestral song cycle on all aspects of womanhood, using texts by Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison and Clarissa Pinkola Estés.

Sung in English with English supertitles

17 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Susie Thomson**



ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & VALERY GERGIEV

Valery Gergiev Conductor

Daniil Trifonov Piano
Christopher Hart Trumpet

Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings
Shostakovich Piano Concerto No 1
Stravinsky Apollon musagète

Russian powerhouse conductor Valery Gergiev and fiery pianist Daniil Trifonov, join the RSNO for a concert of heartfelt melody and mischievous humour: the fun and frolics of Shostakovich's youthful First Piano Concerto, Tchaikovsky's sunny *Serenade for Strings* and the classical beauty of Stravinsky's *Apollon musagète*.

18 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Dunard Fund**

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sir Simon Rattle Conductor

Ibert Divertissement
Martinů Jazz Suite
Strauss Le Bourgeois gentilhomme

Musical jokes are high on the agenda from the esteemed musical partnership of Sir Simon Rattle and the London Symphony Orchestra, from the nose-thumbing pranks of Ibert's riotous *Divertissement* to Strauss's incidental music to Molière's satirical *Le bourgeois gentilhomme*.

19 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

DIDO'S GHOST

Dunedin Consort
John Butt Conductor
Frederic Wake-Walker Director

Errollyn Wallen Dido's Ghost

A new opera incorporating Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas*

The story of Dido and Aeneas didn't end with Dido's death. Discover what happened next, and how memories wield a power all of their own, as composer Errollyn Wallen, with a libretto by Wesley Stace, continues the tale.

Dido's Ghost reframes, illuminates and expands Purcell's opera *Dido and Aeneas*. Performed on period instruments, *Dido's Ghost* bridges the gap between worlds, as past blurs into present, and memory becomes emotion, in an ambitious new blending of ancient and modern.

20–22 Aug 7.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 45mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Sung in English with supertitles

Supported by
James and Morag Anderson
Binks Trust

THE SOLDIER'S TALE

Stravinsky The Soldier's Tale

A Faustian pact with the Devil and a charmed violin with uncanny powers over all who hear it. Nicola Benedetti's final performance as resident artist presents Stravinsky's darkly witty *The Soldier's Tale*, a unique mix of theatre and music, in which she's joined by a specially selected ensemble of musicians and actors.

Performed in English with supertitles

21 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by **Geoff and Mary Ball**



JOYCE DIDONATO

JOYCE DIDONATO & IL POMO D'ORO My Favourite Things

Zefira Valova Director/violin
Joyce DiDonato Mezzo soprano

Programme to include instrumental and vocal music by Monteverdi, Rossi and Rameau and arias from Handel's operas *Giulio Cesare* and *Ariodante*.

Vocal superstar Joyce DiDonato presents her personal selection of her most cherished opera arias – all from the sumptuous, ornate repertoire of the 17th and 18th centuries. She is joined by fiery Italian period-instrument ensemble Il Pomo d'Oro, recognised for their dynamic performance style.

Sung with English supertitles

23 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

Supported by
**Italian Institute of Culture and
Italian Consulate General-Edinburgh**

THOMAS QUASTHOFF QUARTET For You

Thomas Quasthoff Vocals
Simon Oslender Piano
Dieter Ilg Bass
Wolfgang Haffner Percussion

Described by German magazine *Der Stern* as 'the man with the most beautiful voice in the world', bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff trained as a classical singer, but brings the same intensity and insights to jazz that he once brought to Schubert. Join him and three of Germany's most exceptional jazz performers for an intimate evening of vocal classics.

24 Aug 7.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

ARIADNE AUF NAXOS

Sir Andrew Davis Conductor
Louisa Muller Staging

Strauss *Ariadne auf Naxos* (1916 version)

Strauss's comedy about high art and low art, life, love and fidelity gets a brand new concert staging by Louisa Muller. Among the specially selected cast are revered German soprano Dorothea Röschmann and Thomas Quasthoff as the house's major-domo.

Sung in German with English supertitles

25, 27, 29 Aug 7.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
2hr 15mins approx. | No Interval | £35 – £40

Supported by **Dunard Fund
James and Morag Anderson**

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Kazushi Ono Conductor

Takemitsu *Tree Line*
Hosokawa *Blossoming II*
Ravel *Le tombeau de Couperin*
Prokofiev *Symphony No. 1 'Classical'*

Edinburgh's own Scottish Chamber Orchestra under eminent Japanese maestro Kazushi Ono presents Ravel and Prokofiev. Beforehand, discover two evocative Japanese pieces inspired by the beauty of the natural world.

28 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34

MEMBERS OF THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL CHORUS

Aidan Oliver Conductor & Chorus Director

This year the Festival Chorus returns as a small chamber choir under Chorus Director Aidan Oliver in a concert of varied music by Tallis, Britten, Holst, Errollyn Wallen and Abbie Betinis.

Sunday 29 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
40mins approx. | No interval | £5 – £10

OLD COLLEGE QUAD

International Festival Stage

The University of Edinburgh
South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL

The Edinburgh International Festival takes up residence in the Old College Quad, celebrating its long association with The University of Edinburgh through a varied programme this August. Enjoy chamber music, trad sessions, spoken word and cabaret in our specially constructed covered pavilion.

Performances include *In the Tradition* (p56), our season of traditional music from Scotland and the spoken word series, *A Toast to the People* (p36). While acclaimed ensembles and soloists, including Zehetmair Quartet, Elisabeth Leonskaja and Mariam Batsashvili perform a range of captivating classical music.

In collaboration with The University of Edinburgh

RONALD BRAUTIGAM, ESTHER HOPPE & CHRISTIAN POLTÉRA

Ronald Brautigam Fortepiano
Esther Hoppe Violin
Christian Poltéra Cello

Fanny Mendelssohn Piano Trio
Felix Mendelssohn Piano Trio No 1 in D minor

The celebrated Dutch fortepianist joins two esteemed friends and colleagues for passionate chamber music by musical siblings Fanny and Felix Mendelssohn.

7 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust**

PATRICIA KOPATCHINSKAJA & FAZIL SAY

Patricia Kopatchinskaja Violin
Fazil Say Piano

Schubert Sonatina in A minor
for violin and piano D385
Brahms Violin Sonata No 3 in D minor
Janáček Violin Sonata

Dubbed the 'most exciting violinist in the world', Patricia Kopatchinskaja is a force of nature. She's joined by the equally pioneering Turkish pianist Fazil Say – a keyboard star in his own right, famed for his bright, brilliant playing – in a richly emotional Romantic concert, including Brahms's stormy, fiery, spectacular Third Violin Sonata.

9 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Austrian Cultural Forum London**

ZEHETMAIR QUARTET

Brahms String Quartet in C minor Op 51 No 1
Brahms String Quartet in A minor Op 51 No 2

Playing entirely from memory gives the Zehetmair Quartet's performances a uniquely vivid, invigorating quality that communicates the music's meaning without the barrier of sheet music. They bring together two much-loved chamber works, complementary yet contrasting.

10 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

MARI ERIKSMOEN & DANIEL HEIDE

Mari Eriksmoen Soprano
Daniel Heide Piano

Songs and Lieder by **Grieg, Schumann, Wolf** and **Grøndahl**

With her remarkable purity of tone, her vivid stage personality and her effortless elegance and poise, Norwegian lyric soprano Mari Eriksmoen is one of the most dynamic Scandinavian musicians to have emerged in recent years. Joined by German pianist Daniel Heide, she makes her International Festival debut.

11 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by
Norwegian Consulate General, Edinburgh



MALCOLM MARTINEAU

STEVEN OSBORNE

Schubert Impromptu D935 No 1
Crumb Processional
Tippett Piano Sonata No 2
Beethoven Piano Sonata No 32 in C minor

Combining powerful energy with delicate poetry, Edinburgh-based Steven Osborne is among the most renowned of today's pianists worldwide. He brings together four contrasting pieces that demonstrate his versatility and adventurous spirit.

12 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Gavin and Kate Gemmell**

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV & PRINCIPALS OF THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Mozart Quintet for Piano & Winds
Thuille Sextet for Piano & Winds

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra's Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev is equally respected as a pianist: join him and five of the SCO's celebrated woodwind principals to discover two striking works for piano and winds. Mozart considered his Quintet in E flat for piano and winds to be the best music he'd written, while the Sextet by Ludwig Thuille, a contemporary and friend of Strauss, overflows with jolly melody.

13 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

MALCOLM MARTINEAU & FRIENDS

Walter Scott 250

Elizabeth Watts Soprano
Roderick Williams Baritone
Malcolm Martineau Piano
Sijie Chen Violin
Ursula Smith Cello

A programme with texts by **Sir Walter Scott**, including works by **Schubert**, **Haydn**, **Beethoven** and **Sibelius**

Join Edinburgh's eminent accompanist Malcolm Martineau, as he invites an intimate gathering of musical friends for a concert of songs based around the heroic, romantic verse of Sir Walter Scott, including music by Schubert, Haydn, Beethoven and Sibelius.

14 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **The Calateria Trust**

CHINEKE! CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

Vaughan Williams Piano Quintet in C minor
Coleridge-Taylor Nonet in F minor

Chineke! Chamber Ensemble provides crucial opportunities for Black and Minority Ethnic classical musicians. The Ensemble performs the richly lyrical Nonet by British composer Coleridge-Taylor, alongside Vaughan Williams's passionate but rarely heard Piano Quintet at this year's International Festival.

16 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Professor Ludmilla Jordanova**



MARIAM BATSASHVILI

THE STORY OF THE VIOLIN GOLDMUND QUARTET

Nicola Benedetti Violin

Programme includes

Biber Passacaglia

Bach Chaconne

Paganini Caprices 1 & 24

Ysaÿe Sonata No 3

Resident artist at the 2021 International Festival, Scottish violinist Nicola Benedetti is one of the world's most inquisitive artists, with a repertoire stretching from the Baroque to contemporary music. Discover the surprising history and astonishing musical richness of the violin, in the company of one its most compelling virtuoso players.

17 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Claire and Mark Urquhart**

ELISABETH LEONSKAJA

Schubert Allegretto in E flat major D946 No 2

Schoenberg Six Little Piano Pieces Op 19

Brahms Sonata in F minor Op 5

One of the most widely respected pianists performing today, Elisabeth Leonskaja brings the thrill of rediscovery to her concerts, finding fresh new perspectives on even much-loved music. She performs Schubert's gently lyrical Allegretto, intense miniatures by Schoenberg and Brahms's expansive, ambitious Third Piano Sonata, inspired by Beethoven's Fifth Symphony.

18 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Dunard Fund**

Haydn String Quartet in B minor Op 33 No 1
Schubert String Quartet No 14 in D minor D810
'Death and the Maiden'

Winner of prestigious awards at the 2018 Wigmore Hall International String Quartet Competition and Melbourne International Chamber Music Competition, the Goldmund Quartet makes its International Festival debut with Schubert's deeply cathartic 'Death and the Maiden', as well as Haydn's exceptionally beautiful String Quartet in B minor.

19 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by

James and Isobel Stretton
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Edinburgh

MARIAM BATSASHVILI

Schumann Fantasiestücke Op 12

Schubert/Liszt Aufenthalt, Ständchen & Erlkönig

Wagner/Liszt Isolde's Liebestod

Liszt Valse de bravoure

The first female winner of the International Franz Liszt Piano Competition back in 2014, Georgian-born Mariam Batsashvili is one of the most compelling keyboard talents around today, capable of breathtaking technical feats yet able to find poetry in even the most virtuosic pianistic fireworks. Her exuberant International Festival debut recital brings together breathtakingly virtuosic Liszt transcriptions with the high-flying Romanticism of Schumann's eight sublime *Fantasiestücke* Op 12.

20 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **The Inches Carr Trust**



KATHARINE MEHRLING, BARRIE KOSKY

LONELY HOUSE

Katharine Mehrling Actor/singer
Barrie Kosky Piano

Barrie Kosky, Artistic Director of Berlin's Komische Oper, and singer/actor Katharine Mehrling invite you to a sophisticated evening of cabaret. Discover little-known songs by one of Germany's most distinctive and controversial musical figures: Kurt Weill.

Weill is famed for the biting social satires of capitalism, cronyism and corruption that he created with Bertolt Brecht in Berlin. But he fled – first to Paris, then to New York. There, he continued his unmistakable musical style in a clutch of successful musicals, from *One Touch of Venus* to *Street Scene*.

Join Kosky and Mehrling in an intimate soirée to discover songs and chansons drawn from Weill's Paris and Broadway sensations.

20, 21 Aug 9.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by **Australian High Commission in the UK**

GERALD FINLEY & JULIUS DRAKE

Schumann Dichterliebe
Schubert Schwanengesang (excerpts)

Canadian baritone Gerald Finley is a singer of rare distinction and commanding character. Joined by his regular recital partner Julius Drake, Finley performs distinctive works by two of the masters of Romantic song, in a powerful recital based around verse on love, desire and loss by German poet Heinrich Heine.

23 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by
Donald and Louise MacDonald
High Commission of Canada in the United Kingdom
Québec Government Office in London

NOA WILDSCHUT & ELISABETH BRAUß

Fauré Violin Sonata No.1
Shostakovich (arr Tsyganov & Auerbach)
Selection from 24 Preludes Op 34
Milhaud Cinéma-fantaisie after
Le boeuf sur le toit Op 58b

Just 20 years old, Dutch violinist Noa Wildschut is already one of the most distinctive talents of her generation. This is your chance to discover a charismatic player with a wholly individual approach, as she makes her International Festival debut, joined by exceptional young German pianist Elisabeth Brauß, in a typically wide-ranging, unashamedly entertaining recital.

24 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm
OLD COLLEGE QUAD | 1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Françoise Robertson**

RENÉE FLEMING & HARTMUT HÖLL

Lieder and songs by **Handel, Fauré** and **Strauss**

One of classical music's true superstars, American soprano Renée Fleming has a voice that revered conductor Sir Georg Solti described as being 'like double cream'. Joined by her regular performance partner German pianist Hartmut Höll, she gives a typically wide-ranging recital bringing together the dramatic clarity of Handel, the lyrical charm of Fauré and the Romantic opulence of Richard Strauss.

25 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Dunard Fund**



THOMAS QUASTHOFF

GRINGOLTS QUARTET

Mozart String Quartet No 13 in D minor K 173
Dvořák String Quartet No 13 in G major Op 106

Led by international violin soloist Ilya Gringolts, the Gringolts Quartet has dazzled audiences worldwide and established itself as one of the most revelatory chamber groups of today.

26 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **Niall and Carol Lothian**

FATMA SAID & MALCOLM MARTINEAU

Songs by **Mozart, Ravel, de Falla** and **Lorca**

Soprano Fatma Said was the first Egyptian vocalist to perform at La Scala, Milan, with a voice that floats effortlessly. Joined by Edinburgh-born pianist Malcolm Martineau, Said makes her International Festival debut with songs by Mozart, Ravel and the infectious rhythms of Spanish songs by de Falla and Lorca.

27 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by **The Peter Diamand Trust**

MASTERCLASSES WITH THOMAS QUASTHOFF

Join eminent German bass-baritone Thomas Quasthoff as he gives public masterclasses to two emerging duos of outstanding young singers at the beginnings of their careers. Get close to everything that goes into creating an exceptional performance.

28 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

ALAN CUMMING IS NOT ACTING HIS AGE

Middle-aged Scottish polymath Alan Cumming explores the mores of ageing and rages against the rejuvenescence machine. In song obviously.

28 & 29 Aug 7pm & 9.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £37

THE NORMAL Talbot Rice Gallery exhibition

Featuring **Larry Achiampong, Amy Balkin, Anca Benera & Arnold Estefan, Boyle Family, Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg & Sascha Pohflepp, Gabrielle Goliath, Femke Herregraven, Jarsdell Solutions Ltd, Kahlil Joseph, Tonya McMullan, Sarah Rose, James Webb**

The Normal is a vivid reflection of life in 2020 during the pandemic. Through artworks that express hope, grief, survival, violence and solidarity, the exhibition situates our lived experience within a global artistic dialogue. All of this is underscored by the need for a profound re-orientation towards planetary health following this loud wake up call.

FREE tickets required

Book at trg.ed.ac.uk

Throughout August | 10am–5pm
TALBOT RICE GALLERY, OLD COLLEGE QUAD



IN THE TRADITION

A season of traditional Scottish music in its most raw and powerful form: **In the Tradition** features concerts by some of Scotland's best-loved ensembles and soloists. We are grateful to Celtic Connections, University of Edinburgh and The Soundhouse Organisation for their collaboration on this series.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH: Celebrating 70 years of the School of Scottish Studies and Archives

A Folk Song Sharing

An intimate intergenerational exchange of songs and their stories: three artists share favourite songs, how they came to sing them, the story behind the song and how their interpretation evolved. Performances from Nancy Nicolson (Scots song and story), Josie Duncan (Scots, Gaelic and original song) and Arthur Cormack (Gaelic song).

8 Aug 3pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

The Living Archive

Performances inspired by material from the School of Scottish Studies Archives from Kirsty Law (Scots song), Mary MacMaster (clarsach, electro harp) and Mike Vass (fiddle, tenor guitar) with Sophie Stephenson (dance).

8 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

DUNCAN CHISHOLM

Duncan Chisholm is widely considered one of the most authentic interpreters of traditional Highland music, with fiddle playing inspired by Scotland's dramatic landscapes. In this special performance he is joined by Jarlath Henderson (pipes and whistles), Innes Watson (guitar), Hamish Napier (keys) and James Mackintosh (percussion).

7 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

RURA

One of Scotland's most sought-after folk bands, RURA's rugged yet refined blend of fiddle, Highland pipes, flute, bodhrán and guitar has won them multiple prestigious awards. Their entrancing sound has taken them on tours across more than 20 countries.

9 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by **The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

TALISK

Firebrand instrumental trio Talisk have stacked up several major awards for their explosive yet artful sound, including 2018's Belhaven Bursary for Innovation in Music and 2017's Folk Band of the Year, both at the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards and BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.

10 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26



DÀIMH

Dàimh have toured contemporary Highland and Gaelic music to over 20 countries. Recent accolades include 2019's Best Folk Band in Europe at the prestigious FolkHerbst competition and Folk Band of the Year at the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards.

11 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by **The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

KINNARIS QUINTET

Winners of the 2019 Belhaven Bursary for Innovation in Music, Glasgow's Kinnaris Quintet – on three fiddles, mandolin and guitar – combine Scottish and Irish folk with bluegrass, classical, Scandinavian and Appalachian influences. Having quickly become in-demand headliners, they continue to enthral as one of Scotland's most excitingly accomplished current folk acts.

12 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

BREABACH

One of Scotland's most imaginative folk groups unite Highland and Island traditions. They perform traditional songs, contemporary tunes and original compositions from each multi-talented band member.

16 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by **The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo**

FARA

Fara brings together four musicians at the forefront of today's folk scene, with a fiery sound rooted in their Orkney upbringing. They combine traditional tunes with original compositions and stunning vocals.

18 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

JENNA REID & HARRIS PLAYFAIR WITH MR MCFALL'S CHAMBER

Jenna Reid is one of Shetland's finest fiddlers. She is joined by her long-time accompanist Harris Playfair and Mr McFall's Chamber, who mix widely different styles, from progressive rock, tango, cartoon classics, folk, jazz and early music to contemporary classical.

19 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

KARINE POLWART

Scotland's best-loved folk singer-songwriter Karine Polwart has won seven BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards. She showcases her profound lyrical talents in an intimate show.

22 Aug 3pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

SIOBHAN MILLER

Siobhan Miller's soulful voice and evocative song-writing have made her the only three-time winner of Scots Singer of the Year at the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards. Her performance combines folk, indie and alternative influences.

22 Aug 8pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

EDINBURGH PARK

International Festival Stage

Lochside Way, Edinburgh EH12 9GG

The Edinburgh International Festival takes up residence in a new location in the west of the city thanks to a partnership with Parabola and support from Sir Ewan and Lady Brown. Our contemporary music programme comes alive at the purpose-built outdoor venue in Edinburgh Park, with groundbreaking artists from Scotland, the UK and beyond performing a series of dynamic concerts. Genres range through jazz, folk, indie rock and pop.

Supported by **Sir Ewan and Lady Brown**

In collaboration with **Parabola**

KATHRYN JOSEPH

Indie folk singer-songwriter Kathryn Joseph's debut *Bones you have thrown me and blood I've spilled* won Scottish Album of the Year in 2015. The Inverness-born artist has since collaborated with RM Hubbert and James Graham of The Twilight Sad and toured a live theatrical staging of her second album *From When I Wake The Want Is*.

8 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

TIDE LINES

This rousing folk rock four-piece hail from the Scottish Highlands and Glasgow. Their anthemic singalongs have been warmly received since forming in 2016; they sold out the Barrowland Ballroom in five minutes and were named the Rising Sound of Scotland at the 2019 Scottish Music Awards.

9 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

THE SNUTS

The much loved indie rockers from West Lothian formed a band six years ago while still at school, and have gained a loyal fanbase with their sweaty, energetic live shows. This year's debut album *Whitburn Loopy* hit number one in the UK charts, and drew comparisons to The Libertines and The Arctic Monkeys.

11 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

RICHARD DAWSON

An utterly compelling modern-day folk troubadour, Richard Dawson's most recent album *2020* chronicles the stark realities of British life, not shying away from themes including racism, homelessness, exploited workers and heartache. The Geordie singer-songwriter brings grace and dark humour to his music, and dignity to his kitchen sink subject matter.

13 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

ERLAND COOPER

After growing up in Stromness, the music of Erland Cooper often celebrates the rich Nordic ancestry of Orkney, his island home. This year's album *Holm* is an intriguing and moving blend of stark, ambient electronica and modern classical melody, drawing inspiration from psychogeography, poetry and cinematography.

15 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

SHONA THE MUSICAL CHOIR

Shona the Musical Choir is a Scottish/African choir based in Edinburgh, presenting original songs from Shona the Musical, a cross-cultural love story that transcends racial barriers. The story and music are inspired by historical events and the socio-political turmoil of Robert Mugabe's rule of Zimbabwe. Expect a mix of melodic songs, energetic African drumming, joyful dancing, spectacular costumes and harmonious singing.

16 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £13 – £18

Made possible through the **PLACE programme**



ANNA MEREDITH

MOSES BOYD

Dark Matter, the debut solo album from the accomplished London jazz drummer and producer Moses Boyd was shortlisted for the Mercury Prize last year. A freewheeling record of dancefloor crossover and London underground club sounds, the album made a memorable statement from a gifted, young artist, boldly weaving together different genres.

17 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

NADINE SHAH

The richly voiced, Mercury nominated singer songwriter follows up the release of last summer's critically acclaimed fourth album, *Kitchen Sink* with this much anticipated live date. Born in Tyneside to British-Norwegian-Pakistani parents, Shah's work explores the bleaker corners of daily life, with articulate observations on the pressures of modern womanhood.

18 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

BLACK MIDI

A strange and exciting art rock four-piece, black midi's 2019 debut album *Schlagenheim* scooped a Mercury Prize, and was followed up by this year's *Cavalcade*. The Londoners have received much hype for their improvisational, surreal stylings and recently branched out into jamming over spoken word readings on NTS Radio's *The Black Midi Variety Hour*.

19 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

ANNA MEREDITH

Anna Meredith returns to Edinburgh with her live band to perform her second album. *FIBS* is a bright crossover of pop and orchestral tropes, in which the award-winning avant-pop artist and composer delivers rich, energetic symphonies.

20 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

THE UNTHANKS

This all female Northumbrian folk collective is fronted by sisters Rachel and Becky Unthank. Their work focuses on traditional English folk styles, but over the years has evolved into exploring covers of songs by Robert Wyatt and Antony & the Johnsons, creating documentary film scores and collaborating with a brass band.

22 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26



BLACK COUNTRY, NEW ROAD

Formed in 2018, this indie rock band named themselves after a dual carriageway in the West Midlands. Their experimental style pays little attention to genres, blending violin and saxophone with guitar and keyboard for a muscular, energetic sound, which has been compared to Slint or Dirty Projectors. Their innovative debut album *For the First Time* was released this year.

23 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

DAMON ALBARN

A rare solo appearance from the eclectic musician and composer, featuring music from new work *The Nearer the Fountain*, *More Pure the Stream Flows* and other songs from his extensive catalogue.

24 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

THE COMET IS COMING

A buzzing blend of psychedelic rock, energetic funk and life-affirming Afrobeat, this cosmic jazz trio is made up of saxophonist King Shabaka, keyboardist Danalogue and drummer Betamax. After two award-winning albums, the band bring a phenomenal sci-fi infused live show that strives for 'better realities', spreading their message of infinite love.

25 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

KOKOROKO

Bringing feelgood Afrobeat music from London, this mellow collective takes its name from the Nigerian Urhobo dialect, meaning 'be strong'. Their breakthrough came in 2018 with the song 'Abusey Junction' which has had almost 45 million views on YouTube and last year they won Best Group at the Urban Music Awards.

26 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

LAURA MVULA

Birmingham-born artist Laura Mvula grew up loving the girl band Eternal and singing in her auntie's a cappella choir. Her thrilling gospel pop has been nominated twice for the Mercury Prize, for debut album *Sing Me To The Moon* (2013) and *The Dreaming Room* (2016). A third album, *Pink Noise*, was recently released.

29 Aug 8.30pm | EDINBURGH PARK
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

FULL PROGRAMME AVAILABLE AT EIF.CO.UK



LEARNING AND ENGAGEMENT

'Think Global, Act Local'

The Edinburgh International Festival's commitment to communities across Scotland inspires year-round Learning and Engagement projects, which aim to connect the Festival, the city and the wider world, and unlock the positive impacts of the arts for all.

This August we will continue to develop pathways to and from the Festival programme, ensuring that citizens of all walks of life can engage with the artists and performances we present. Through our Young Musician's Passport scheme, over 200 young people will have the opportunity to attend classical music events in the Festival for free. This has been made possible through the generous support of the Turtleton Charitable Trust and The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust.

Over the last year our focus has been on resilience and supporting Edinburgh communities to engage with arts and culture in a meaningful way. This includes our significant residency partnership with Leith Academy, as well as four Edinburgh primary schools where the Festival has built outdoor stages to encourage play and creativity.

Beyond our work with schools, we have provided local communities with the chance to engage with creativity through online workshops and distribution of classical music CDs. Building on these strong relationships, in-depth engagement continues in 2021 with Amplify, our song-writing project for young people whose voices have been muted by the pandemic.

To find out more about upcoming projects or to support this work visit eif.co.uk/L&E

Supported by



Investment managers

Our grateful thanks go to the companies, individuals and trusts who share our passion for expanding our Learning and Engagement programme across Edinburgh and beyond.

They include
James and Morag Anderson
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The Turtleton Charitable Trust
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Aberdeen Standard Investments
Badenoch & Co.
Baillie Gifford Investment Managers
and those who wish to remain anonymous.

DIGITAL PERFORMANCES

Chotto Xenos
Dancing in the Streets
Niqabi Ninja
by Sara Shaarawi

FESTIVAL PERFORMANCES ONLINE

Ariadne auf Naxos
Chineke! Orchestra
Fatma Said & Malcolm Martineau
Lament for Sheku Bayoh
Malcolm Martineau & Friends
Walter Scott 250
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Royal Scottish National
Orchestra & Elim Chan
Talisk
The Soldier's Tale
Zehetmair Quartet

Plus selected performances from the Edinburgh Park contemporary music series and A Toast to the People spoken word events.

For full details go to eif.co.uk.

BBC RADIO 3 CONCERT BROADCASTS

As the International Festival's official broadcast partner, BBC Radio 3 makes the International Festival's music offerings available to everyone through a major series of broadcasts. The station connects audiences with remarkable music and culture, and its relationship with the Edinburgh International Festival is a key part of that, offering audiences throughout the UK and across the world the chance to hear 12 concerts from the Old College Quad and five concerts from Edinburgh Academy. All BBC Radio 3 recordings are also available for 30 days after broadcast on BBC Sounds.

#EDINTFEST

Excited about the artists coming this year? Booked your tickets? Want to tell the world (and us!) what you thought about your International Festival experiences? Share your pictures, videos, reviews and comments for the world to see using #edintfest.

DISCOVER MORE ONLINE

Follow us online to be the first to see new videos, blog posts and photos from the International Festival this year. You can also sign up for news via email and view digital versions of the brochure at eif.co.uk. By opting to receive information digitally, you are helping us to be a greener organisation.



At the heart of the International Festival is our wonderful Festival Chorus, one of the UK's leading symphonic choirs. Its members all share a love of choral singing and enjoy the thrill of performing great works with the world-class orchestras and conductors at the Festival.

The Chorus is looking forward to resuming normal rehearsals later this year, and we are always pleased to hear from singers interested in auditioning to take part: you'll need a reasonable level of choral experience and musicianship, but not necessarily a formally trained voice. Rehearsals take place on Tuesday evenings at The Hub, Castlehill.

For more information about the Chorus visit eif.co.uk/chorus

Supported by **Risk Charitable Fund**



THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

Our donors and supporters play an integral role in our work, and their generosity underpins everything we do. We are grateful to all our members and supporters for their steadfast support through the challenges of last year. Their unwavering support has kept us financially resilient, moving forward and enabled us to share the International Festival experience with our audiences again.

We want to thank all our donors, Patrons and Friends, and those who choose to remain anonymous for their support in 2021.

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Join us

To find out more about membership and how to support our work please visit eif.co.uk/support-us or call +44 (0) 131 473 2064

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Dr Peter J Williamson and
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Irené M Young

CO-PRODUCTION CREDITS

Falstaff (p15)

A new co-production with Santa Fe Opera.

Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)

Originally commissioned by Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh and performed at the 2019 Edinburgh International Festival as a work in progress as part of the *You Are Here* series. Development work supported by the Stephen W Dunn Creative Fund.

Niqabi Ninja

by Sara Shaarawi (p25)

In association with Hewart Company (Alexandria). Co-commissioned by Shubbak Festival. Supported by British Council Arts Digital Collaboration Fund & Creative Scotland's Sustaining Creative Development Fund.

Chotto Xenos (p25)

Filmed at and supported by artsdepot, London.

A Grand Night for Singing (p27 & p29)

Originally produced by Roundabout Theatre Company, New York City, in 1993.

Medicine (p31)

Developed with the support of the National Theatre.

The Normal (p55)

Supported by Edinburgh College of Art and Creative Scotland.

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p22 Gregory Maqoma © Moeletsi Mabe
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ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES

AD Audio Described

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE
Falstaff	12 & 14 Aug 7.15pm	FESTIVAL THEATRE
Medicine	18 & 20 Aug 8pm	TRAVERSE THEATRE
Lament for Sheku Bayoh	28 Aug 2.30pm	THE LYCEUM

BSL British Sign Language Interpreted

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE
You Bury Me	14 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM
Medicine	18 & 20 Aug 8pm	TRAVERSE THEATRE
Hindu Times	21 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM
Lament for Sheku Bayoh	25 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM
A Toast to the People	23-27 Aug 8pm	OLD COLLEGE QUAD

For information about our Deaf Theatre Club visit eif.co.uk/access

CAP Captioned

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE
You Bury Me	14 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM
Medicine	18 & 20 Aug 8pm	TRAVERSE THEATRE
Hindu Times	21 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM
Lament for Sheku Bayoh	28 Aug 2.30pm	THE LYCEUM

For full details of our accessible performances programme, including details of describers and interpreters for each performance, please visit eif.co.uk/access

Access Information

All our venues are wheelchair accessible and assistance animals are welcome.

Detailed venue access information is available at eif.co.uk/venues and in our Access Guide.

The 2021 International Festival Brochure and Access Guide are available in large print, audio CD and Braille formats on request. You can also download audio and PDF versions from eif.co.uk/access

If you have any questions you contact us on our dedicated access line +44 (0) 131 473 2056, or by email access@eif.co.uk

VENUE EXPERIENCE

We ask that you arrive no earlier than 30 minutes before a performance begins.

If you are using e-tickets please download them in advance so that they are available offline and ensure that your phone is sufficiently charged.

Our pavilions, although covered, are outdoors and you should come dressed appropriately for the weather; including suitable footwear for walking across grass.

International Festival staff will be available to assist you throughout your visit and to ensure that COVID-19 safety protocols are being met. Please bring your own mask with you to performances and wear it as directed by staff and signage. Hand sanitiser stations will be located around our venues.

In the interest of eliminating places where people can congregate, no food or drink will be available. Performances will run without an interval; with most lasting no more than 70 minutes.

Toilets will be available and will be cleaned regularly.

At the end of each performance we will direct you to leave our venues swiftly from multiple exits to avoid congestion.

We appreciate your patience and ask that you please be mindful of others throughout your visit.

International Festival venues

Dance Base

14-16 Grassmarket EH1 2JU

Edinburgh Academy Junior School

10 Arboretum Road EH3 5PL

Edinburgh Park

Lochside Way EH12 9GG

Festival Theatre

13-29 Nicolson Street EH8 9FT

Holyrood Park

Queen's Drive EH8 8HG

Old College Quad

The University of Edinburgh
South Bridge EH8 9YL

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Arboretum Place EH3 5NZ

Talbot Rice Gallery

The University of Edinburgh
Old College
South Bridge EH8 9YL

Traverse Theatre

10 Cambridge Street EH1 2ED

The Lyceum

30b Grindlay Street EH3 9AX



BOOKING INFORMATION

How to Book

Online **eif.co.uk**
Phone **+44 (0) 131 473 2000**

Booking opens at **10am on Friday 11 June.**

Priority booking for Members opens on a staggered basis from Wednesday 2 June.

We do not charge booking fees. If you choose to receive your tickets in the post you will be charged £1 for postage.

Phone Line Opening Hours

2-13 June
Monday to Saturday 10am – 5pm
Sunday 12pm – 4pm

14 June – 31 July
Monday to Saturday 10am – 5pm
Sunday closed

2-29 August
Monday to Saturday 9am – 7.30pm
Sunday 10am – 7.30pm

Ticket Prices & Concessions

Ticket prices may vary from previously published prices.

Recipients of Pension Credit, Universal Credit or Jobseeker's Allowance, Full Time students, Under 26s and Disabled People are entitled to a 30% concession discount. Proof of eligibility may be requested at venues.

Supported by
The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust

All information in this brochure is subject to change without notice

Access Bookings

Phone **+44 (0) 131 473 2056**
SignLive **signlive.co.uk**
In person **by appointment only**

Disabled people can get 30% off tickets when booking online. If you require a wheelchair space or a free essential companion ticket please contact us by phone or via SignLive.

Further information can be found online at eif.co.uk/access or by emailing us on access@eif.co.uk

BSL Video Bookings with SignLive

We are working with SignLive to enable audiences to book tickets via an online BSL interpreting service. Download the SignLive app and find us listed in the SignLive Community Directory. For more information visit signlive.co.uk

In Person Bookings

To minimise physical contact, our box office is closed. We encourage customers to book online or by phone, but if you require in person assistance with your booking you can arrange an appointment by contacting us on boxoffice@eif.co.uk or +44 (0) 131 473 2000.

The Edinburgh International Festival Box Office is based at The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NE.

Young Children Policy

We advise that you contact us in advance to check if a performance is suitable for very young children. There is no charge for infants under the age of two as long as the child sits on the lap of an adult, and no ticket is required. Children over the age of two will require a seat and a paid ticket. If your child becomes restless, you may be asked to leave the auditorium to avoid disturbing other customers.

YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US

The International Festival is working with the Scottish Government, City of Edinburgh Council and other relevant authorities to implement appropriate measures to ensure the safety of our audiences, artists and the International Festival team. These include shorter performances without intervals, physical distancing, regular cleaning, and contactless ticketing.

Plans will be adjusted in response to public health measures as they evolve. Full details of the International Festival's COVID-19 safety measures will be published in the coming months. Please visit eif.co.uk/safety for details.

Booking Tickets

To minimise physical contact, our box office is closed. We encourage customers to book online or by phone, and to select the electronic ticket option when booking to facilitate contactless interactions with staff at our venues. In person ticket collection will not be available.

We have introduced socially distanced seating plans to allow households to sit together while remaining at a safe distance from others. When you book online you will be asked to select a seating 'bubble' with the correct number of seats for your group.

Traceability will be especially important this summer to help prevent community transmission. For 21 days after your visit, we may be asked to share your name and contact details with NHS Test & Protect to help them identify people who may have been exposed to COVID-19.

Ticket Exchanges & Refunds

We call upon each person's sense of civic responsibility to do their part. If you or anyone in your household has had any recent COVID-19 symptoms, however fleeting, please stay home for everyone's safety.

If you are unable to attend any event at the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival for any reason related to COVID-19, we will refund the full cost of the ticket to the lead booker. Refunds must be requested at least 24 hours in advance of the performance. Postage fees are non-refundable.

For extra peace of mind we've teamed up with Secure My Booking to offer Ticket Protection, which allows you to recoup 100% of the money you paid for your tickets if you are unable to attend an event that hasn't been cancelled or rescheduled. Ticket Protection covers illness, accidents, travel delays, adverse weather, strikes and more. This optional extra costs £1.50 per ticket and is only available at the time of booking. For more information, please visit securemybooking.com

Wed **4**

Thu **5**

Fri **6**

Sat **7**

Sun **8**

Mon **9**

Tue **10**

Wed **11**

Thu **12**

Edinburgh Academy Junior School				6pm & 8.30pm The Opening Concert (p39)
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Edinburgh Park				
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Festival Theatre				
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The Lyceum				
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Old College Quad				12pm & 2.30pm Ronald Brautigam, Esther Hoppe & Christian Poltéra (p47)
				8pm Duncan Chisholm (p57)

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh			8pm Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)	8pm Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)
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Talbot Rice Gallery	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)
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Traverse Theatre	8pm Medicine (preview) (p31)	8pm Medicine (preview) (p31)	8pm Medicine (preview) (p31)	8pm Medicine (p31)
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7.30pm A Grand Night for Singing (p27)	6pm & 8.30pm Royal Philharmonic Orchestra (p39)	3pm & 7.30pm A Grand Night for Singing (p27)	6pm & 8.30pm Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Thomas Søndergård (p39)	7.30pm A Grand Night for Singing (p27)
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8.30pm Kathryn Joseph (p61)	8.30pm Tide Lines (p61)		8.30pm The Snuts (p61)	
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7.15pm Falstaff (p15)		7.15pm Falstaff (p15)		7.15pm ^(AD) Falstaff (p15)
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				Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
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3pm University of Edinburgh: A Folk Song Sharing	12pm & 2.30 pm Patricia Kopatchinskaja & Fazil Said (p47)	12pm & 2.30pm Zehetmair Quartet (p47)	12pm & 2.30pm Mari Eriksmoen & Daniel Heide (p47)	12pm & 2.30pm Steven Osborne (p49)
8pm University of Edinburgh: The Living Archive (p57)	8pm RURA (p57)	8pm Talisk (p57)	8pm Dàimh (p58)	8pm Kinnaris Quintet (p58)

8pm Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)				
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10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)
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8pm Medicine (p31)		2pm Medicine (p31)	8pm Medicine (p31)	2pm Medicine (p31)
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Dance Base				
Edinburgh Academy Junior School	3pm & 7.30pm A Grand Night for Singing (p27)	6pm & 8.30pm Benedetti Baroque Orchestra (p16)	6pm & 8.30pm BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra (p41)	6pm & 8.30pm Royal Scottish National Orchestra & Elim Chan (p41)
Edinburgh Park	8.30pm Richard Dawson (p61)		8.30pm Erland Cooper (p61)	8.30pm Shona the Musical Choir (p61)
Festival Theatre		7.15pm (AD) Falstaff (p15)		
The Lyceum	7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)	2.30 & 7.30pm (ES) (CAP) You Bury Me (p21)		
	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
Old College Quad	12pm & 2.30pm Maxim Emelyanychev & Principals of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p49)	12pm & 2.30pm Malcolm Martineau & Friends (p49)	5pm & 8pm A Great Disordered Heart Shared Futures (p29)	12pm & 2.30pm Chineke! Chamber Ensemble (p19)
	8pm A Great Disordered Heart Shared Melodies (p29)	8pm A Great Disordered Heart Shared Songs (p29)		8pm Breabach (p59)
Talbot Rice Gallery	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)
Traverse Theatre	8pm Medicine (p31)	2pm Medicine (p31)	8pm Medicine (p31)	
DIGITAL SCREENING		Chotto Xenos film (p25)	Chotto Xenos film (p25)	

			Dancing in the Streets (p23) 11am Omar Rajeh 1pm Janice Parker 3pm Alice Ripoll 5pm Gregory Maqoma	Dancing in the Streets (p23) 11am Gregory Maqoma 1pm Alice Ripoll 3pm Janice Parker 5pm Omar Rajeh
	6pm & 8.30pm Chineke! Orchestra & William Eddins (p19)	6pm & 8.30pm Royal Scottish National Orchestra & Valery Gergiev (p27)	6pm & 8.30pm London Symphony Orchestra (p19)	7.30pm Dido's Ghost (p13)
	8.30pm Moses Boyd (p63)	8.30pm Nadine Shah (p63)	8.30pm black midi (p63)	8.30pm Anna Meredith (p63)
				7.30pm Hindu Times (p21)
				2.30pm & 7.30pm (ES) (CAP) Hindu Times (p21)
	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)	Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
	12pm & 2.30pm Nicola Benedetti. The Story of the Violin (p16)	12pm & 2.30pm Elisabeth Leonskaja (p51)	12pm & 2.30pm Goldmund Quartet (p51)	12pm & 2.30pm Mariam Batsashvili (p51)
	8pm Ballaké Sissoko & Vincent Ségal (p33)	8pm Fara (p59)	8pm Jenna Reid & Harris Playfair with Mr McFall's Chamber (p59)	9.30pm Lonely House (p53)
	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)	10am–5pm The Normal (p55)
	2pm Medicine (p31)	8pm (AD) (ES) (CAP) Medicine (p31)	2pm Medicine (p31)	8pm (AD) (ES) (CAP) Medicine (p31)
				2pm Medicine (p31)

Sun **22**

Mon **23**

Tue **24**

Wed **25**

Thu **26**

Fri **27**

Sat **28**

Sun **29**

Edinburgh Academy Junior School
 7.30pm Dido's Ghost (p13)
 6pm & 8.30pm Joyce DiDonato & Il Pomo D'Oro (p45)
 7.30pm Thomas Quasthoff Quartet (p45)
 7.30pm Ariadne Auf Naxos (p11)

Old College Quad
 3pm Karine Polwart (p59)
 8pm Siobhan Miller (p59)
 12pm & 2.30pm Gerald Finley & Julius Drake (p53)
 8pm (ES) A Toast to the People (p36)
 12pm & 2.30pm Noa Wildschut & Elisabeth Brauß (p53)
 8pm (ES) A Toast to the People (p36)
 12pm & 2.30pm Renée Fleming & Hartmut Höll (p53)
 8pm (ES) A Toast to the People (p36)

Edinburgh Park
 8.30pm The Unthanks (p63)
 8.30pm Black Country, New Road (p65)
 8.30pm Damon Albarn (p65)
 8.30pm The Comet is Coming (p65)

The Lyceum
 7.30pm (ES) Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)

Traverse Theatre
 8pm Medicine (p31)
 2pm Medicine (p31)
 8pm Medicine (p31)

Talbot Rice Gallery
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)

Holyrood Park
 1pm Field - Something for the Future Now (p31)

7.30pm Sona Jobarteh (p35)
 7.30pm Ariadne Auf Naxos (p11)
 6pm & 8.30pm Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p45)
 12pm & 2.30pm Members of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus (p45)
 7.30pm Ariadne auf Naxos (p11)

12pm & 2.30pm Gringolts Quartet (p55)
 8pm (ES) A Toast to the People (p36)
 12pm & 2.30pm Fatma Said & Malcolm Martineau (p55)
 8pm (ES) A Toast to the People (p36)
 12pm & 2.30pm Masterclasses with Thomas Quasthoff (p55)
 7pm & 9.30pm Alan Cumming is Not Acting His Age (p33)
 7pm & 9.30pm Alan Cumming is Not Acting His Age (p33)

8.30pm Kokoroko (p65)
 8.30pm Laura Mvula (p65)

2.30pm & 7.30pm Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
 7.30pm Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
 2.30pm (AD) (CAP) & 7.30pm Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)
 Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)

2pm Medicine (p31)
 8pm Medicine (p31)
 2pm Medicine (p31)
 6.30pm Medicine (p31)

10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)
 10am-5pm The Normal (p55)

4pm Field - Something for the Future Now (p31)

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