

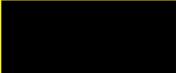


**EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL**



ALL RISE

7-30 AUGUST 2026



EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

EIF.CO.UK
+44 (0) 131 473 2000
@EDINTFEST

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• EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

WE ARE

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

GIVE IT A GO FOR JUST £10

Cost shouldn't be a barrier to cultural discovery, so we're making sure that everyone is invited:

- £10 Give it a Go tickets available for all events – try something new for less
- Over 50,000 tickets for £30 or less
- 50% off for under 18s and Deaf, disabled & neurodivergent people
- 30% off for under 30s and arts workers
- Free tickets for NHS staff, charity workers, teachers, unpaid carers and low income benefit recipients through ticketsforgood.com
- Free tickets for young musicians and our community guests

See p116 for full details.





OUR ORIGIN STORY

The original festival. We're the one that started it all, the igniting spark that established Edinburgh as the world's Festival City. Founded in 1947, the International Festival was the inspired idea of Rudolf Bing, a cultural pioneer and Jewish refugee of the Nazi regime. He joined with civic and artistic leaders to create an event that would transcend political and social boundaries through a global celebration of performing arts. Over the following 78 years the International Festival has flourished, deepening our commitment to artistic excellence and cultural curiosity. Meanwhile, sister festivals have grown up around us, each of them contributing to the atmosphere of unparalleled excitement that transforms the city every summer.

OUR FESTIVAL

We welcome the world to Edinburgh to experience our hand-picked programme of the finest performers in opera, theatre, dance and music. Through their artistry we create space for provocation and reconciliation, debate and celebration, bringing people of different cultures and viewpoints together.

OUR IMPACT

We aim to be a beacon for the enormous creativity and curiosity held within individuals, communities and our nation. Year-round, people of all ages and backgrounds discover and participate in live performance and help shape the future of our Festival. By nurturing the next generation of artists – from inspiring schoolchildren to mentoring rising stars – we want this legacy to be felt for years to come.

OUR VISION

Our vision is to provide the deepest experience of the highest quality art for the broadest possible audience. What does this mean for you? Read more about what you can expect from us on p6. Learn more at eif.co.uk/about

ALL RISE

WELCOME FROM NICOLA BENEDETTI

I fell in love with the United States of America instantly. I was 16 years old, and within 24 hours my relationship to its wild, abrasive, exuberant, heart-filled yet harsh ferocity was sealed. My taxi ride from the airport was shared with a stranger who fought for an hour with the cab driver, on philosophy, religion, and monetary matters. I was shook and intoxicated with a foreign aliveness. I quickly discovered, touring extensively on that first visit, that the aggrandised American dream of integration, egalitarianism and progression was not reality. I also discovered some of the friendliest and most interesting people I had ever met.

This year's programme has but scratched the surface of examining the ideas and impact of the USA, 250 years since the signing of its Declaration of Independence. Recurring themes of freedom, innovation and ingenuity, leadership and cruelty, prejudice, perseverance and hypocrisy sit colourfully within proud demonstrations of the height of artistic and creative achievement. Many of these could happen 'only in America', propelled by the friction diversity necessitates, and the resulting energy it inspires.

We open with a call to action. *All Rise* is an epic symphonic work by Wynton Marsalis, which gathers over 200 performers in a communal journey through 12 stages of living. Joy, romance, virtuosity, fun and improvisation; our making of mistakes and subsequent suffering, and ultimate forgiveness, freedom and self-knowledge. 'I am, All Rise... look higher, look beyond... can't you see I'm going to rise and rise.'



Festival Director **Nicola Benedetti**

This hope-filled affirmation, encapsulating the 'flourishing of the human spirit' upon which our own Festival was founded, continues in Princes Street Gardens as we join hands in a mass celebration of rising together.

The LA Phil tours to us, led for the final time by our dear friend Gustavo Dudamel, and excitingly, the full forces of San Francisco Ballet will visit for the first time in 22 years with the European premiere of *Mere Mortals*, provoking urgent questions about artificial intelligence.

We will also collectively bear witness to stories of tragedy and indeed travesty. Our collaboration with the US Legacy Museum uncovers a history of slavery and racial injustice, while Tony Kushner's masterpiece *Angels in America* is as profound a window into the state of the nation now as it was at the height of the AIDS crisis. And, in his *Clown Show*, Geoff Sobelle offers an incisive critique of what, for many, has become an American nightmare.

Such stories resonate around the world. In *A Trial*, Christiane Jatahy revisits Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People* to address perennial questions of authoritarianism, fake news, and public judgement. The spirit of inquiry and internationalism we share with fellow post-war festivals in Avignon and Holland has made this thrilling

theatrical event possible, marking our deepening commitment to commissioning and co-producing work of significance. As does the world premiere of *The Galloping Cure*, written by the fantastic Missy Mazzoli and Royce Vavrek. This opera confronts the perils of addiction, and the greed of those willing to profit from it.

The American story is undeniably at an inflection point, and yet its energetic pull still has us all gazing, hoping, fascinated by its allure. Fundamental questions of human potential continue to be played out on the American stage, in acute, extrovert and vivid ways.

The nation's offer is the ability to imagine deeply and extremely, and to realise that imagination, bringing sudden and seismic change to the world, be it for better or for worse.

Step with us into a world of the magnificent, the dazzling, the dark, the powerful, the tragic, but in its utmost, the art of the possible.

'ALL RISE
CELEBRATES
TOGETHERNESS AND
ASCENDANCE'

WYNTON MARSALIS

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

Whether you're joining us for the first time or you've been with us for decades, our promise is the same: a Festival experience that is welcoming, memorable and exceptional. Every spine-tingling event in our programme is carefully curated to ignite deep feeling.

- **We want you to feel truly welcome.** We listen to what you need, using your feedback to identify and remove barriers through our targeted ticket concessions and Access Pass for anybody who needs additional support. Don't hesitate to speak to our friendly staff or contact us if you need assistance.
- Live performance is most thrilling when **audiences and artists engage with mutual respect.** We ask for your full attention so we can give you an unforgettable experience.
- We invite you to **experience art in many ways.** Sometimes we listen so deeply we hear every breath in the room, at other times we gather with a joyful roar. We'll make sure you know what to expect.
- Whether you know a little or a lot, **we'll provide everything you need to enjoy the performance** through our helpful emails, text messages, freesheets and on-stage screens.
- **There is no singular view** on why a symphony matters, what makes opera relatable, or how dance makes us feel. If you seek context, depth or an artist's insight, we will connect you with the human stories behind great works of art through our audio introductions, in-depth articles and post-show talks.
- **We present you a window to the world.** Encounter familiar stories in other languages or from radically different perspectives. Bring an open heart and mind, and we'll provide specific guidance for those who want to feel more prepared.

DON'T THINK:

EXPERIENCE IT AT...

FEEL

Be moved by poignant stories from around the globe and the heart-swelling power of artistic collaboration.



STRAUSS'S ELEKTRA p16
IHSANE p20
ANGELS IN AMERICA p30
OPENING CONCERT: ALL RISE p54

REEL

Be astonished by performances that shift your perspective and challenge your assumptions.



THE GALLOPING CURE p12
WHEN PROPHECY FAILS p25
TAVERNA MIREZIA p38
COLIN CURRIE GROUP PLAYS STEVE REICH p71

MARVEL

Be amazed by virtuosic performers, sumptuous spectacles and orchestras at the peak of their powers.



VERDI'S A MASKED BALL p14
MERE MORTALS p22
JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA WITH YUJA WANG p56
LA PHIL RESIDENCY p60

DELIGHT

Be uplifted by irresistible melodies, nourishing storytelling and communal joy.



INGOMA! A REVOLUTION IN RHYTHM p34
HARIBO KIMCHI p43
TOGETHER WE RISE p46
THE GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD p68

OPENING WEEKEND AT EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



THE GALLOPING CURE p12

A TRIAL – AFTER AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE p28

[SEAGULL] p41

HOSTILE p44

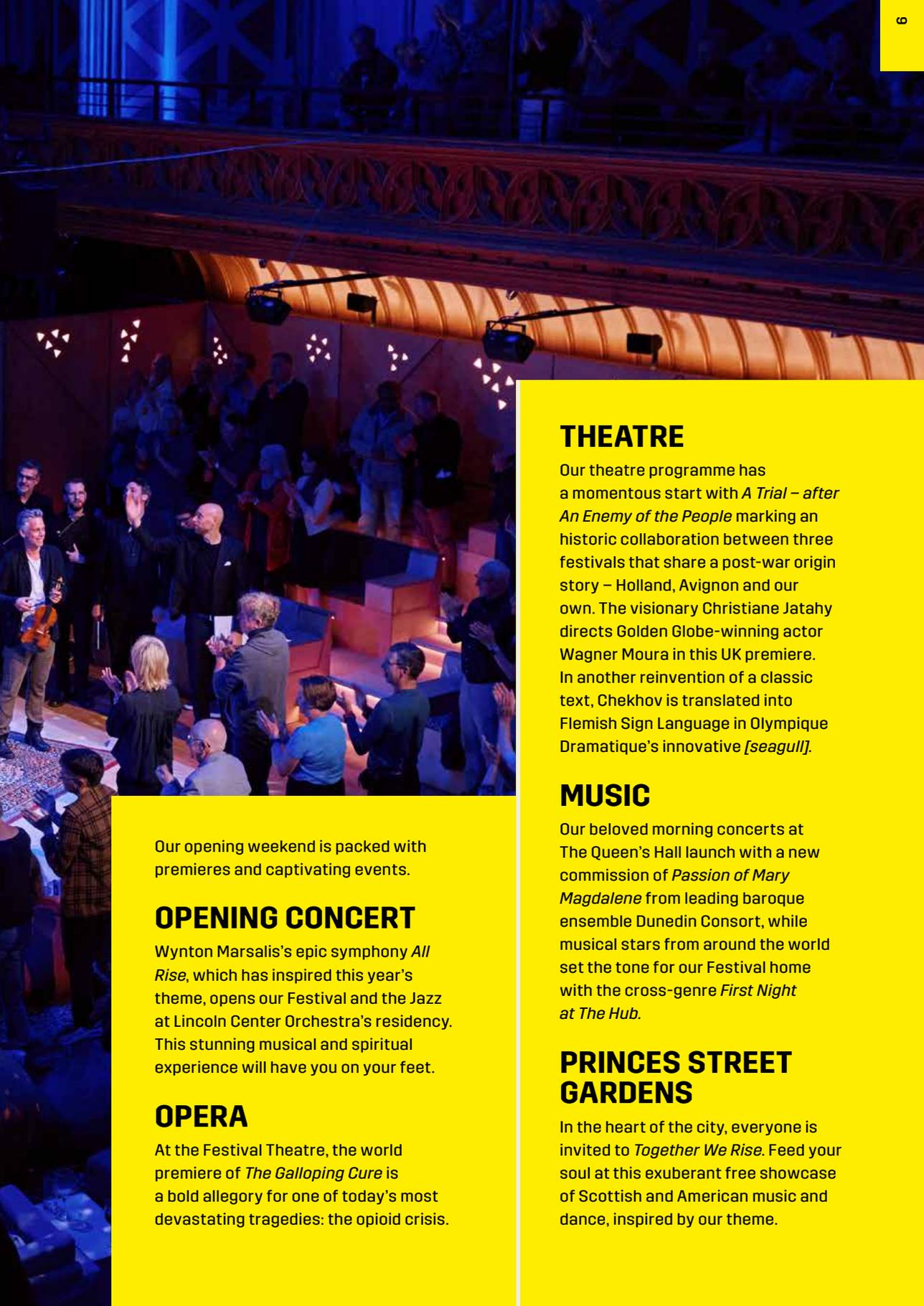
TOGETHER WE RISE p46

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DUNEDIN CONSORT p76

PREVIEW: DÀNA WITH ELLIE BEATON p91

FIRST NIGHT AT THE HUB p91



Our opening weekend is packed with premieres and captivating events.

OPENING CONCERT

Wynton Marsalis's epic symphony *All Rise*, which has inspired this year's theme, opens our Festival and the Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra's residency. This stunning musical and spiritual experience will have you on your feet.

OPERA

At the Festival Theatre, the world premiere of *The Galloping Cure* is a bold allegory for one of today's most devastating tragedies: the opioid crisis.

THEATRE

Our theatre programme has a momentous start with *A Trial – after An Enemy of the People* marking an historic collaboration between three festivals that share a post-war origin story – Holland, Avignon and our own. The visionary Christiane Jatahy directs Golden Globe-winning actor Wagner Moura in this UK premiere. In another reinvention of a classic text, Chekhov is translated into Flemish Sign Language in Olympique Dramatique's innovative [*seagull*].

MUSIC

Our beloved morning concerts at The Queen's Hall launch with a new commission of *Passion of Mary Magdalene* from leading baroque ensemble Dunedin Consort, while musical stars from around the world set the tone for our Festival home with the cross-genre *First Night at The Hub*.

PRINCES STREET GARDENS

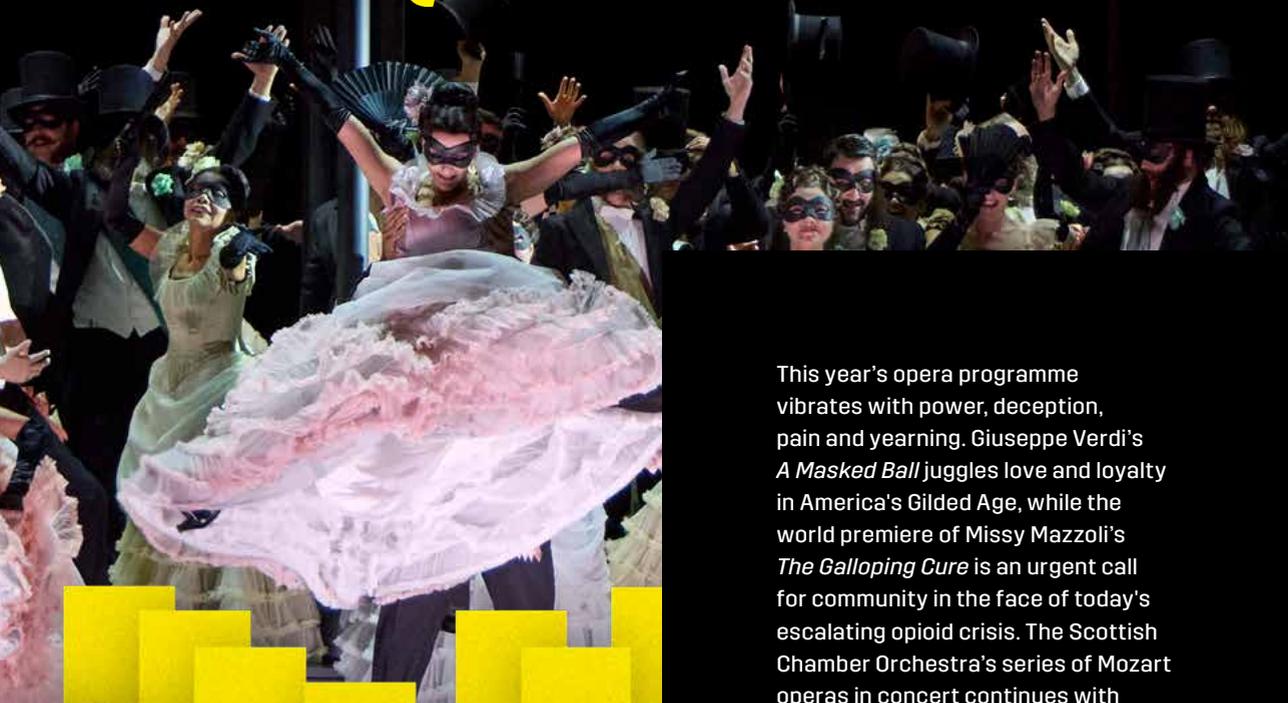
In the heart of the city, everyone is invited to *Together We Rise*. Feed your soul at this exuberant free showcase of Scottish and American music and dance, inspired by our theme.



FEEL THE VIVID CULMINATION
OF STORYTELLING AND
SPECTACLE

VERDI'S A MASKED BALL

OPERA



This year's opera programme vibrates with power, deception, pain and yearning. Giuseppe Verdi's *A Masked Ball* juggles love and loyalty in America's Gilded Age, while the world premiere of Missy Mazzoli's *The Galloping Cure* is an urgent call for community in the face of today's escalating opioid crisis. The Scottish Chamber Orchestra's series of Mozart operas in concert continues with *Don Giovanni*, while the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra performs Richard Strauss's *Elektra*.

The Anderson Opera Series, made possible by **James and Morag Anderson**, allows the Festival to bring internationally acclaimed opera to Edinburgh and ensures these unmissable performances are accessible to the widest possible audience.

POST-SHOW TALKS

This is your chance to hear directly from the creative team behind world premiere opera *The Galloping Cure*. See p12



'MAZZOLI AND VAVREK
STRUCK OPERATIC GOLD'

THE SCOTSMAN ON *BREAKING THE WAVES*

THE GALLOPING CURE

MISSY MAZZOLI / ROYCE VAVREK
OPERA VENTURES PRODUCTIONS
SCOTTISH OPERA
STUART STRATFORD / TOM MORRIS

WORLD PREMIERE

A bold new opera for the opioid age.

Local doctor Theresa Hart works tirelessly for her community in a fading, forgotten corner of the world. When the charismatic Lucky Mack comes to town, her daughter Noy is captivated. A ride on his carousel – the first one always free – promises miraculous relief from all aches and pains, and soon the whole town is swept up in euphoria. But getting off the ride gets harder with every turn.

This world premiere from Opera Ventures Productions reunites Scottish Opera with the creative forces of Missy Mazzoli, Royce Vavrek and Tom Morris, following their International Festival hit *Breaking the Waves* (2019). Mazzoli weaves club beats into her richly textured score, brought to life by conductor Stuart Stratford and The Orchestra of Scottish Opera.

The Galloping Cure is a haunting allegory for a crisis that has become a worldwide epidemic. Visually stunning and emotionally gripping, this contemporary fable evokes a darkly funny and devastating vision of a crumbling society.

THE ANDERSON OPERA SERIES

Sun 9, Tue 11, Wed 12 Aug 7pm

POST-SHOW TALK Tue 11 Aug

AD Wed 12 Aug

2hrs 15mins approx. | One interval

FESTIVAL THEATRE From £23

Missy Mazzoli Composer

Royce Vavrek Librettist

Based on an original story by

Karen Russell

Stuart Stratford Conductor

Cast

Daniela Mack Theresa Hart, the doctor

Justin Austin Lucky Mack

Susan Bullock Ivona Kowalski,
the old woman

The Orchestra of Scottish Opera

The Ensemble of The Galloping Cure

Tom Morris Director & Dramaturg

Rebecca Ringst Set & Props Designer

Leah Hausman Associate Director &
Movement Director

Christina Cunningham Costume
Designer

Lucy Carter Lighting Designer

Will Duke Projection Designer

Co-commissioned by **Edinburgh**

International Festival,

Opera Ventures Productions,

Scottish Opera, NorrlandsOperan AB &

San Francisco Opera

Contains stylised violence, themes of
addiction & medical malpractice

Performed in English with surtitles



**'AN IMMERSIVE TAPESTRY OF
SOUND AND IMAGE'**

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

VERDI'S A MASKED BALL

GIUSEPPE VERDI
ZURICH OPERA HOUSE /
GIANANDREA NOSEDA / ADELE THOMAS

UK PRODUCTION PREMIERE

Love and deception swirl at the centre of Giuseppe Verdi's tragicomic opera *A Masked Ball* (*Un ballo in maschera*) from Zurich Opera House, given a fresh twist by 'razor-sharp' (The Guardian) Welsh director Adele Thomas. Riccardo, the Governor of Boston, is in love with his best friend's wife. Caught between love and loyalty, Riccardo risks everything – his political standing and even his life.

Verdi's exquisite music comes to life with Gianandrea Noseda conducting the Orchestra of the Zurich Opera House. Noseda's passionate conducting style is perfectly suited for the high-stakes drama central to *A Masked Ball*. Two stellar casts alternate between performances, with ill-fated lovers Riccardo and Amelia played by Stephen Costello and Elena Stikhina (26 and 30 August), and Piero Pretti and Erika Grimaldi (27 and 29 August).

Originally inspired by the assassination of King Gustav III of Sweden, Verdi's subject matter proved too controversial, forcing him to relocate the opera's setting from Sweden to Boston. Now, Thomas's version transports us to the opulent American Gilded Age, where sinister rumours threaten to spin this ordered world into chaos.

THE ANDERSON OPERA SERIES

Wed 26, Thu 27, Sat 29 Aug 7pm
Sun 30 Aug 2pm

AD Sun 30 Aug

2hrs 50mins approx. | One interval

FESTIVAL THEATRE From £30

Giuseppe Verdi Composer

Antonio Somma Librettist

Gianandrea Noseda Conductor

Cast:

Stephen Costello*

Piero Pretti^ Riccardo

Dalibor Jenis*

George Petean^ Renato

Elena Stikhina*

Erika Grimaldi^ Amelia

Yulia Matochkina*

Agnieszka Rehlis^ Ulrica

Rebeca Olvera*

Katharina Konradi^ Oscar

Steffan Lloyd Owen Silvano

Brent Michael Smith Samuel

Stanislav Vorobyov Tom

Martin Zysset A judge

Samuel Wallace Amelia's servant

*Wed 26 & Sun 30 Aug

^Thu 27 & Sat 29 Aug

Orchestra of the Zurich Opera House

Chorus of the Zurich Opera House

Klaas-Jan de Groot Chorus Director

Adele Thomas Director

Emma Woods Choreographer

Franck Evin Lighting Designer

Hannah Clark Set & Costume Designer

Tieni Burkhalter Video Designer

Fabio Dietsche Dramaturg

Contains strobe lighting and
a gunshot sound

Performed in Italian
with English surtitles

OPERA IN CONCERT

THE ANDERSON OPERA SERIES

MOZART'S DON GIOVANNI

Sun 16 Aug 6.30pm
3hrs 10mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £27.50

Mozart Composer
Da Ponte Librettist

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor

Konstantin Krimmel Don Giovanni
Brindley Sherratt Il Commendatore
Louise Alder Donna Anna
Giovanni Sala Don Ottavio
Janai Brugger Donna Elvira
Michael Sumuel Leporello
William Thomas Masetto
Hera Hyesang Park Zerlina

Scottish Chamber Orchestra
Scottish Chamber Orchestra Chorus
Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

Sung in Italian with English surtitles

Don Giovanni is notorious throughout Europe for his insatiable appetite for women. But his luck is running out. Mozart's great opera of seduction, trickery and retribution is an inspired mixture of sparkling ensembles, soulful solos and spine-chilling evocations of the supernatural. Maxim Emelyanychev conducts the Scottish Chamber Orchestra and Chorus and a brilliant cast in the fourth of their acclaimed series of Mozart operas in concert at the Festival.

STRAUSS'S ELEKTRA

Sun 23 Aug 6.30pm
1hr 50mins approx. | No interval

USHER HALL From £27.50

Strauss Composer
Von Hofmannsthal Librettist

Karina Canellakis Conductor

Irène Theorin Elektra
Vida Miknevičiūtė Chrysothemis
Nina Stemme Klytämnestra
Günther Groissböck Orest

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

Sung in German with English surtitles

Greek tragedy meets modern psychology in Richard Strauss's audacious opera. Elektra is determined to avenge the murder of her father Agamemnon by her mother Klytämnestra – but will Klytämnestra destroy her first? Strauss evokes his characters' larger-than-life emotions through massive orchestral forces and daring harmonies. Karina Canellakis – noted for her impressive 'command of large-scale musical architecture' (The Guardian) – conducts and soprano Irène Theorin leads a starry cast in this thrilling exploration of obsession.





Taking a maximalist approach to vocals – and a minimalist approach to costume and set design – epic tales are conveyed solely through the power of music. With both the orchestra and singers on stage, at our operas in concert you can home in on the exquisite music and fantastic performances.



DANCE THAT WILL
LEAVE YOU REELING

MERE MORTALS

DANCE



Our dance programme this year reveals the strength of the human spirit under pressure. In a European premiere, San Francisco Ballet's *Mere Mortals* explores the enticements and dangers of technologies in a stunning new ballet. The UK premiere of Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui's *Ihsane* intertwines grief, connection and rebirth, while Dan Daw's *EXXY* joyfully reclaims space for disabled artists.



*'ONE OF THE
MOST VISIONARY
CHOREDGRAPHERS
WORKING TODAY'*

THE GUARDIAN ON SIDI LARBI CHERKAoui



IHSANE

BALLET DU GRAND THÉÂTRE DE GENÈVE / EASTMAN
SIDI LARBI CHERKAOUI

UK PREMIERE

Double Olivier Award-winning choreographer Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui's latest work explores how the world changes in a never-ending cycle of destruction and rebirth. *Ihsane* swells with anger, lingers in sorrow, and joyfully celebrates the rich cultures of North Africa and the Middle East.

Live music, composed and led by Tunisian viola d'amore player Jasser Haj Youssef, follows each step of the dancers from Cherkaoui's two companies – Ballet du Grand Théâtre de Genève and Eastman. Draped in earth-toned costumes and surrounded by Persian rugs, they pay homage to both contemporary dance and cultural traditions.

Paying tribute to a gay Moroccan man murdered in Belgium, *Ihsane* confronts cycles of violence and persecution, calling for connection despite unimaginable grief.

Tue 18 – Thu 20 Aug 7.30pm

AD CAP Thu 20 Aug

1hr 40mins approx. | No interval

FESTIVAL THEATRE From £18

Sidi Larbi Cherkaoui Choreographer
Amine Amharech Set Designer
Amine Bendriouich Costume Designer
Fabiana Piccioli Lighting Designer
Maxime Guislain Videographer
El Arbi El-Harti Dramaturg
Alexandre Dai Castaing Sound Designer

Jasser Haj Youssef Music Director &
Viola d'amore

Gaël Cadoux Piano

Nizar Rohana Oud

Gabriele Miracle Bragantini Percussion

Fadia Tomb El-Hage &

Mohammed El Arabi Serghini Vocals

Contains references to genocide, homophobia, violence, animal cruelty and fake blood

Hear *Sounds of Ihsane* at The Hub on
Fri 14 Aug, see p93.

Supported by **Flure Grossart**



*'A STUNNING INTEGRATION
OF MOVEMENT, SOUND
AND VISUALS'*

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

MERE MORTALS

SAN FRANCISCO BALLET / ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA
ASZURE BARTON / FLOATING POINTS

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Open Pandora's Box and come face to face with the perils of our tech-obsessed age. San Francisco Ballet takes on eternal questions about the quest for knowledge through the contemporary lens of artificial intelligence.

Returning to the International Festival for the first time in over 20 years, this forward-looking company brings its 'unmatched creative ambition' (The Washington Post) to the Edinburgh Playhouse stage. San Francisco Ballet's bold approach is a perfect fit for visionary choreographer Aszure Barton, whose works 'offer an entire world' (The New York Times).

Composer and electronic musician Floating Points (Sam Shepherd) performs his original score live with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra. With cutting-edge visuals, the full power of the orchestra in the pit and 40 of the world's best dancers commanding the stage, this European premiere is a breathtaking spectacle.

Fri 28 – Sun 30 Aug 8pm
Sat 29 Aug 3pm

AD Sun 30 Aug

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval

EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE From £24.50

Aszure Barton Choreographer

Floating Points Composer

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Martin West Conductor

Hamill Industries Production Design & Visuals

Michelle Jank Costume Designer

Jim French Lighting Designer

Carmen Kovacs Dramaturg

Supported by **Dunard Fund**

EXXY

DAN DAW CREATIVE PROJECTS



How do you continue to value yourself when society doesn't value you? *EXXY* (Australian slang for, 'that's expensive, mate') takes us back to where queer, disabled artist Dan Daw began – working class, with very little.

Dan returns to the Festival after last year's *The Dan Daw Show*, this time joined by three extraordinary performers who move like him. With raw honesty and scorching stagecraft, they explore what it costs to stay at the top of your game when you've always been made to feel on the outside.

Included in your ticket is an afterparty across all floors of the newly refurbished King's Theatre – dance and mingle with the company in a joyful and inclusive party atmosphere.

Sun 23 Aug 7.30pm

AD **BSL** **CAP** **REL**

1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

KING'S THEATRE From £12

Contains loud noise, flashing lights, haze, a sudden blackout, strong language, descriptions of being othered, sexual experiences & depictions of being in pain

Performed in English with creative captions

Co-commissioned by **Edinburgh International Festival**

The Festival's return to the King's Theatre is supported by **Sir Ewan and Lady Brown**

WHEN PROPHECY FAILS

GROUPWORK



In a small town in the American Midwest, the disciples of a suburban housewife are convinced that the world is ending. Discover the true story of the world's first UFO doomsday cult, which led to a groundbreaking 1950s study into the concept of cognitive dissonance. Award-winning Scottish ensemble Groupwork combines astonishing visuals with hypnotic movement to create a timely performance investigating what happens when cold, hard facts meet the chaotic power of belief.

Thu 27, Fri 28, Sat 29 Aug 7.30pm
Sat 29 Aug 2.30pm
Sun 30 Aug 5.30pm

CAP Thu 27 – Sun 30 Aug
AD Sat 29 Aug 2.30pm
BSL Sun 30 Aug

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval

STUDIO THEATRE £30

Vicki Manderson Choreographer & Co-Director

Finn den Hertog Co-Director & Co-Writer

Lewis den Hertog Co-Writer, Composer, Video & Sound Designer

Milla Clarke Designer

Benny Goodman Lighting Designer

Visual performance with voiceover

As part of our Discover Theatre programme, there will also be a dedicated schools performance



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

Supported through the Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund



MARVEL AT THEATRE THAT
REACHES NEW HEIGHTS

TAVERNA MIREZIA



THEATRE

Celebrating the reopening of the King's Theatre after a major renovation, Internationaal Theater Amsterdam's *Angels in America* is a state-of-the-nation reckoning, complemented brilliantly by Geoff Sobelle's tauntingly irreverent *Clown Show*. At The Lyceum, *A Trial—after An Enemy of the People* confronts groupthink and authoritarianism and Zora Howard's *HANG TIME* probes private lives as well as communal shame, while *Ingoma! A Revolution in Rhythm* is a rallying cry for optimism.

The Festival's return to the King's Theatre is supported by **Sir Ewan and Lady Brown**

POST-SHOW TALKS

This is your chance to hear directly from the creative teams and performers. Check each production listing for the relevant date.



'JATAHY BLENDS STORY
AND STYLE INTO
A SWIRLING WHOLE.'

THE STAGE

A TRIAL – AFTER AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE

CHRISTIANE JATAHY / WAGNER MOURA

UK PREMIERE

Visionary Brazilian director Christiane Jatahy returns to the Festival with a radical sequel to Henrik Ibsen's *An Enemy of the People*, featuring Golden Globe-winning and Oscar-nominated actor Wagner Moura. In Ibsen's groundbreaking 1882 play, protagonist Thomas Stockmann faces shame and exile from his home town after attempting to expose a water pollution scandal.

Jatahy's sequel throws Stockmann, played by Moura (*Narcos*, *The Secret Agent*), into a modern-day public courtroom to determine his fate. Lawyers and judges are noticeably absent, and it's up to a jury of audience members to decide if he is innocent or whether he is indeed 'an enemy of the people'.

Transplanting Ibsen's themes to contemporary Brazil, *A Trial* offers a sharp look at authoritarianism, fake news and public judgement. Ever inventive and political, Jatahy combines audience participation and filmed footage, creating a one-of-a-kind performance each night where the line between reality and fiction is constantly blurred.

Audience Participation

For every performance, there will be the opportunity for 11 audience members to be part of the jury.

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Fri 7 – Mon 10 Aug 7.30pm
Sat 8 Aug 3pm
2hrs 30mins approx. | No interval

THE LYCEUM From £15

Christiane Jatahy Concept & Director
Christiane Jatahy, Lucas Paraizo & Wagner Moura Writers
Thomas Walgrave Set & Lighting Designer & Artistic Collaboration
Marina Franco Costume Designer
Paulo Camacho Photo Director & Camera
Pedro Vituri Sound Designer

Cast

Wagner Moura, Danilo Grangheia & Julia Bernat

Performed in Portuguese and English with English surtitles

A special collaboration between **Edinburgh International Festival**, **Festival d'Avignon** and **Holland Festival**, the three European festivals established in 1947.

Supported by **Edinburgh International Festival Endowment Fund** with additional support from the **Consulate General of Brazil in Edinburgh** and **Instituto Guimarães Rosa**



'FIRST-RATE
PRODUCTION OF
A MASTERPIECE'

TIME OUT

ANGELS IN AMERICA

INTERNATIONAAL THEATER AMSTERDAM
TONY KUSHNER / IVO VAN HOVE

UK PREMIERE

Tony Kushner's *Angels in America: A Gay Fantasia on National Themes* is an epoch-defining work of American theatre. Set at the height of the AIDS crisis, yet enduringly relevant, we follow the story of two very different people grappling with their diagnoses – former drag queen Prior and vindictive lawyer Roy Cohn.

Kushner has credited this radical reworking from director Ivo van Hove and Internationaal Theater Amsterdam (ITA) as his favourite version of the play. Taking place on a minimal set accompanied by a David Bowie soundtrack, both parts of the play are combined into one epic performance.

Returning to the Festival after their innovative works *A Little Life* (2022) and *Penthesilea* (2024), ITA presents another pioneering production showcasing their signature wit, stagecraft and incisive storytelling. *Angels in America* is a gripping and darkly humorous work reminding us that while change and death are inevitable, the choice to love can be transformative.

Sat 15 – Wed 19 Aug 6pm (excl. Mon 17)
Thu 20 Aug 1pm

CAP Sun 16 Aug

4hrs 55mins approx. | One Interval

The interval lasts 45 mins with grazing boxes available to pre-order

KING'S THEATRE From £20

Ivo van Hove Director

Tony Kushner Writer

Carel Alphenaar Translation

Peter van Kraaij Adaptation &
Dramaturgy

Jan Versweyveld Set & Lighting
Designer

Wim Selles Music Designer

Tal Yarden Video Designer

Wojciech Dziedzic Costume Designer

Daniël 't Hoen Assistant Director

Cast

**Marieke Heebink, Hans Kesting,
Minne Koole, Jesse Mensah,
Eefje Paddenburg, Felix Schellekens,
Krisjan Schellingerhout & Eelco Smits**

Contains strong language, homophobic and racist language, nudity, sexual themes, depictions of mental and physical illness & death

Performed in Dutch with English surtitles

Supported by

Sir Ewan and Lady Brown
with additional support from
Robin and Vivienne† Menzies



'SUPER-SLICK STAGING,
PHYSICALITY AND SLEIGHT
OF HAND'

THE HERALD ON GEOFF SOBELLE'S *FOOD*

CLOWN SHOW

GEOFF SOBELLE

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Roll up, roll up for theatre-maker Geoff Sobelle's contemporary portrait of America as a falling-apart circus. The acrobats and the jugglers have long since left, leaving the clowns to run the show. Sobelle returns to the International Festival following his immersive, surprising productions, *FOOD* (2023) and *HOME* (2018).

Part-clown, part-magician, Sobelle creates hilarious and poignant work, whose impact can be 'as disturbing as it is beautiful' (The Scotsman). This time, Sobelle is joined by an army of clowns holding it together as best they can, performing the original score on questionable instruments.

Sobelle and his clowns have set up their 'beautiful big top' in the wreckage of America. They invite you into a crumbling empire to witness the greatest show on earth before it disappears completely. It may be the USA's 250th birthday this year, but Sobelle asks if the American Dream is better described as a deal with the devil.

Thu 27 – Sat 29 Aug 8pm
Sat 29 Aug 2pm
Sun 30 Aug 3pm

POST-SHOW TALK Sat 29 Aug 8pm

BSL Sat 29 Aug 8pm

AD Sun 30 Aug

1hr 40mins approx. | No interval

KING'S THEATRE From £15

Geoff Sobelle Creator & Director
Maruti Evans Set & Lighting Designer
Tei Blow Sound Designer
Suzanne Bocanegra Costume Designer
Mike Dobson Music Director
Elvis Perkins, Mike Dobson, Leo Gurevich & Gideon Irving Original Music
Thomas Jenkeleit Prop Designer

Cast

Sophie Bortolussi, Nikki Calonge, Mike Dobson, Domenica Fossati, Leo Gurevich, Gideon Irving, Jenn Kidwell, Elvis Perkins & Geoff Sobelle

Contains strong language, use of haze & loud noise

Commissioned by
Edinburgh International Festival

Supported by
Sir Ewan and Lady Brown



*'A SYMBOL OF RESILIENCE
AND HOPE'*

THE GUARDIAN ON THE BOOK OF LIFE

INGOMA! A REVOLUTION IN RHYTHM

VOLCANO (CANADA) / WOMAN CULTURAL CENTRE (RWANDA)
ODILE GAKIRE 'KIKI' KATESE

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

In Rwanda, 'power' and 'drum' are the same word: *ingoma*. In 2004, a group of women, seeking to heal after a genocide, made a revolutionary choice. They broke a centuries-old taboo and formed Ingoma Nshya (New Power/ New Drum) – the first all-women drumming ensemble in Rwandan history.

This is their story – a joyous narrative concert featuring an electrifying collection of rhythms, songs and dances from both West and East Africa – some traditional, some brand new.

Following Katese's inspirational *The Book of Life* (2022 International Festival), this performance delivers its message through music: that discrimination cannot stand in the face of joyful determination.

Fri 14 & Sat 15 Aug 7.30pm
Sat 15 & Sun 16 Aug 2.30pm
1hr 40mins approx. | One interval

POST-SHOW TALK Sat 15 Aug 2.30pm

CAP Sat 15 Aug 7.30pm

THE LYCEUM From £15.50

Odile Gakire 'Kiki' Katese Writer,
Performer & Co-Creator

Ross Manson Director & Co-Creator

Kristine White Projection Designer,
Shadow Puppet Creator & Puppeteer

Aurore Katese Shadow Puppeteer &
Interpreter

Kaitlin Hickey Set Designer

Patrick Lavender Lighting Designer

Performers

**Odile Gakire 'Kiki' Katese, Ineza Mugisha
& The Drummers of Ingoma Nshya**

Co-commissioned by **Edinburgh
International Festival, ArtsEmerson,
University of Georgia Performing
Arts Center, Perelman Performing
Arts Center & Luminato Festival Toronto**

Performed in English with songs
in Kinyarwanda

Supported by
**Canada Council of Arts
and Ontario Arts Council**



'A MASTERWORK
OF SMALL INTRICACIES'

THE NEW YORK TIMES

HANG TIME

THE FLEA THEATER
ZORA HOWARD

EUROPEAN PREMIERE

Three Black men hang from an old, wide tree. Caught together in this liminal space, they shoot the breeze, sharing the great loves and bitter blues of their interrupted lives.

The directorial debut of Pulitzer Prize finalist Zora Howard, *HANG TIME* is a gut-wrenching, subversive perspective on the legacy of racialised violence in America. Sharply juxtaposing the romantic and the macabre, the 'finely-tuned' dialogue (The New York Times) is peppered with heartbreaking missed opportunities and tinged with dark humour.

As the audience sits with the image of these men's demise, Howard asks us to hold the truth of this peculiar American violence alongside the vibrant interior worlds of the men themselves.

Thu 20 – Sat 22 Aug 8pm
Sat 22 & Sun 23 Aug 3pm

POST-SHOW TALK Fri 21 Aug

AD Sat 22 Aug 3pm

CAP Sat 22 Aug 8pm

1hr approx. | No interval

THE LYCEUM From £20.50

Zora Howard Writer & Director

Neal Wilkinson Set Designer

Reza Behjat Lighting Designer

Dominique Fawn Hill Costume Designer

Megan Culley Sound Designer

Charlie Oates Movement Director

Cast

Kamal Bolden, Bryce Foley, Julian Rozzell

Revived by **Edinburgh International Festival**

Contains strong language and implied violence



**'THE NEW FACE OF
GREEK THEATRE'**

THE GUARDIAN ON MARIO BANUSHI

TAVERNA MIREZIA – MARIO, BELLA, ANASTASIA

MARIO BANUSHI

SCOTTISH PREMIERE

Step into the Taverna Miresia and discover a surreal tragedy with Mario Banushi, a formidable presence in Greek theatre. Banushi invites us into his family's Albanian restaurant, whose proprietor, his larger-than-life father, has recently passed away.

In Banushi's wordless, visually stunning performance, this domestic space takes on a dreamlike quality as he confronts the ghosts of his past. Surreal flashbacks are underscored by the haunting vocals of Greek singer, Savina Yannatou – from an Albanian lullaby to improvised laments.

This boundary-pushing production merges Greek tragedy with ancient Balkan rituals and a cinematic aesthetic. Banushi creates an unsettling yet sublime piece that allows him to transform his anguish into a ritual of purification.

Wed 26, Thu 27 & Sat 29 Aug 8pm
Fri 28 Aug 5pm & 8.30pm

POST-SHOW TALK Thu 27 Aug

AD Sat 29 Aug

1hr 10mins approx. | No Interval

CHURCH HILL THEATRE From £30

Mario Banushi Concept & Director

Cast

**Mario Banushi, Katerina Kristo,
Eftychia Stefanou, Chryssi Vidalaki,
Savina Yannatou**

Contains haze, flashing lights, loud noise,
nudity and themes of bullying

Non-verbal performance

AL-SIRAH AL-HILALIYYAH

THE EPIC OF BANI HILAL / السيرة الهلالية

KHASHABI THEATRE
BASHAR MURKUS / KHULOOD BASEL



UK PREMIERE

The legendary poem *Al-Sirah Al-Hilaliyyah* (*The Epic of Bani Hilal*) has been passed down through generations since the 14th century, across the Arab world. Rejecting European theatrical norms, Bashar Murkus and Khulood Basel present an exhilarating retelling that combines physical theatre, music, puppetry and dance, mixing the aesthetics of their native Palestinian folklore with Arab performance styles.

Wed 26 – Sat 29 Aug 7.30pm

AD Fri 28 Aug

3hrs approx. | One interval

THE LYCEUM From £20.50

Bashar Murkus Writer & Director

Khulood Basel Dramaturg

Majdala Khoury Set Designer

Habib Hanna Composer

Khalil EPI Music Production &

Arrangements

Muaz Al Jubeh Lighting Designer

Rami Nakhleh Live Music

Arrangements

Cast

Rana Baransi, Maya Omayya Keesh,

Rami Nakhleh, Adan Rabos,

Misan Miso Samara,

Atallah Tannous & Abed Zuabi

Co-produced by **Edinburgh**

International Festival, DE SINGEL

Center - CARTA Festival, Cité

internationale de la langue

française, Théâtre des 13 vents,

Espoo Theatre & Teatre Nacional

de Catalunya

Performed in Arabic with

English surtitles

[SEAGULL]

TONEELHUIS / OLYMPIQUE DRAMATIQUE
AFTER ANTON CHEKHOV



UK PREMIERE

Anton Chekhov's *The Seagull* takes on new meaning in a Flemish Sign Language reimagining. Over a weekend in a country estate, Arkadina, a celebrated actress, and her playwright son, Konstantin, pursue their artistic and romantic ambitions amidst a complex web of melodramatic characters, generational differences and fatal misunderstandings.

Belgian company Olympique Dramatique brings together a cast of Deaf and hearing actors to reimagine the story; some have signed since birth, while others are beginners. Their struggle to communicate across this language barrier reveals new depths to this iconic tragicomedy and deftly challenges preconceived ideas about language.

Preview Fri 7 Aug 4pm
Sat 8 – Tue 11 Aug 7.30pm

CAP Fri 7 – Tue 11 Aug

2hrs 30mins approx. | No interval

STUDIO THEATRE £35
(Preview £30)

After **Anton Chekhov**

Stijn Van Opstal Director

**Stijn Van Opstal, Scarlet Tummers,
Tom Dewispelaere, Francis
Geeraert** Adaptation

**Diane Boonen, Sam Verstraete &
Hilde Verhelst e.a.** Translators

Scarlet Tummers Dramaturg

**Damiaan De Schrijver &
Stijn Van Opstal** Set Designers
Frank Hardy Lighting Designer
Monique Van Hassel Costume
Designer

Cast

**Yousra Boukantar, Sofie Declair,
Tom Dewispelaere, Lobke Leirens,
Lut Reysen, Willy Thomas,
Serge Vlerick, Yana Wuytjens**

Contains references to suicide

Performed in Flemish Sign Language
with creative captions in English

FOUR WALLS AND A ROOF

LINA MAJDALANIE / RABIH MROUÉ

Speak to the microphone
Parlez dans le microphone
Spreek in de microfoon



UK PREMIERE

In 1933, German playwright Bertolt Brecht fled Berlin, eventually settling in the United States, where he would be tried by the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) for communist affiliations. Ten years ago, artist duo Lina Majdalanie and Rabih Mroué emigrated from Beirut to Berlin. Their new play weaves these two stories together, exploring the repression of free speech and questioning how free our liberal democracies really are.

Fri 14 – Mon 17 Aug 7.30pm

POST-SHOW TALK Sun 16 Aug

AD **CAP** Sun 16 Aug

BSL Mon 17 Aug

1hr 40mins approx. | No interval

STUDIO THEATRE £30

Lina Majdalanie & Rabih Mroué

Directors & Writers

Bertolt Brecht Writer

Sandra Noeth Dramaturg

Hanns Eisler & Henrik

Kairies Composers

Thomas Köppel Lighting Designer

Songs by **Bertolt Brecht & Hanns Eisler**

Performers

Henrik Kairies, Lina Majdalanie

& **Rabih Mroué**

Contains haze

Performed in English, with German songs
with English surtitles

HARIBO KIMCHI

JAHA KOO / CAMPO



SCOTTISH PREMIERE

Sit at Jaha Koo's pojangmacha, a late-night Korean snack bar. Serving his customers – a robotic eel, a snail and a gummy bear – Koo discusses culinary delights and his deep longing for his home country. Food and culture are endlessly intertwined in this absurd and powerful production zigzagging between cultural appreciation and alienation.

Thu 20 – Mon 24 Aug 8pm
Sat 22 Aug 2pm

POST-SHOW TALK Sun 23 Aug

1hr 10mins approx. | No interval

STUDIO THEATRE £30

Jaha Koo Writer, Director, Music, Sound & Video

Dries Douibi Dramaturg

Eunkyung Jeong Set Designer

Performed by **Jaha Koo**

Performed in English and Korean

HOSTILE

A WORK FOR FAMILIES

BAKÉLITE



SCOTTISH PREMIERE

A cowboy is stuck in the desert. He needs water, shade from the sun and a chance to escape from those pesky snakes and vultures. Olivier Rannou stars as a Spaghetti Western cowboy in this family-friendly production from French company Bakélite. As everyday objects transform all around him, the cowboy tries to escape the desert, strolling into saloons and coming across bandits along the way.

Sat 8 – Tue 11 Aug 2pm
Sun 9 & Mon 10 Aug 6pm

50mins approx. | No interval

CHURCH HILL THEATRE From £15

Olivier Rannou Performer,
Set Designer & Director

Alexandre Musset & Alan Floc'h
Lighting Designers

Émilie Rougier Composer

Stephany Gicquiaud Costume
Designer

Fabien Bossard, Alan Floc'h,
Aurélien Georgeault-Loch,
Morien Nolot Artistic
Collaborators

Alan Floc'h Sound Designer

Non-verbal performance

Recommended for ages 8+

Supported by **Flure Grossart**

MUSIC FOR FAMILIES

ART OF LISTENING WORKSHOPS

Sat 15, 22 & 29 Aug 10.30am & 1.30pm
1hr 15mins approx.
Lunch 12noon – 1pm

SPACE @ THE BROOMHOUSE HUB

All tickets £5

Classical music is all around us in movies, TV and advertising. This interactive workshop is designed to unlock the meaning and power of listening deeply for adults and children through a shared experience. Led by an opera singer, pianist and facilitator, *Art of Listening* brings generations together to learn fresh ways to listen, share and connect.

Hosted in our Community Hub, all tickets include a free lunch before or after the workshop, provided by Coorie Catering. Free tickets are available to local residents in EH11 postcodes. For more information email connect@eif.co.uk

Suitable for children aged 7–11. This workshop is designed for adults & children to enjoy together.

Single tickets for adults or unsupervised children are not available.

FAMILY CONCERT

YOLA / BIG NOISE

Sun 16 Aug 1pm

BSL **CAP** **REL**

1hr approx. | No interval

USHER HALL All tickets £10

Gustavo Dudamel Conductor

A perfect introduction to the excitement of the concert hall, our Family Concert welcomes children and their grown ups to hear not one, but two orchestras playing together. The LA Phil's youth orchestra, YOLA, joins with Scotland's Big Noise and superstar conductor Gustavo Dudamel for a selection of high-spirited classical pieces. You'll be welcomed to the concert and introduced to the musicians, bringing you closer to the magic of live music.

Recommended for ages 7–11 but suitable for all ages

Supported by **Dunard Fund**

TOGETHER WE RISE

PRINCES STREET GARDENS



Sun 9 Aug

PRINCES STREET GARDENS FREE, drop in
For full details, visit eif.co.uk/together

This year we celebrate the power of collaboration, perfectly exemplified by this joyful, community-led celebration at the heart of the city. We invite you to stroll through the gardens and delight in pop-up performances showcasing music and dance from across Scotland and the USA, inspired by our Festival theme. We gather together for the culmination – a heart-expanding, jaw-dropping moment of collective expression inspired by the final, soulful movement of Wynton Marsalis's *All Rise*.

In collaboration with
Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival

CONNECTING ACROSS THE CITY

Year-round, we invite people of all ages and backgrounds to create, collaborate and fall in love with the performing arts.

Every year, 3,000 primary school children get a live introduction to classical music through our flagship Art of Listening workshops. Secondary school pupils can find pathways to music, theatre, opera and dance with our free Discover projects. Our Youth Collective is a group of passionate young people who work closely with us to help shape how their peers experience the International Festival.

Our collaboration with NHS Lothian Charity brings the joy of live music into NHS settings through monthly pop-up performances for staff, patients and visitors.

This year, we are continuing our Community Connections residency with Space @ The Broomhouse Hub. Long-term initiatives include training and paid employment opportunities, dementia-friendly activities, community meals and moments of celebration featuring Festival artists.

To learn more, go to eif.co.uk/social-impact

*'A NEW DISCOVERY
FOR ME. I FELT
TRANSPORTED.'*

BROOMHOUSE VISITOR

We are grateful to all our Discovery & Participation supporters who make this work possible, including those who prefer to remain anonymous.

Claire and Mark Urquhart
Binks Trust
The Badenoch Trust
The Castansa Trust
The Educational Institute of Scotland
Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust
The Northwood Charitable Trust
Jerry Ozaniec
The Pear Tree Fund for Music
The Stevenston Charitable Trust

DIVE DEEPER

Curious to learn more about a performance? Here's how.

MEET THE ARTISTS

- Draw back the curtain on our staged works by hearing from creative teams and performers in our post-show talks.
- Hear insights directly from artists in the cosy and convivial atmosphere of our home venue, The Hub.

KEY INFORMATION, WHEN AND WHERE YOU NEED IT

- For concerts and staged works, our keepsake freesheets provide you with the essential information you'll need to know about the performance and who's on stage.
- For concerts in the Usher Hall and The Queen's Hall, surtitle screens show you which piece of music is being played.
- For Verdi's *A Masked Ball* and *The Galloping Cure*, you can also buy a souvenir programme – a stylish memento packed with enlightening articles.

WATCH, READ & LISTEN

- Our audio series, *The Warm Up*, allows you to listen in on conversations between our artists and knowledgeable hosts including Festival Director Nicola Benedetti.
- Before the performance, we'll send you the most relevant information, articles and videos, along with your tickets, by text message and email.

Continuing our longstanding partnership with the BBC, they'll record many of our concerts at the Queen's Hall and Usher Hall for Radio 3. Relive these performances on BBC Sounds for 30 days after the broadcasts and explore the full list of recordings at eif.co.uk/broadcast



THE GLOBAL IDEAS STAGE



Edinburgh has long been a crucible for ideas. Two and a half centuries ago, pioneering thinkers like Adam Smith and David Hume mingled in coffeehouses, openly debated theories, and envisioned leaps forward in how we understand society.

Today, the world faces challenges that demand the same combination of insight and imagination. In collaboration with Panmure House, the home of Adam Smith, we are proud to present a bold new form of public discourse.

Curated and hosted by Harvard University professor Sarah Lewis and Festival Director Nicola Benedetti, extraordinary global thinkers and cultural leaders join on stage at the newly refurbished King's Theatre for an unconventional, dramatic, inquisitive and convivial conversation.

BSL **CAP** Tue 11 Aug 4pm

2hrs approx. | No interval

KING'S THEATRE £30
price includes tea or coffee

Created in collaboration with
Panmure House

Supported by
James and Morag Anderson

Additional support for the
Festival's return to the
King's Theatre is provided by
Sir Ewan and Lady Brown

THE LEGACY OF SLAVERY

Discover a comprehensive history of the legacy of slavery and racial injustice in the first international exhibition from one of America's premier cultural institutions, The Legacy Museum based in Montgomery, Alabama. Tracking the tragic history of millions of enslaved Africans who were abducted and trafficked across the Atlantic to the Americas by European powers, this exhibition explores the myth of racial hierarchy that enabled slavery, lynching and segregation. This legacy continues to perpetuate racial injustices today. Created by the Equal Justice Initiative, The Legacy Sites demonstrate that the power of history is in telling the truth.

Sat 8 – Sun 30 Aug
10am – 5pm

PLAYFAIR LIBRARY
FREE, ticketed



ANNE HARDY

British sculptor Anne Hardy transforms Talbot Rice Gallery into a single immersive space. With sculptures made from cast elements, found materials and earth drawings, she explores landscapes that are both human and post-human by animating the gallery with light, sound, data and scenography. Grafting seemingly incompatible contexts one into the other – a colossal monument into an interior gallery; an archaeological dig into an historic building – she studies how our bodies respond to space and sensory stimuli, creating an atmosphere that will cast spells over the room.

Sat 27 June – Sun 27 Sep
Tue – Sat 10am – 5pm
(Mon – Sun during Festival dates)

TALBOT RICE GALLERY

FREE, unticketed

Talbot Rice Gallery is the public art gallery of Edinburgh College of Art / The University of Edinburgh

Please note that the venue does not currently have level access due to major refurbishment of the lift. Entrance via Old College Quad



HOME TO OUR RESIDENT
ORCHESTRAS AND
BEANBAG CONCERTS

USHER HALL



RISING STARS

Giving the world's most promising young musicians a chance to shine on an international stage, each year our cohort of auditioned Rising Stars benefit from mentorship, performance opportunities and community engagement experience to take their careers to the next level. See p67

Encounter outstanding musicianship and inspirational collaborations in Edinburgh's beloved concert hall. Three exceptional orchestras take up residence for the Festival; dig deeper into their identities and tune into their unique sounds. Across the programme, the Usher Hall morphs and shifts as formal seating is replaced by our signature beanbags, and doors open to a series of different concert experiences.

Some concerts at the Usher Hall will be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and BBC Sounds. For more information, visit eif.co.uk/broadcast

OPENING CONCERT: ALL RISE

JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER
ORCHESTRA RESIDENCY
WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

Making their Festival debut is the world's premier big band ensemble: Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra. Representing the height of collective excellence and innovation, their mission is to build a more conscious, collaborative and creative world through the art of jazz. In the final year of his four-decade tenure as their Artistic Director, experience the inspirational trumpeter Wynton Marsalis perform with the orchestra he founded.





'IT IMPLORES THE HEAVENS FOR SALVATION AND COMFORT'

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

Wynton Marsalis's magnificent work, *All Rise*, is the inspiration behind this year's Festival theme. This massive jazz symphony in 12 movements, a tribute to the 12-bar blues, blends musical influences from around the world in a full-blooded expression of the human condition.

It traces a journey from birth, play and self-discovery, through pain and sacrifice, to maturity and joy. Teeming with the multiplicity, contradiction and surprise which life brings us, the music swings from juba to blues, via a New Orleans funeral and the rhythms of a train, to classical and jazz, in an exhilarating conversation.

Marsalis and his Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra join forces with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, the Edinburgh Festival Chorus and Jason Max Ferdinand Singers – all under the baton of the renowned James Gaffigan. With over 200 performers on stage, this glorious 'thunder' of a work is a monumental opening to our Usher Hall series.

Arrive early to enjoy pop-up performances and refreshments.

Sat 8 Aug 6.30pm
2hrs 40mins approx. | Two intervals

USHER HALL From £22.50

Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra
with **Wynton Marsalis**

Royal Scottish National Orchestra

Edinburgh Festival Chorus
James Grossmith Chorus Director

Jason Max Ferdinand Singers

James Gaffigan Conductor

Wynton Marsalis *All Rise*
(Symphony No.1)

Sung in English with surtitles

Supported by **Sheila Colvin**



JAZZ AT LINCOLN CENTER ORCHESTRA RESIDENCY

WITH WYNTON MARSALIS

JLCO PLAYS DUKE ELLINGTON

Tue 11 Aug 7.30pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Chris Crenshaw Conductor

Ekep Nkwelle Vocals

Ellington Black, Brown and Beige

Sung in English with surtitles

Duke Ellington's *Black, Brown and Beige* is an extraordinary musical and political statement. A powerful account of Black life in America, Ellington's symphony exquisitely blends jazz, blues and spirituals. The orchestra is joined by emerging stars of the American jazz scene, who will curate a surprise programme to complement Ellington's masterpiece.

WORLD PREMIERE

JLCO WITH YUJA WANG

Wed 12 Aug 6pm & 9pm
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval

USHER HALL From £27.50

Yuja Wang Piano

An Edinburgh International Festival commission and world exclusive, this is a unique opportunity to experience classical superstar pianist Yuja Wang performing with these titans of jazz. Discover a programme of pieces selected by Wang and Wynton Marsalis, specially arranged for Wang's charismatic artistry to combine with the jazz orchestra's infectious spontaneity and flair.

GERSHWIN & BARTÓK

NATIONAL YOUTH ORCHESTRA OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Join 'some of the best young orchestral players in America' (The New York Times), in the second year of our collaboration with Carnegie Hall. The exceptional National Youth Orchestra of America performs with Festival regular, conductor Karina Canellakis. Samuel Barber's effervescent *Overture to The School for Scandal* is followed by George Gershwin's jazz-infused Piano Concerto with virtuoso soloist Kirill Gerstein. Béla Bartók's Concerto for Orchestra, written while living in exile in the US, is a nostalgic, exuberant tribute to his native Hungary.

Mon 10 Aug 7.30pm
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Karina Canellakis Conductor

Kirill Gerstein Piano

Barber Overture to The School for Scandal

Gershwin Piano Concerto in F

Bartók Concerto for Orchestra

Supported by **Dunard Fund**

YOUNG MUSICIAN'S PASS

FREE CONCERT TICKETS FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS



Are you aged 8–18, living in Scotland and passionate about music? Then sign up to our Young Musician's Pass, with more than 2,000 free tickets up for grabs and exclusive access to meet with world-class artists.

Booking opens on Monday 18 May. T&Cs apply. Sign up at eif.co.uk/ympass

Supported by **The Turtleton Charitable Trust**, the Young Musician's Pass opens the door for young people to explore the power and potential of live music.

YMP Members will be able to get free tickets to a variety of events across our music and opera programme including:

VERDI'S A MASKED BALL p14

BRASS FANFARE p66

THE GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD p68

BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER p72

JASON MAX FERDINAND SINGERS p77

HALF-PRICE TICKETS FOR ALL UNDER 18S

As well as the Young Musician's Pass, all under 18s can access half-price tickets to most Festival shows and concerts. There's a whole host of inspirational performances in music, theatre, opera and dance to ignite young minds.

LA PHIL RESIDENCY

Supported by Dunard Fund

'The most important orchestra in America' (The New York Times) returns to the Festival. The influential Gustavo Dudamel conducts an exhilarating programme of dynamically contrasting Beethoven symphonies paired with striking new, full-length works. In his final year as the LA Phil's Music & Artistic Director, this residency showcases the depth of their Grammy Award-winning partnership, including spotlighting the inspirational YOLA (Youth Orchestra Los Angeles) alongside their Scottish peers in our *Family Concert*.

BEETHOVEN 7 & ORTIZ

Fri 14 Aug 7.30pm
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £30

Los Angeles Philharmonic
Gustavo Dudamel Conductor

Women of the Los Angeles Master Chorale

Beethoven Symphony No.7
Gabriela Ortiz *Revolución diamantina**
(UK Premiere)

Join the LA Phil and singers from the Los Angeles Master Chorale for a feast of sonic beauty. Ludwig van Beethoven's Seventh Symphony bursts with elemental forces and kinetic energy. It's paired with the UK premiere of Gabriela Ortiz's Grammy Award-winning ballet score *Revolución diamantina (Glitter Revolution)*, a powerful and celebratory exploration of contemporary Mexican feminism.

*Sung in Spanish with English surtitles

Supported by
Edinburgh Napier University

BEETHOVEN 6 & ADÈS

Sat 15 Aug 7pm
1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £30

Los Angeles Philharmonic
Gustavo Dudamel Conductor

Beethoven Symphony No.6 'Pastoral'
Thomas Adès *Inferno*

Beethoven's radiant 'Pastoral' symphony is a tribute to the solace he found in the Austrian countryside, complete with babbling brooks and birdsong. From there, we leap into fathoming the nine circles of hell in Thomas Adès's alternately comic and terrifying *Inferno* – an LA Phil-commissioned tribute to Dante's great narrative poem *The Divine Comedy*.

FAMILY CONCERT

Sun 16 Aug 1pm
1hr approx. | No interval

BSL **CAP** **REL**

USHER HALL All tickets £10

YOLA & Big Noise
Gustavo Dudamel Conductor

Join the LA Phil's youth orchestra, YOLA, and Scotland's Big Noise for an interactive introduction to classical music, perfect for children aged 7–11 and their grown-ups.

See p45 for more details.



ORCHESTRE SYMPHONIQUE DE MONTRÉAL

COLERIDGE-TAYLOR'S THE SONG OF HIAWATHA

CAP Wed 19 Aug 7pm
3hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Rafael Payare Conductor

Uchenna Ngwe Presenter

Soloists include

Nicky Spence Tenor

Edinburgh Festival Chorus

James Grossmith Chorus Director

Coleridge-Taylor The Song of Hiawatha

A chance to see Samuel Coleridge-Taylor's monumental 1899 cantata trilogy *The Song of Hiawatha* performed in full for the first time at the Festival. This spectacular choral work was inspired by American poet Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem about an Ojibwe warrior. Three superb soloists, including Scottish tenor Nicky Spence, perform with the Orchestre symphonique de Montréal, conductor Rafael Payare and the Edinburgh Festival Chorus for this masterpiece. Uchenna Ngwe, a specialist in Black British classical music, introduces its fascinating history.

Supported by

The Québec Government Office in London

VOICES OF CANADA

Thu 20 Aug 7.30pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Rafael Payare Conductor

Elisabeth St-Gelais Soprano

Emma Pennell Soprano

Alisa Weilerstein Cello

Ana Sokolović / Michelle Sylliboy You Can Die
Properly Now

Ian Cusson / Natasha Kanapé Fontaine

Un cri s'élève en moi

Gabriela Ortiz Dzonot

Richard Strauss Ein Heldenleben

Sung in Mi'kmaq and French
with English surtitles

This concert opens with two new vocal works paying tribute to Canada's Indigenous peoples. Grammy-winning composer Gabriela Ortiz, also featured in the LA Phil's programme, evokes the mysterious beauty of Mexico's subterranean rivers and caves in her cello concerto *Dzonot*, written for soloist Alisa Weilerstein. Finally, Richard Strauss offers a vivid autobiography in *Ein Heldenleben (A Hero's Life)*.

Supported by **Léan Scully Endowed Fund**
with additional support from

The Québec Government Office in London

BACH TO BACH

Supported by
Scobie Dickinson Ward



MULTI-BUY OFFER

Spend the day celebrating the work of Johann Sebastian Bach. Experience all his Cello Suites in one epic concert and immerse yourself in Bach's keyboard music. Get 20% off when you buy tickets for both concerts. Excludes top-price tickets and concessions.

You can join in too. Raise your voice with hundreds of others in our *Come and Sing* workshop.

COME AND SING BACH CHORALES

Sat 22 Aug 10.30am – 2.30pm

USHER HALL FREE WORKSHOP
Register in advance at eif.co.uk/sing

James Grossmith Chorus Director

Michael Bawtree Organ

Norbert Meyn German Coach

Curious about choral singing? Join us for a day of shared music-making, where you'll learn and perform chorales from Bach's *St Matthew & St John Passions*, with organ accompaniment. In the morning workshop, Edinburgh Festival Chorus Director James Grossmith will guide you through the score. In the afternoon, you'll perform in a sharing for family and friends.

ALISA WEILERSTEIN PLAYS THE CELLO SUITES

Sat 22 Aug 3.30pm
2hrs 30mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Alisa Weilerstein Cello

J S Bach Cello Suite No.1 in G, BWV 1007
Cello Suite No.2 in D minor, BWV 1008
Cello Suite No.3 in C, BWV 1009
Cello Suite No.4 in E flat, BWV 1010
Cello Suite No.5 in C minor, BWV 1011
Cello Suite No.6 in D, BWV 1012

Alisa Weilerstein rises to the feat of performing all six of Bach's dance-inspired Cello Suites, in what she describes as 'a shared spiritual experience'. Her playing reveals the suites' contrasting characters and why they are considered among the greatest works for the instrument.

VÍKINGUR ÓLAFSSON PLAYS BACH & BEETHOVEN

Sat 22 Aug 9pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

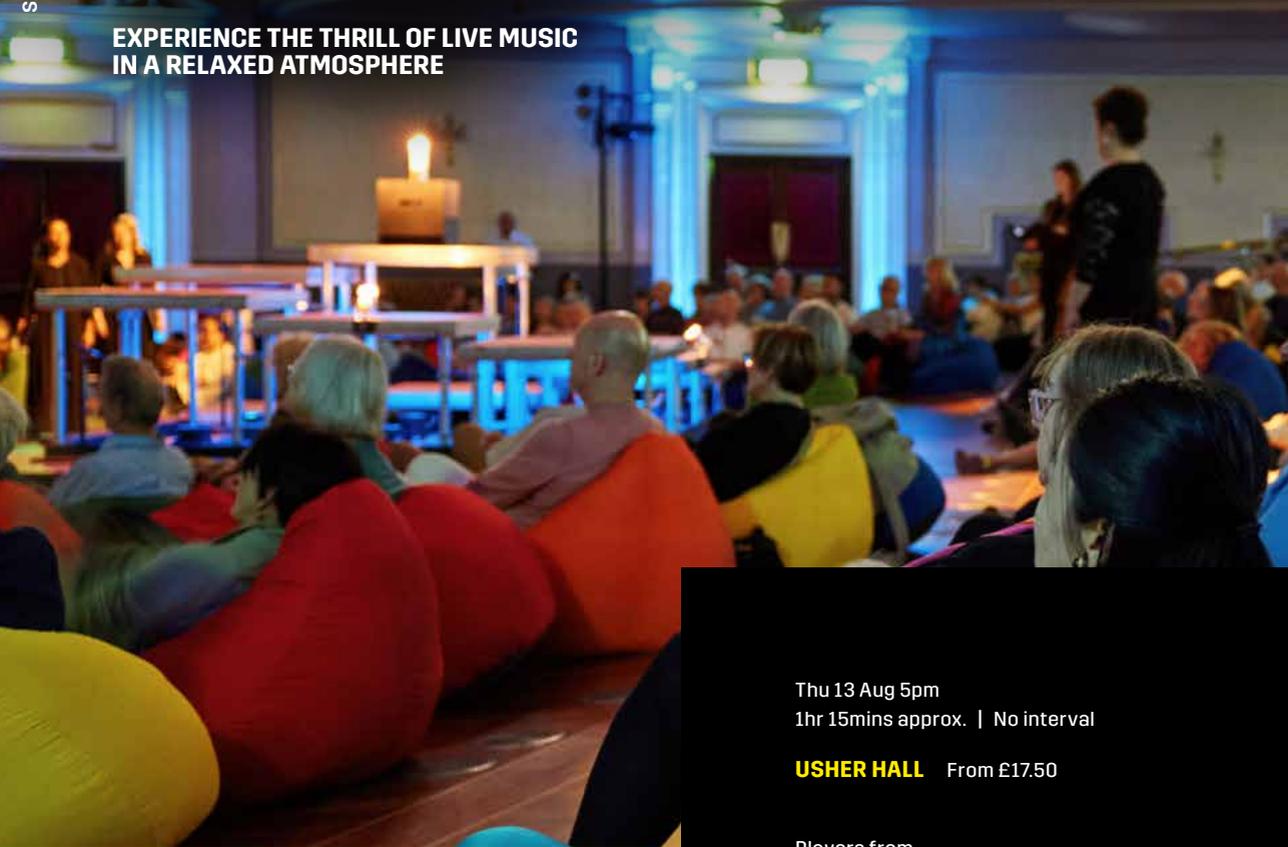
Víkingur Ólafsson Piano

J S Bach Prelude in E, BWV 854 from
The Well-Tempered Clavier, Volume 1
Beethoven Sonata in E minor, Op.90
J S Bach Partita No.6 in E minor, BWV 830
Schubert Sonata in E minor, D566
Beethoven Sonata in E, Op.109

Grammy Award-winning pianist Víkingur Ólafsson has selected Bach keyboard works to pair with music by Beethoven and Schubert. Highlights include Bach's expansive dance-inspired Partita BWV 830 and Beethoven's sublime Sonata Op.109, with Ólafsson's recent recording described as 'one of the most purely beautiful accounts on record' (The Guardian).

BEANBAG CONCERTS

EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF LIVE MUSIC
IN A RELAXED ATMOSPHERE



BRASS FANFARE A TRIBUTE TO JOHN WALLACE

Brass players from three of Scotland's top orchestras join forces with leading brass ensemble The Wallace Collection in a fond tribute to its late founder, inspirational Scottish trumpeter John Wallace. The programme includes movements from Wallace's *Symphony* from Brass Band, inspired by his native Fife, and Elgar Howarth's arrangement of Modest Mussorgsky's atmospheric *Pictures at an Exhibition*.

Thu 13 Aug 5pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

USHER HALL From £17.50

Players from

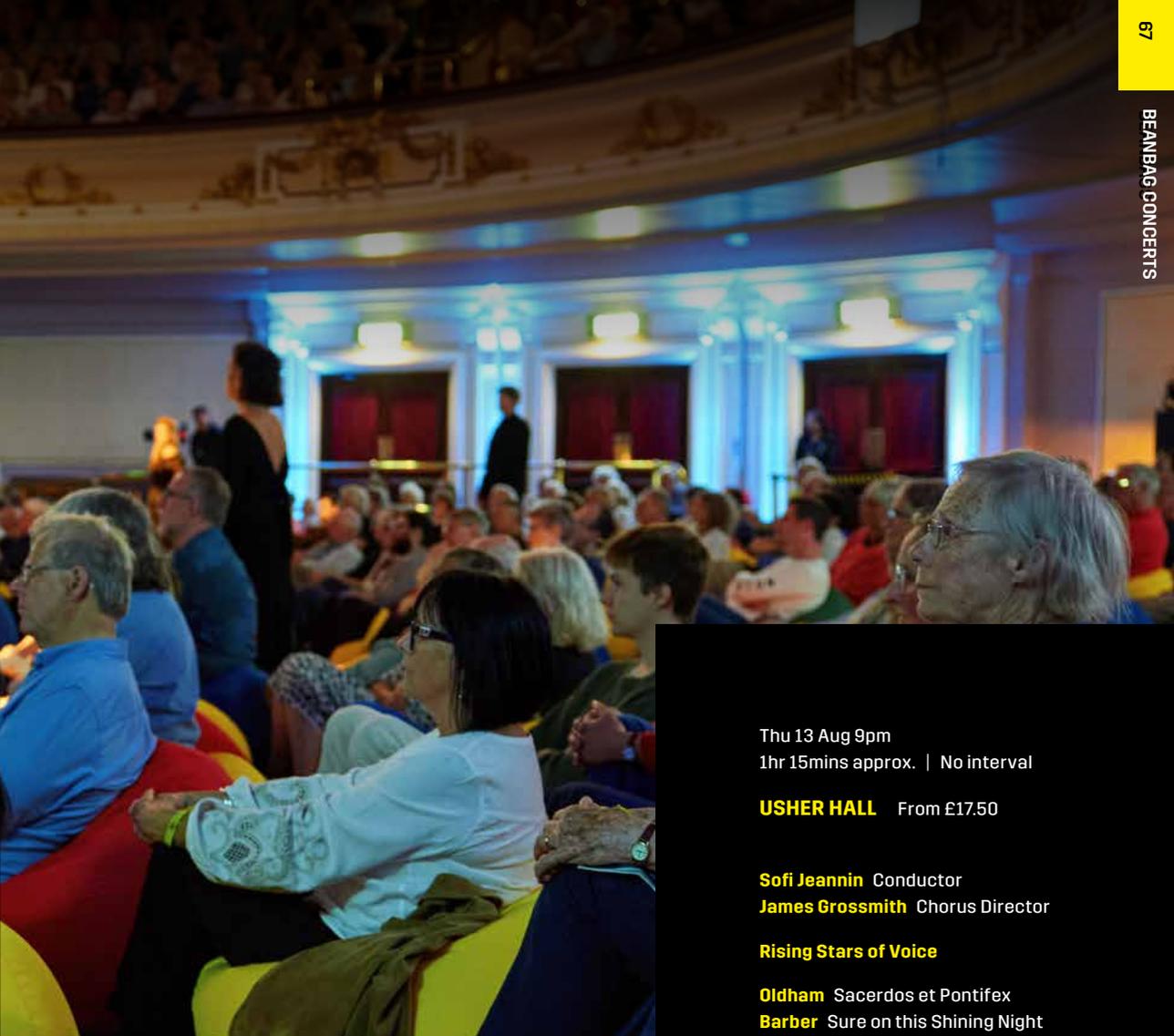
The Wallace Collection
The Cooperation Band
Scottish Chamber Orchestra
BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra
Royal Scottish National Orchestra
St Andrews Music Participation
(StAMP)
RCS Junior Conservatoire

Clark Rundell Conductor

Programme includes

John Wallace 'Methilhill Scherzo' &
'Dunsire Street Rag' from *Symphony*
Mussorgsky arr. **Howarth** *Pictures*
at an Exhibition
Bendinelli Sonata No.336

Supported by **Brenda Rennie**



RISING STARS

THIS SHINING NIGHT

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL CHORUS

The Edinburgh Festival Chorus joins with a group of our Rising Stars for a programme of American music from the 20th and 21st centuries. Hymns and love songs by Samuel Barber and Aaron Copland mingle with works by outstanding contemporary composers, under the baton of conductor Sofi Jeannin. Joel Thompson's heartbreaking and hard-hitting *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed* stands as the programme's powerful centrepiece.

Thu 13 Aug 9pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

USHER HALL From £17.50

Sofi Jeannin Conductor
James Grossmith Chorus Director

Rising Stars of Voice

Oldham *Sacerdos et Pontifex*
Barber *Sure on this Shining Night*
Barber 'The Coolin' from *Reincarnations*
Copland *At the River*
Caroline Shaw ...and the swallow
Nico Muhly *A Good Understanding*
Gabriela Lena Frank
¡Chicanofóbia!
Jeffery L. Ames *I've Been in the Storm So Long*
Joel Thompson *Seven Last Words of the Unarmed*
Reena Esmail *When the Violin*
Paulus *The Road Home*
Dawson *Soon Ah Will Be Done*
Erb *Shenandoah*
Morten Lauridsen *Sure on this Shining Night*

Sung in English and Latin with English surtitles

THE GOLDEN AGE OF HOLLYWOOD

SINFONIA OF LONDON



The allure of 1930s Hollywood enticed artists and audiences with the promise of glamour, optimism, and escape. At its glittering heart, MGM musicals shaped the sound of American popular culture until its music library was destroyed in 1969. John Wilson has devoted over 30 years to restoring the original orchestrations and now, with his Sinfonia of London, the iconic music of George Gershwin, Cole Porter and Irving Berlin shines anew.

Whether you come in your finery and enjoy a glass of fizz for the lavish evening concert, or relax in the more informal atmosphere of our beanbag arrangement the following morning, this will be a treat.

Mon 24 Aug 8pm

CAP Tue 25 Aug 11am Beanbags

2hrs 15mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL

Mon 24 Aug From £22.50

Tue 25 Aug From £17.50

John Wilson Conductor

Louise Dearman Vocals

Matt Ford Vocals

Programme includes music from **The Wizard of Oz, Anything Goes, Singin' in the Rain, High Society, An American in Paris & Gigi**

JORDI SAVALL: A SEA OF MUSIC

HESPÈRION XXI



Jordi Savall has dedicated decades to the rediscovery and appreciation of early music. His recent receipt of the 2026 Ernst von Siemens Music Prize recognises a lifetime of outstanding contributions.

Savall's versatile Hespèrion XXI ensemble brings its 'mercurial virtuosity' (The Guardian) to this concert, connecting musical influences across Europe, Africa and the Americas. The 'sea of music' honours the millions of victims of the global slave trade and speaks to the cultural legacy of migration and diaspora that shapes our world today. Connect to the music from the comfort of a beanbag.

CAP Tue 25 Aug 8pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Hespèrion XXI
La Capella Reial de Catalunya
Tembembe Ensemble Continuo

Jordi Savall Director

MAHLER'S DAS KLAGENDE LIED

BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA



Seize a rare chance to hear Mahler's epic cantata *Das klagende Lied* (*The Song of Lamentation*). The Edinburgh Festival Chorus perform with a team of first-rate soloists and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra under the baton of Donald Runnicles, the orchestra's former Chief Conductor who presided over 'one of Scotland's proudest periods in orchestra history' (The Guardian). Mahler's chilling account of fratricide and ghostly revenge foreshadows his great symphonies in its rich orchestration and lyrical, folk-inspired melodies.

Thu 27 Aug 7.30pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Sir Donald Runnicles Conductor

Edinburgh Festival Chorus

James Grossmith Chorus Director

Kathleen O'Mara Soprano

Catriona Morison Mezzo soprano

John Findon Tenor

Nicholas Brownlee Baritone

Schubert Symphony No.8 in B minor
'Unfinished'

Mahler Das klagende Lied *

*Sung in German with
English surtitles

Supported by
Pirie Rankin Endowed Fund

COLIN CURRIE GROUP PLAYS STEVE REICH



Pioneer of minimalism, Steve Reich is a living legend in contemporary classical music. We have invited Colin Currie, 'the world's finest and most daring percussionist' (Spectator), to return to the Festival with his hand-picked ensemble for this celebration of more than half a century of Reich's work. Acclaimed for their 'technically impeccable and musically overwhelming' (The Guardian) performances of Reich's music, the group's programme encompasses the iconic early *Clapping Music* and the large-scale Pulitzer Prize-winning *Double Sextet*, as well as the world premiere of Festival co-commission *In All Your Ways*.

Fri 28 Aug 7pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £22.50

Colin Currie Director

Steve Reich

Clapping Music
Two Pianos
Radio Rewrite
Double Sextet
Quartet
In All Your Ways (World Premiere)

BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER RESIDENCY



The Berliner Philharmoniker, arguably the greatest orchestra in the world, returns to the Festival after 20 years for a two-concert residency. Joined by their inimitable Chief Conductor Kirill Petrenko, the Berliner Philharmoniker's players are renowned for their tone quality and remarkable cohesion, creating 'uncannily evocative atmospheres' (The New York Times) in their show-stopping concerts.

Members of the orchestra also perform at The Queen's Hall on Sat 29 Aug. See p85.



ELGAR & TCHAIKOVSKY

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Sat 29 Aug 7pm
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £30

Kirill Petrenko Conductor

Elgar Variations on an Original Theme
'Enigma', Op.36

Tchaikovsky Symphony No.4 in F minor,
Op.36

Experience two greats of the orchestral repertoire. Edward Elgar's much-loved 'Enigma Variations' brought him overnight success, while Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky's thrilling Fourth Symphony marks the moment his full musical voice emerged.

Supported by **Goethe-Institut Glasgow**

CLOSING CONCERT

LIMITED AVAILABILITY

Sun 30 Aug 7.30pm
2hrs approx. | One interval

USHER HALL From £30

Kirill Petrenko Conductor

Augustin Hadelich Violin

Beethoven Violin Concerto in D, Op.61

Scriabin Symphony No.3 in C minor, Op.43
'Le divin poème'

Celebrated violinist Augustin Hadelich performs Ludwig van Beethoven's one and only Violin Concerto. The blazing finale of Alexander Scriabin's Third Symphony brings the Festival to a triumphant close.

Supported by the **Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Edinburgh**



EDINBURGH
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL

TUNE OUT
THE OUTSIDE WORLD

MULTIBUY OFFER

Get 20% off when you buy tickets for three or more morning concerts at The Queen's Hall. Excludes top-price tickets, concessions and Dementia-Friendly Concert.

THE QUEEN'S HALL

RISING STARS

Giving the world's most promising young musicians a chance to shine on an international stage, each year our cohort of auditioned Rising Stars benefit from mentorship, performance opportunities and community engagement experience to take their careers to the next level. See p79 & p87

Escape the August hubbub for an uplifting start to your day with our serene concerts at The Queen's Hall.

A selection of concerts at The Queen's Hall will be recorded for broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and BBC Sounds. For more information, visit eif.co.uk/broadcast



DUNEDIN CONSORT

Drawing on non-canonical gospels, ancient texts and poetry by Ruth Fainlight, this fascinating new work by Tansy Davies brings a fresh perspective to historically repressed voices. *Passion of Mary Magdalene* recasts Mary as a complex spiritual leader, with the title role sung by award-winning soprano Anna Dennis. Baroque specialist John Butt leads Dunedin Consort, a firm Festival favourite known for 'ebullient flourishes of melody and technique' (The Times).

Sat 8 Aug 11am
1hr 20mins approx. | No interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

John Butt Director

Anna Dennis Mary Magdalene

Marcus Farnsworth Jesus

Tansy Davies Passion of
Mary Magdalene

Co-commissioned by
Edinburgh International Festival,
Barbican Centre & Dunedin Consort

JASON MAX FERDINAND SINGERS

Conductor and composer Jason Max Ferdinand formed his choir to champion Black excellence through an eclectic range of choral literature. Their exciting programme ranges from stirring choruses by Ludwig van Beethoven and Richard Wagner to soulful contemporary works. Following their Festival debut in *All Rise*, this more intimate performance is filled with inventive arrangements of spirituals, folk songs and well-known hymns.

Mon 10 Aug 11am
1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Programme includes
Wagner arr. **William Dawson**
Pilgrims' Chorus
Beethoven 'Hallelujah' from
Christ on the Mount of Olives
Traditional arr. **Norman Luboff**
Nobody Knows
Traditional arr. **Cedric Dent**
He's Got the Whole World
James Mulholland Keramos
Jacob Collier World, O World

Supported by **Geoff and Mary Ball**

BETH TAYLOR & HAMISH BROWN

Mezzo soprano Beth Taylor, praised by the Telegraph for her 'tender and magnificent' tone, makes her Festival debut with pianist Hamish Brown for a carefully curated recital whose themes include the sea and iconic female figures from myth. Enlivened by Taylor's spectacular voice, hear evocative musical depictions of the Lorelei, Cassandra, Medusa and more in a programme rich with female composers and new works.

Tue 11 Aug 11am
1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Beth Taylor Mezzo soprano
Hamish Brown Piano

Programme includes works by
Lili Boulanger, Connie Converse,
Stuart MacRae, Ethyl Smyth &
Clara Schumann

LAWRENCE BROWNLEE & IAIN BURNSIDE

Discover an imaginative recital of Italian and American songs. Highlights include lyrical numbers by Gaetano Donizetti and Dominick Argento; Franz Liszt's impassioned *Tre sonetti di Petrarca* (*Three Petrarch Sonnets*); and songs from Lawrence Brownlee's Rising project, in which he has commissioned leading Black American composers to set poetry from the Harlem Renaissance.

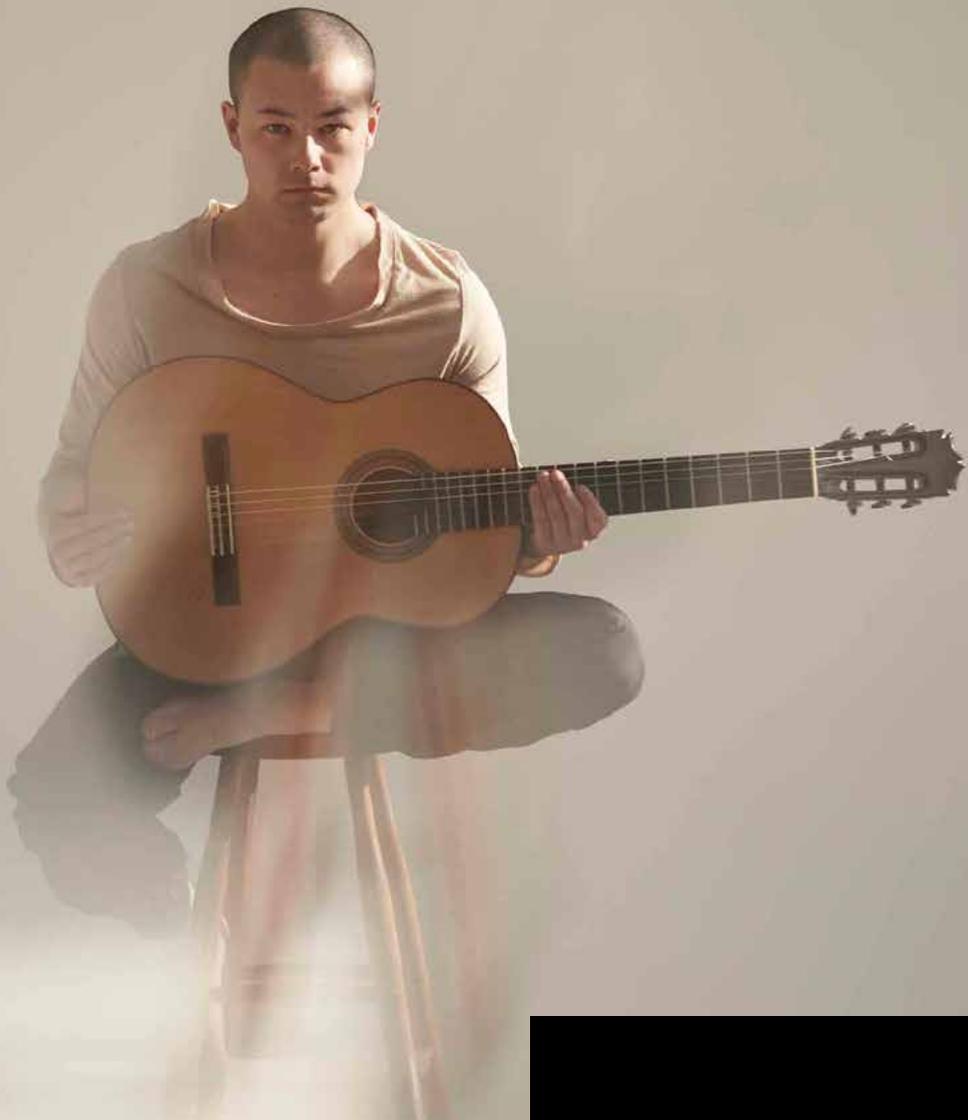
Wed 12 Aug 11am
2hrs approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Lawrence Brownlee Tenor
Iain Burnside Piano

Programme includes works by
Argento, Jasmine Barnes, Donizetti,
Ricky Ian Gordon, Liszt, Respighi,
Robert Owens & Joel Thompson

Supported by **Richard Parry**



SEAN SHIBE

Scottish guitarist Sean Shibe presents his debut Festival recital: a brilliantly eclectic programme spanning five centuries, bringing together music from Spain and Britain. In a conversation between past and present, graceful fantasias and preludes from the Renaissance period mingle with the boundary-breaking music of contemporary Spanish composer Francisco Coll, and Thomas Adès's rippling, restless dances.

Thu 13 Aug 11am
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Sean Shibe Guitar

Mudarra Fantasias VII and X

Rodrigo Tres piezas españolas

Francisco Coll Sefarad

Dowland Preludium

Dowland Forlorn Hope Fancy

Dowland A Fantaisie

Thomas Adès Forgotten Dances

Supported by

Margaret Duffy and Peter Williamson

VENICE BAROQUE ORCHESTRA

The Venice Baroque Orchestra and its founder-director Andrea Marcon are known for the 'fiery intensity' of their performances (Gramophone). The ensemble performs several of Antonio Vivaldi's celebrated concertos, including the soulful Concerto for Two Cellos and the flamboyant Flute Concerto. Also on the programme are works by contemporaries Francesco Geminiani and George Frideric Handel.

Fri 14 Aug 11am
1hr 30mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Andrea Marcon Music Director

Geminiani Concerto Grosso in D minor
'La Folia'

Vivaldi Concerto for Two Cellos in G minor

Handel Concerto grosso in G, Op.6 No.1

Vivaldi Concerto for Strings in G minor

Vivaldi Concerto in G for Two Violins

Vivaldi Flute Concerto in C

DEATH OF GESUALDO

The 16th-century composer Carlo Gesualdo is infamous for murdering his wife and her lover, while also being remembered for his dissonant musical language. Director Bill Barclay and The Gesualdo Six vocal ensemble present a multi-faceted portrait of the composer in *Death of Gesualdo*, illustrated by Renaissance iconography, dance, puppetry, and sinister *tableaux vivants*. According to a recent five-star review, 'the staging, the singing and acting are sublime' (The Times).

AD Sat 15 Aug 11am
1hr 20mins approx. | No interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

The Gesualdo Six

Bill Barclay Creator & Director

Will Tuckett Choreographer

Owain Park Music Director

Janni Younger Puppet Designer

Arthur Oliver Costume Designer

RISING STARS

RISING STARS OF VOICE WITH LOUISE ALDER

Our Rising Stars programme invites exceptional up-and-coming performers to The Queen's Hall stage for a concert which includes Johannes Brahms's dramatic *Neue Liebeslieder* (*New Love Songs*). The Rising Stars perform with their internationally acclaimed mentors, soprano Louise Alder and pianist James Baillieu. Don't miss this chance to discover classical music's future luminaries.

Tue 18 Aug 11am
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

James Baillieu Piano & Mentor

Louise Alder Guest Singer & Mentor

Solo song repertoire chosen
by **Rising Stars**

Brahms Neue Liebeslieder, Op.65

Supported by
David and Brenda Lamb and
Finlay and Lynn Williamson

TRIBUTE TO ALFRED BRENDDEL



The late pianist and composer Alfred Brendel had a long history of memorable recitals and lectures at the International Festival. Honouring this legacy, we have invited three outstanding pianists to pay tribute to their mentor and friend, highlighting composers close to his heart. Use the **multibuy offer** to get **20% off** when you book tickets for all three concerts.

STEVEN OSBORNE

Mon 17 Aug 11am

1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Steven Osborne Piano

Judith Weir Fragile

Schubert Allegretto D346 (completed by
Steven Osborne)

Schubert Four Impromptus, D899

Schubert arr. **Steven Osborne**
'Liebesbotschaft' from Schwanengesang

Sir James MacMillan Lumen Christi

Judith Weir Chorale, for Steve

Schubert arr. **Steven Osborne** 'Am Meer'
from Schwanengesang

Schubert Sonata No.19 in C minor, D958

Steven Osborne performs works by Brendel's beloved Schubert: the dramatic Sonata in C minor, the luminous Four Impromptus and songs from *Schwanengesang*. The programme also features contemporary gems from Scottish composers James MacMillan and Judith Weir.

Supported by **an anonymous donor**

PAUL LEWIS

Thu 20 Aug 11am

1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Paul Lewis Piano

Mozart Sonata in B flat, K570

Weber Sonata in A flat, Op.39

Chopin Polonaise in C sharp minor, Op.26 No.1

Chopin Two Nocturnes, Op.32

Mozart Sonata in B flat, K333

Paul Lewis has described working with Brendel as 'a transformational experience'. Now, he pays tribute with a programme Brendel would have appreciated: two Mozart sonatas alongside Chopin's heartfelt Nocturnes and impassioned Polonaise, and a little-known masterpiece by the early Romantic Carl Maria von Weber.

PIERRE-LAURENT AIMARD

Wed 26 Aug 11am

1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Pierre-Laurent Aimard Piano

Programme includes

Ligeti Musica ricercata

Beethoven Bagatelles

Works by **Schubert** & **György Kurtág**

Pierre-Laurent Aimard honours his regular musical partner with a characteristically imaginative programme. Miniatures by Aimard's long-term collaborators György Ligeti and György Kurtág complement short lyrical works by Beethoven and Schubert – the composers with whom Brendel was most closely associated.



KLEIO QUARTET & SHEKU KANNEH-MASON

The Kleio Quartet – BBC New Generation Artists and winners of the 2023 Carl Nielsen International Chamber Music Competition – made an ecstatically received Festival debut in 2024. Now they join forces with star cellist Sheku Kanneh-Mason and genre-defying pianist Makoto Ozone to perform Franz Schubert's sublime String Quintet in C and Béla Bartók's luscious late-Romantic Piano Quintet.

Wed 19 Aug 11am
2hrs approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Sheku Kanneh-Mason Cello
Makoto Ozone Piano

Schubert String Quintet in C, D956
Bartók Piano Quintet in C, Sz23

Supported by
Niall and Carol Lothian

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV & SCO WIND SOLOISTS

Enjoy a programme of French chamber music from the 20th century. Maxim Emelyanychev, pianist and conductor of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, duets with SCO wind soloists in Francis Poulenc's elegiac late sonatas, while the full ensemble gathers for Poulenc's effervescent early sextet. In between are Maurice Ravel's dazzling piano piece *Jeux d'eau*, and the delicious 'brasserie' music of Jean Françaix.

Fri 21 Aug 11am
1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Maxim Emelyanychev Piano
Scottish Chamber Orchestra
Wind Soloists

Poulenc Flute Sonata
Poulenc Oboe Sonata
Poulenc Clarinet Sonata
Françaix L'heure du berger
Ravel Jeux d'eau
Poulenc Sextet for Winds & Piano, FP100

VILDE FRANG & FRIENDS

Join these first-class musicians led by dynamic violinist Vilde Frang, celebrating music from Johannes Brahms and Béla Bartók. Bartók's joyful and highly inventive First Violin Sonata is accompanied by a selection of his Folk Dances. They are complemented in turn by Brahms's Hungarian Dances: late-Romantic favourites based on traditional folk melodies.

Sat 22 Aug 11am
1hr 45mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Vilde Frang Violin

Bartók Violin Sonata No.1 Sz75
Brahms Selection of Hungarian Dances
Bartók Selection of Folk Dances

Supported by
Donald and Louise MacDonald

GRINGOLTS QUARTET

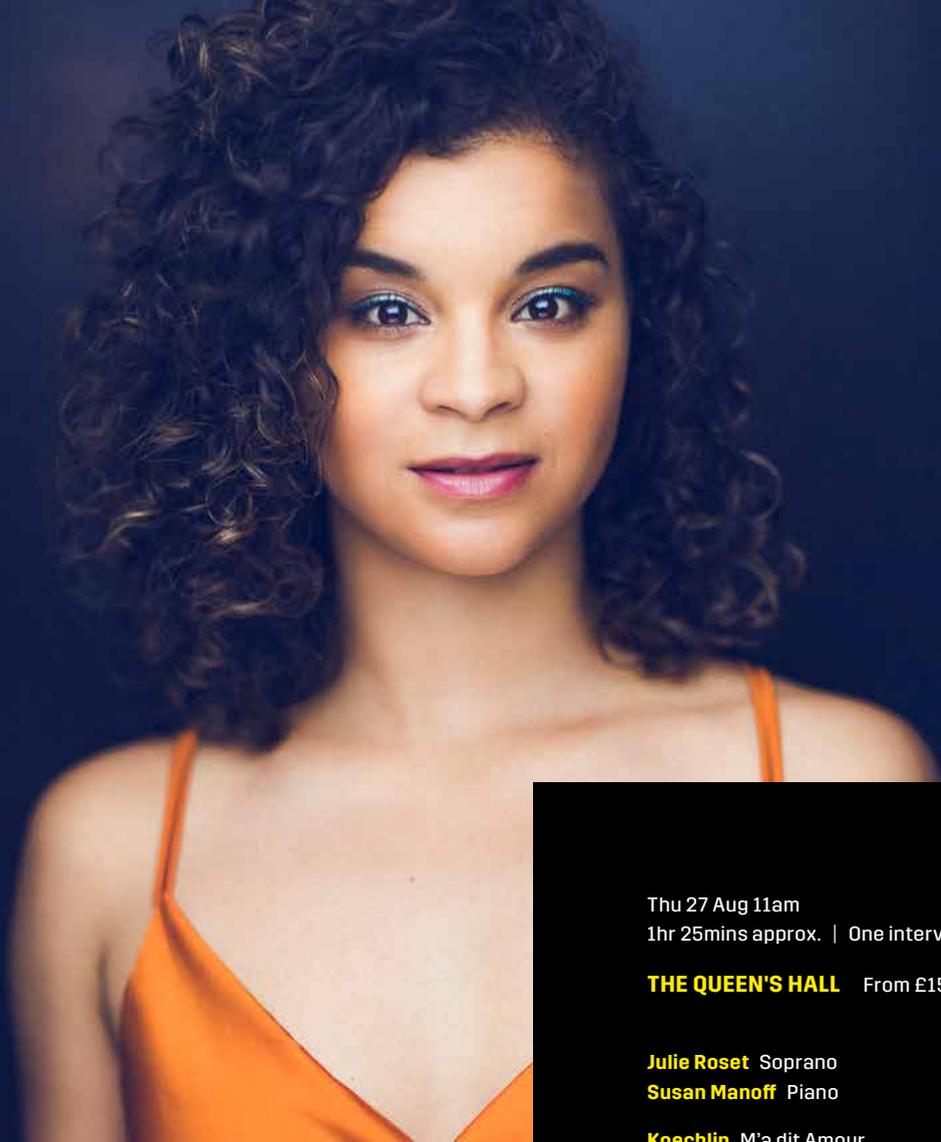
Acclaimed for their 'beautifully integrated sound' (The Herald), the musicians of the Gringolts Quartet create a lively dialogue between compositions from different eras. In this recital they celebrate György Kurtág's centenary by pairing some of his exquisitely crafted miniatures – including his tribute to his compatriot, fellow composer Endre Szervánszky – with the epic final quartet of one of Kurtág's heroes, Franz Schubert.

Mon 24 Aug 11am
1hr 50mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

György Kurtág
Hommage à Jacob Obrecht
12 Microludes Op.13
Officium breve Op.28, in memoriam
Andreae Szervánszky

Interwoven with
Schubert String Quartet No.15
in G, D887



JULIE ROSET & SUSAN MANOFF

Experience an inspired selection of songs from the French Belle Époque and beyond, sung by one of today's most vibrant sopranos. Julie Roset and pianist Susan Manoff perform *mélodies* (art songs) by Claude Debussy, Reynaldo Hahn and Francis Poulenc alongside pieces from George Enescu, Mel Bonis and contemporary composer Isabelle Aboulker. Roset's sparkling voice is showcased brilliantly by this sumptuous repertoire.

Thu 27 Aug 11am
1hr 25mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Julie Roset Soprano

Susan Manoff Piano

Koechlin M'a dit Amour

Rosenthal Pêcheur de lune

Isabelle Aboulker L'inconstante

Boulanger Elle était descendue
au bas de la prairie

Debussy La fille aux cheveux de lin

Beydts Chansons pour les oiseaux

Isabelle Aboulker Je t'aime

Rosenthal Rêverie

Hahn Naïfs

Isabelle Aboulker La princesse
aux petit pois

Debussy Romance (silence
ineffable)

Debussy En Sourdine

Enescu Languir me fais

Hahn Le banc songeur

Debussy La romance d'Ariel

Poulenc La reine de cœur

Bonis Songe (Vers le pur amour)

PAVEL HAAS QUARTET

Europe meets the US in a celebration of the string quartet. The Czech Pavel Haas Quartet brings characteristic joie de vivre to the music of Bohuslav Martinů, Antonín Dvořák, and Erich Korngold, three composers who reached across the Atlantic to explore new musical avenues. Korngold composed his Second String Quartet shortly before leaving his native Austria for a Hollywood career, while Dvořák's 'American' quartet is infused with folk melodies from his three-year stay in the United States.

Fri 28 Aug 11am
1hr 30mins approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Martinů String Quartet No.3, H183
Korngold String Quartet No.2 in E flat, Op.26
Dvořák String Quartet No.12 in F, Op.96 'American'

Supported by
Tanya and David Parker

MEMBERS OF THE BERLINER PHILHARMONIKER

Players from the Berliner Philharmoniker perform an elegant and intimate programme of 19th- and 20th-century chamber works as part of their International Festival residency. Piano, strings, clarinet and horn join forces in delicate Zdeněk Fibich, autumnal Johannes Brahms, and a deliciously playful sextet from Ernst von Dohnányi. Celebrate the close of The Queen's Hall series with these world-renowned musicians.

Sat 29 Aug 11am
2hrs approx. | One interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Daishin Kashimoto Violin
Diyang Mei Viola
Olaf Maninger Cello
Wenzel Fuchs Clarinet
Stefan Dohr Horn
Alessio Bax Piano

Fibich Quintet in D, Op.42
Brahms Clarinet Trio in A minor, Op.114
Ernst von Dohnányi Sextet in C, Op.37

In Memory of
Peter Diamand

SCOTTISH ENSEMBLE & BRÌGHDE CHAIMBEUL



WORLD PREMIERE

Brìghde Chaimbeul has set the world of Celtic music alight, pairing mastery of the Scottish smallpipes with a creative approach to the Scottish Gaelic music tradition. Chaimbeul joins forces with Scottish Ensemble and filmmaker Jonny Ashworth to explore Celtic mythology and storytelling. Together, they blend new and traditional tunes, electronic sound and bewitching footage of Scottish landscapes.

Sun 23 Aug 8pm
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL From £15.50

Co-commissioned by
**Edinburgh International Festival &
Eden Court**

DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY CONCERTS



RISING STARS

Experience a relaxed atmosphere and lively music at two dementia-friendly concerts. Join our Scottish Rising Stars of Jazz and presenter Lucy Drever, to revisit some well-known jazz standards and explore new sounds, coupled with conversation, tea and cake. These relaxed performances are designed especially for people living with dementia and their caregivers, family and friends to enjoy familiar music in a comfortable environment. Audience members are welcome to move around the auditorium, arrive early and take breaks.

REL Sun 30 Aug 11am & 2.30pm
1hr approx. | No interval

THE QUEEN'S HALL All tickets £10
Companion tickets are free

Lucy Drever Presenter

Hot drinks and sweet treats will
be provided

Supported by
Elizabeth Lornie's Charitable Trust

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MUSIC TRADITIONS AND
RISING STARS FROM
ACROSS THE GLOBE



THE HUB

RISING STARS

Giving the world's most promising young musicians a chance to shine on an international stage, each year our cohort of auditioned Rising Stars benefit from mentorship, performance opportunities and community engagement experience to take their careers to the next level. See p91 & p95

Discover a range of musical styles in our intimate concerts at The Hub, from traditional to classical and jazz.

The Hub is your International Festival home. Learn more about our Festival story and **enjoy a welcome drink included with your ticket** in our cosy bar.

Need help accessing The Hub? Use our free Hub Shuttle. For details see p103

GOSPEL WORKSHOPS WITH JASON MAX FERDINAND SINGERS



The Maryland-based 'uber-talented choir' (Rolling Stone), led by Jason Max Ferdinand, invite you to join a gospel singing workshop. The workshops are ideal for enthusiastic singers – perhaps you already sing in a choir or can read music. You can also experience their talents in our *Opening Concert: All Rise* (p54), as well as at The Queen's Hall (p77).

Tue 11 Aug 3.30pm & 5.30pm
1hr approx.

THE HUB £10
Register in advance
at eif.co.uk/workshop

PREVIEW: DÀNA WITH ELLIE BEATON

Dàna is an emerging all-female band based in Glasgow, whose recent accolades include winning a Scots Trad Music Award in 2025. Their name, meaning 'bold' or 'audacious' in Gaelic, perfectly captures their vibrant sound and performance style. The band is joined by another award-winning up-and-coming artist, Scottish singer Ellie Beaton.

Fri 7 Aug 2pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £12
including welcome drink

FIRST NIGHT AT THE HUB

Join violinist and Festival Director Nicola Benedetti and musicians from across the Festival in a late-night performance that has become a staple in our calendar. With a surprise musical lineup, this eclectic evening gives you a taste of world-class talent, up close.

Mon 10 Aug 10pm
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

RISING STARS

UP LATE: JAZZ JAM

Experience the energetic atmosphere of our late-night jazz jam, led by returning pianist Joe Webb and drummer Domo Branch and featuring our Rising Stars of Jazz. With jazz standards at the heart of the session, the musicians create fresh, dynamic takes on timeless classics. Witness exciting improvisation and raw creativity in action.

Tue 11 Aug 10pm
2hrs approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Ian Jackson and Sally Cross

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MARK & MAGGIE O'CONNOR

Join Mark O'Connor, 'one of the most talented and imaginative artists working in music today' (The Los Angeles Times) and the sensational Maggie O'Connor in an evening of dazzling fiddle tunes and duets that celebrate the depth and beauty of American genres, from classical to jazz to bluegrass. The combination of Mark, an award-winning multi-instrumentalist and composer, and Maggie, a celebrated violinist and talented singer, makes for an irresistible evening of strings and song.

Thu 13 Aug 8pm
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

SOUNDS OF IHSANE

Immerse yourself in the musical world of one of our major dance productions, *Ihsane* (p20). Viola d'amore player and composer Jasser Haj Youssef is joined by the rest of the on-stage musicians from *Ihsane* to dive deeper into Middle Eastern and North African music. Youssef, described as 'an extremely skilful and versatile player' (The Scotsman) leads the group through mesmerising melodies.

Fri 14 Aug 7pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Jasser Haj Youssef Viola d'amore
Nizar Rohana Oud
Gabriele Miracle
Bragantini Percussion
Fadia Tomb El-Hage &
Mohammed El Arabi
Serghini Vocals

UP LATE WITH GNOSS

Livewire instrumental skills, evocative songwriting and the joyful warmth of their live shows have made Gnosson one of Scotland's fastest-rising contemporary folk bands. Their sound is a rich tapestry of guitar, fiddle, flute, bodhrán and vocals, 'mixing outstanding musicianship with captivating original songs' (Irish News). As their skyrocketing reputation takes them increasingly further afield, this is a great opportunity to catch them close to home.

Fri 14 Aug 10pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

UP LATE WITH MARK O'CONNOR & GUSTAVO DUDAMEL

Join multi-Grammy Award-winning string virtuoso Mark O'Connor, special guest classical superstar Gustavo Dudamel and a surprise lineup of musicians from across the International Festival programme. Expect an evening of world-class performances of music from North and South America.

Sun 16 Aug 10pm
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Dunard Fund



CORTO.ALTO

Translating as '*short.tall*' in Spanish, corto.alto is a nod to Glasgow artist Liam Shortall's Irish-Spanish heritage. corto.alto's debut album *Bad With Names* fizzed with experiments in jazz, electronic music and club culture, earning it a 2024 Mercury Prize nomination. Praised for introducing jazz to Gen Z audiences, the prolific multi-instrumentalist and bandleader tours America before bringing his blistering live show to Edinburgh.

Tue 18 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

CLASSICAL JAM WITH NICOLA BENEDETTI

The innovative *Classical Jam* returns to The Hub. Joined by Nicola Benedetti, this year's Rising Stars of Strings put the choice of repertoire in the hands of the audience. Discover the passion and spontaneity of this concert, where the connection between audience and musicians is at the very heart of the performance.

Mon 17 Aug 8pm
2hrs approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

SIMON THOUMIRE: SCOTS FIDDLE & CLARSACH

Simon Thoumire's inventive compositions take Scottish folk tunes on a thrilling ride. Thoumire presents this concert of his work, performed by an exceptional ensemble of string and clarsach players. Discover Thoumire's distinctive voice across fiddle, string quartet, strathspey and reels, plus the world premiere of his clarsach concerto.

Mon 24 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

CAMILLA GEORGE

A firm fixture on the British jazz scene for over a decade, alto saxophonist Camilla George creates an unmissable sound by combining hip hop and Afrofuturism with jazz. Exploring the legacy of the slave trade and Nigerian history and culture, she firmly roots her music in storytelling. Accompanied by her band, George creates a night full of deep groove and fearless improvisation.

Wed 26 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

AGA KHAN MUSIC PROGRAMME

These concerts are presented and curated in collaboration with the Aga Khan Music Programme. Since its founding in 2000, the Music Programme has championed the preservation and promotion of diverse musical traditions from regions including East Africa, the Middle East and Central and South Asia. Rooted in the belief that music fosters cultural understanding and social cohesion, the Aga Khan series at the International Festival connects global audiences through the power of music to bridge cultures.

SENNY
CAMARA



DERYA TÜRKAN & FRIENDS

Thu 20 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Come on a musical journey to 17th-century Constantinople. There you will encounter two extraordinary men, Ali Ufkî and Dimitrie Cantemir, who each collected and composed hundreds of pieces of Turkish music. Fresh from his 2025 Aga Khan Music Awards win, Derya Türkan, master of the kemençe (a three-stringed fiddle), takes the stage with luminous vocalist Dilek Türkan and Aga Khan Master Musicians Yurdal Tokcan, Basel Rajoub and Feras Charestan to explore this music.

BEYOND TRADITION

Fri 21 Aug 7pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

An electrifying, all-female supergroup brings together Yasamin Shahhosseini on oud, Farah Kaddour on buzuq, and kora player Senny Camara. They join forces in a rare collaboration where strings cross borders, rhythms answer one another, and centuries-old lineages are reimaged in real time. Expect intimacy, fire, and moments of breathtaking exchange as three distinct musical worlds collide and resonate as one.

SENNY CAMARA ENSEMBLE

Fri 21 Aug 10pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

'I firmly believe that the kora harmonises our souls, giving us the feeling that we understand each other without borders or judgements,' says Senny Camara. Camara's mastery of the traditional West African kora beautifully accompanies her evocative songs of gender equality, environmental and social justice. With the gentle grace of her performances, she has conquered the hearts of fans throughout West Africa and around the world.



ROUTES TO ROOTS

Catriona Price sold out The Hub in 2023 with a performance of her album *Hert*. She's back to present Routes to Roots, a new organisation that she leads with Argentinian musicians El Guapo, bringing together artists from different cultures in genre-defying collaborations. The Routes to Roots team are joined by musicians from Scotland and Latin America to perform a selection of brand-new pieces and arrangements.

Thu 27 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

ORCHESTRA BAOBAB

Orchestra Baobab began as a house band at Dakar's Baobab Club in 1970 and went on to become Senegal's most popular band. Their irresistible blend of Cuban and African grooves has enjoyed a comeback since the band reunited in 2001. This year sees the release of new album *Made in Senegal*, a love letter to home from West Africa's legendary dance band.

Fri 28 Aug 7pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

RÓIS

RÓIS (pronounced RAW-sh) is an experimental Irish folk composer, vocalist and electronic artist. Her 2024 album *Mo Léan* explored death, life and grieving. From winning Album of the Year and Live Act of The Year at last year's Northern Irish Music Prize to the RTÉ Folk Awards naming her Best Emerging Artist, RÓIS is a rapidly rising force to watch.

Fri 28 Aug 10pm
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

UP LATE WITH DONALD SHAW

Let your hair down with the award-winning Donald Shaw, founder of trailblazing modern Scottish folk band Capercaillie, joined by an elite troupe of folk musicians. Whistle and pipes join bouzouki, bodhrán and accordion to bring a wealth of Scottish folk music to life. Expect a toe-tapping, barnstorming Festival finale.

Sun 30 Aug 10pm
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval

THE HUB From £20
including welcome drink

Supported by
Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

JOIN THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL CHORUS

At the heart of the International Festival is our wonderful Festival Chorus. Brought together by a shared love of singing, its 150 volunteer members experience the thrill of performing great works with the world's most exciting orchestras and conductors every year at the Festival.

This year, you can hear the Chorus in four concerts across the Usher Hall, including Wynton Marsalis's *All Rise* (p54) and their American-themed programme, *This Shining Night* (p67).

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.

Find out more at eif.co.uk/chorus

Supported by **Risk Charitable Fund**

COME AND SING BACH CHORALES

Sat 22 Aug 10.30am – 2.30pm

USHER HALL FREE WORKSHOP
Register in advance at eif.co.uk/sing

James Grossmith Chorus Director
Michael Bawtree Organ
Norbert Meyn German Coach

Join us for a day of shared music-making, where you'll learn and perform chorales from Johann Sebastian Bach's *St Matthew* and *St John Passions* with Edinburgh Festival Chorus Director James Grossmith.

See p64 for more details

ACCESS

Accessible performances and access provisions are supported by **Claire and Mark Urquhart**

We recognise that some people face barriers to engaging with the International Festival. To address this, we provide a range of services designed to remove these barriers, available to anybody, with **no proof of eligibility required**.

ACCESS PASS

The **Access Pass** is a free membership scheme for anybody who needs additional support when booking events, navigating our venues or enjoying a performance. Access Pass members have exclusive access to provisions:

Reserved Seating: including wheelchair spaces, seats with extra legroom, aisle seats, seats near exits and those close to toilets. For audio described, BSL-interpreted and captioned performances, appropriate seats are also reserved.

Touch Tours: tactile interactions with set pieces, props and costumes, allowing people with sight loss to experience a deeper connection with a production.

Sign up to the Access Pass at eif.co.uk/access

ACCESS GUIDE

Our Access Guide booklet provides additional information about our accessible performances and comprehensive access information about each of our venues.

The Access Guide and this brochure are available in a range of accessible formats: large print, digital PDF, braille and plain text. Contact us to request a version of your choice.

This information, plus 360° virtual tours of select venues, is also available on the website.

ACCESS BOOKINGS

Access booking line **+44 (0) 131 473 2056**
See p116 for box office opening times.
From Thu 26 March – Thu 6 Aug, in-person booking is by appointment only, arrange a time via email or phone.

LIVE BSL INTERPRETATION WITH CONVO

We are partnered with Convo to provide a live BSL interpreting service. Download the Convo app and find the Edinburgh International Festival listed in the Convo Community Directory, scan the Convo QR code in our box office, or visit convo.io/uk/home

CONCESSIONS

Deaf, disabled, and neurodivergent people are eligible for 50% off full-price tickets and can book a free ticket for an essential companion.

Guided by the Social Model of Disability, we recognise that Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people experience increased barriers due to systemic inequalities in society, and we work to remove these barriers wherever possible.

Disabled: We use this term inclusively, covering people with physical, sensory or cognitive impairments, or long-term health conditions.

Neurodivergent: This term refers to people whose brains process information in ways that differ from neurotypical standards.

ACCESS CONTACT:

Callum Madge Access Manager

Online eif.co.uk/access

Email access@eif.co.uk

Telephone **+44 (0) 131 473 2056**

ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES

AD AUDIO DESCRIBED

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE	DESCRIBERS
The Galloping Cure p12	12 Aug 7pm	FESTIVAL THEATRE	Jonathan Penny, Veronica Kinahan
Death of Gesualdo p79	15 Aug 11am	THE QUEEN'S HALL	Lydia Kerr
Four Walls and a Roof p42	16 Aug 7.30pm	STUDIO THEATRE	Bridget Stevens, John Cummings
Ihsane p20	20 Aug 7.30pm	FESTIVAL THEATRE	Emma-Jane McHenry
HANG TIME p36	22 Aug 3pm	THE LYCEUM	Amanda Drollinger
EXXY p24	23 Aug 7.30pm	KING'S THEATRE	Christopher McKiddie
Al-Sirah Al-Hilaliyyah p40	28 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM	Christopher McKiddie
When Prophecy Fails p25	29 Aug 2.30pm	STUDIO THEATRE	Jonathan Penny
Taverna Miresia p38	29 Aug 8pm	CHURCH HILL THEATRE	Caroline Jaquet
Clown Show p32	30 Aug 3pm	KING'S THEATRE	Amanda Drollinger
Verdi's A Masked Ball p14	30 Aug 2pm	FESTIVAL THEATRE	Trina Gillies, Veronica Kinahan
Mere Mortals p22	30 Aug 8pm	EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE	Emma-Jane McHenry

BSL BRITISH SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE	INTERPRETERS
The Global Ideas Stage p49	11 Aug 4pm	KING'S THEATRE	Rachel Amey, Yvonne Waddell
Family Concert p45	16 Aug 1pm	USHER HALL	Paul Whittaker
Four Walls and a Roof p42	17 Aug 7.30pm	STUDIO THEATRE	Rachel Amey, Yvonne Waddell
EXXY p24	23 Aug 7.30pm	KING'S THEATRE	Karen Forbes
Clown Show p32	29 Aug 8pm	KING'S THEATRE	Rachel Amey
When Prophecy Fails p25	30 Aug 5.30pm	STUDIO THEATRE	Karen Forbes

CAP CAPTIONED

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE	CAPTIONERS
[seagull] p41	7–11 Aug	STUDIO THEATRE	Integrated
The Global Ideas Stage p49	11 Aug 4pm	KING'S THEATRE	Claire Hill
Ingoma! A Revolution in Rhythm p34	15 Aug 7.30pm	THE LYCEUM	Glenda J Carson
Family Concert p45	16 Aug 1pm	USHER HALL	Claire Hill
Angels in America p30	16 Aug 6pm	KING'S THEATRE	Internationaal Theater Amsterdam
Four Walls and a Roof p42	16 Aug 7.30pm	STUDIO THEATRE	Alison Pendlowski
Coleridge-Taylor's The Song of Hiawatha p62	19 Aug 7pm	USHER HALL	Claire Hill
Ihsane p20	20 Aug 7.30pm	FESTIVAL THEATRE	Alison Pendlowski
HANG TIME p36	22 Aug 8pm	THE LYCEUM	Glenda J Carson
EXXY p24	23 Aug 7.30pm	KING'S THEATRE	Integrated
The Golden Age of Hollywood p68	25 Aug 11am	USHER HALL	Claire Hill
Jordi Savall: A Sea of Music p69	25 Aug 8pm	USHER HALL	Golda Fischer
When Prophecy Fails p25	27–30 Aug	STUDIO THEATRE	Integrated

REL RELAXED

PRODUCTION	DATE & TIME	VENUE
Family Concert p45	16 Aug 1pm	USHER HALL
EXXY p24	23 Aug 7.30pm	KING'S THEATRE
Dementia-Friendly Concerts p87	30 Aug 11am & 2.30pm	THE QUEEN'S HALL

For more details about our accessible performances, see our Access Guide or eif.co.uk/access



GETTING TO THE HUB

The Hub, our Festival home, is near the top of the steep Royal Mile.

We are surrounded by cobblestones and the buzz of the crowd, and a few doors down from Edinburgh Castle, where the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo is performed throughout August.

During the Tattoo, road closures come into effect, preventing car or taxi drop-offs for our own audience.

For anyone who may need support getting to The Hub, we provide The Hub Shuttle, a specially adapted vehicle suitable for wheelchair users and people with mobility aids. Shuttle journeys are free and last approximately five minutes.

For more information and The Hub Shuttle schedule, visit eif.co.uk/access or contact us at access@eif.co.uk or **+44 (0) 131 473 2056**

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Edinburgh International Festival Society, a company limited by guarantee and incorporated in Scotland (SC024766), is a registered Charity (SC004694). The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh, EH1 2NE

As of 30 January 2026

SUPPORT US

As a charity, with only 25% of income from ticket sales, we rely on support from members, donors, funders and partners whose generosity enables the Festival to provide the deepest experience of the highest quality art for the broadest possible audience.

MAKE A DONATION

Donations of any amount, from people all over the world, are what fuels the Festival's mission. Support at any level creates positive impact for the Festival's work both on and off-stage.

AMERICAN SUPPORTERS OF THE FESTIVAL

Through the International Festival's US Fund with the Chapel and York Foundation, American donors and Patron members can make tax-deductible gifts to a registered 501(c)3 whilst supporting the Festival.

CREATE YOUR FESTIVAL LEGACY

Making a gift in your will is a simple way to support the Festival you love. Leaving even 1% of your estate can help sustain world-class performance and enable more people to experience the Festival. We warmly welcome those who choose to tell us about a gift in their will and invite them to be part of our Legacy Circle – The Rudolf Bing Society.

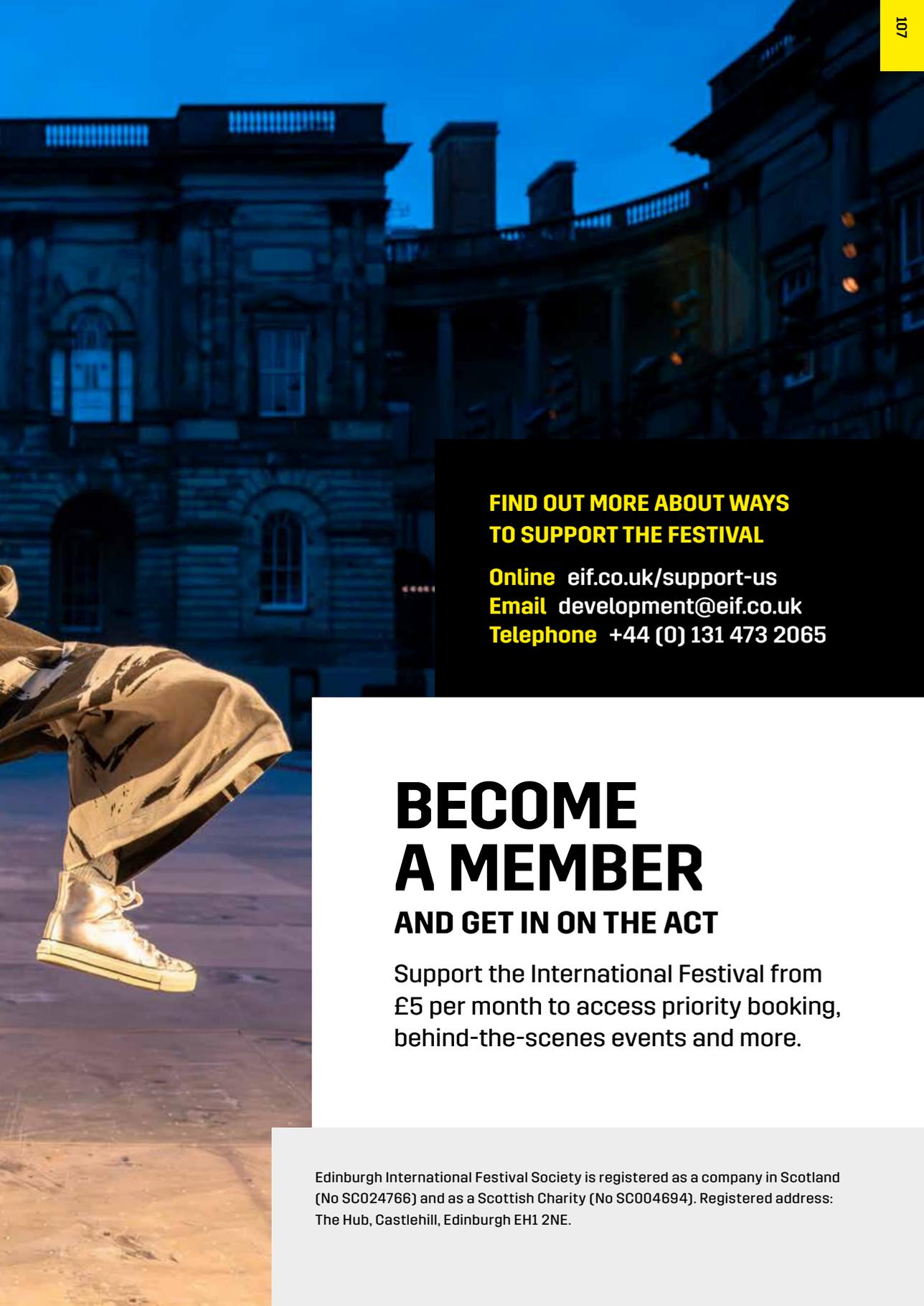
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Endowed support is an enduring gift which provides much-needed resources for the Festival's future plans – ensuring we can continue to commission bold new work, welcome outstanding artists from around the world, and reach wider, more diverse audiences. The Festival's Endowment Fund, a separate charity governed by an independent board of trustees, carefully stewards endowed gifts to provide perpetual support for the Festival.

PARTNERSHIPS

Create moments your clients and customers will remember. From creative brand activation to exclusive client hospitality, we will collaborate with you to build a Festival partnership aligned with your strategic objectives.





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Online eif.co.uk/support-us

Email development@eif.co.uk

Telephone +44 (0) 131 473 2065

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Support the International Festival from £5 per month to access priority booking, behind-the-scenes events and more.

Edinburgh International Festival Society is registered as a company in Scotland (No SC024766) and as a Scottish Charity (No SC004694). Registered address: The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NE.

CREDITS

CO-PRODUCTION AND COMMISSION CREDITS

The Galloping Cure p12

Co-production with Opera Ventures Productions, Scottish Opera, NorrlandsOperan AB, Canadian Opera Company, San Francisco Opera, State Opera of South Australia, co-presented with Edinburgh International Festival.

Ihsane p20

Co-produced by Eastman, Théâtre du Châtelet Paris, Les Théâtres de la ville de Luxembourg, Tanz Köln, Internationaal Theater Amsterdam, Festspielhaus St Pölten (AT), Grec Festival Barcelona 2025, Centre National des Arts (Ottawa).

EXXY p24

Co-commissioned by Attenborough Centre for the Creative Arts, Battersea Arts Centre, Transform, Take Me Somewhere, and Tramway for the New Dimensions commission. Additionally co-commissioned by Edinburgh International Festival, Fabric, Kampnagel, Sadlers Wells, SICK! Festival and Les Halles.

A Trial – after An Enemy of the People p28

Co-produced by Edinburgh International Festival, Centro Cultural de Belém, Holland Festival and Festival d'Avignon.

Clown Show p32

Commissioned by Edinburgh International Festival. Additional commissioning support provided by Stanford University, PS21 Chatham, Arizona State University -- Gammage, Stanley Kim, Diane Max, Laurie Oki, and Garth Patil. Developmental support provided by Brooklyn Academy of Music, Monira Foundation/MANA Contemporary, and PS21 Chatham.

HANG TIME p36

Produced in association with The Hopkins Center at Dartmouth College. Original production produced in association with WACO Theater Center.

[seagull] p41

Produced by Toneelhuis & Olympique Dramatique. Co-produced by theater arsenaal.

Four Walls and a Roof p42

Co-produced by Festival d'Automne à Paris, CENTQUATRE-PARIS, Künstler*innenhaus Mousonturm, Residenz-Schauspiel, HAU Hebbel am Ufer, Berliner Festspiele within the 'Performing Exiles' festival, Kampnagel Internationale Kulturfabrik, Kunstenfestivaldesarts & Forum Freies Theater.

Haribo Kimchi p43

Produced by CAMPO. Co-produced by Kunstenfestivaldesarts, Rideau de Bruxelles, Theater Utrecht, SPRING festival, Festival d'Automne à Paris, Théâtre de la Bastille, Tangente St. Pölten – Festival für Gegenwartskultur, &Espoo theatre, International Summer Festival Kampnagel, Sophiensæle, Meet You Festival, Bunker, National Theatre and Concert Hall Taipei, The Divine Comedy International Theater Festival / Teatr Łaźnia Nowa & Perpodium.

Hostile p44

Co-produced by Centre Culturel de Liffre, Prom'nons Nous Festival, Maison Folie theatre, Yzeurespace Theatre (Residence hosts: Jungle, Le Rheu; Le Dôme theatre, Saint-Avé; Le TRIO.S theatre, Hennebont; Liffre, theatre), Espace Jéliote, National Centre for Marionettes, Oloron-Sainte-Marie; Théâtre de Poche, HédéBazouges; Théâtre à la coque, National Centre for Marionettes; La Lucarne theatre-Scènes du Golfe.

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 p87 LSO Residency at Broomhouse © Jess Shurte
 p88 Rising Stars Classical Jam © Jess Shurte
 p90 Jason Max Ferdinand Singers Saturday Night Live © Will Heath / NBC
 p92 Mark & Maggie O'Connor © David Hume Kennerly
 p94 corto.alto © James Pearson-Howes
 p96 Senny Camara © Joël Pickford
 p98 Catriona Price © Courtesy of the artist
 p100 LSO Vaughan Williams's A Sea Symphony © Andrew Perry
 p103 The Hub Shuttle © Darcey Milne
 p106 Dance People © Tommy Ga-Ken Wan
 p109 Figures in Extinction © Andrew Perry

SUSTAINABILITY



This brochure is printed in the UK by Pureprint Group, the world's first carbon neutral print company since 2002, whose print production is designed to minimise environmental impact. Pureprint Group is part of the Science Based Target initiative, the world's first carbon net zero standard.

The paper has been Carbon Balanced with the global land conservation charity World Land Trust supporting their crucial efforts to protect and preserve threatened habitats around the world

Over the last two years we've reduced the number of brochures we print, ensuring they go to the people who really value them and producing a smaller highlights guide to reduce wastage.

When you've finished using this brochure, please keep it as a souvenir, pass it on to a friend who might be interested, or recycle it.

We have been working hard to ensure our world-class Festival operates with minimal impact on the environment.

In 2025, we became the first arts organisation and charity to achieve BSI's Net Zero Pathway verification. This means that we have analysed the amount of carbon that each Festival produces and have a strategy to achieve Net Zero by 2045.

Every year we invite artists and orchestras to participate in residencies, allowing them to perform in several concerts and to increase their engagement with local communities, while reducing overall travel. We commit to showcasing work highlighting environmental issues on stage with shows such as *Hostile* (p44).

For the work we have conducted so far, we were shortlisted for a Host City Award in Sustainable Events. We are always trying to do better and would value any suggestions you may have. You can contact us at sustainability@eif.co.uk

Read our Net Zero strategy and find out more at eif.co.uk/sustainability

7
Fri8
Sat9
Sun10
Mon11
Tue12
Wed

CHURCH HILL THEATRE		2pm Hostile (p44)	2pm & 6pm Hostile (p44)	2pm & 6pm Hostile (p44)	2pm Hostile (p44)	
EDINBURGH PLAYHOUSE						
FESTIVAL THEATRE			7pm The Galloping Cure (p12)		7pm The Galloping Cure (p12)	7pm AD The Galloping Cure (p12)
THE HUB	2pm Preview: Dána with Ellie Beaton (p91)			10pm First Night at The Hub (p91)	3:30pm & 5.30pm Gospel Workshops with Jason Max Ferdinand (p90) 10pm Up Late: Jazz Jam (p91)	
KING'S THEATRE					4pm BSL CAP The Global Ideas Stage (p49)	
THE LYCEUM	7.30pm A Trial (p28)	3pm & 7.30pm A Trial (p28)	7.30pm A Trial (p28)	7.30pm A Trial (p28)		
THE QUEEN'S HALL		11am Dunedin Consort (p76)		11am Jason Max Ferdinand Singers (p77)	11am Beth Taylor & Hamish Brown (p77)	11am Lawrence Brownlee & Iain Burnside (p77)
STUDIO THEATRE	4pm CAP [seagull] Preview (p41)	7.30pm CAP [seagull] (p41)	7.30pm CAP [seagull] (p41)	7.30pm CAP [seagull] (p41)	7.30pm CAP [seagull] (p41)	
USHER HALL		6.30pm Opening Concert: All Rise (p54)		7.30pm Gershwin & Bartók (p58)	7.30pm JLCO plays Duke Ellington (p56)	6pm & 9pm JLCO with Yuja Wang (p56)
SPACE @ THE BROOMHOUSE HUB						
PRINCES STREET GARDENS			Together We Rise (p46)			

13
Thu

14
Fri

15
Sat

16
Sun

17
Mon

18
Tue

					7.30pm Ihsane (p20)
8pm Mark & Maggie O'Connor (p92)	7pm Sounds of Ihsane (p93) 10pm Up Late with Gnos (p93)		10pm Up Late with Mark O'Connor & Gustavo Dudamel (p93)	8pm Classical Jam with Nicola Benedetti (p95)	8pm corto.alto (p94)
		6pm Angels in America (p30)	6pm CAP Angels in America (p30)		6pm Angels in America (p30)
	7.30pm Ingoma! (p34)	2.30pm & 7.30pm CAP Ingoma! (p34)	2.30pm Ingoma! (p34)		
11am Sean Shibe (p78)	11am Venice Baroque Orchestra (p79)	11am AD Death of Gesualdo (p79)		11am Steven Osborne (p80)	11am Rising Stars of Voice with Louise Alder (p79)
	7.30pm Four Walls and a Roof (p42)	7.30pm Four Walls and a Roof (p42)	7.30pm AD CAP Four Walls and a Roof (p42)	7.30pm BSL Four Walls and a Roof (p42)	
5pm Brass Fanfare (p66) 9pm This Shining Night (p67)	7.30pm Beethoven 7 & Ortiz (p60)	7pm Beethoven 6 & Adès (p60)	1pm BSL CAP REL Family Concert (p45) 6.30pm Mozart's Don Giovanni (p16)		
		10.30am & 1.30pm Art of Listening Workshops (p45)			

8 – 30 Aug	PLAYFAIR LIBRARY	The Legacy of Slavery (p50)
27 Jun – 27 Sep	TALBOT RICE GALLERY	Anne Hardy (p51)

19
Wed

20
Thu

21
Fri

22
Sat

23
Sun

24
Mon

7.30pm
Ihsane
(p20)

7.30pm **AD CAP**
Ihsane
(p20)

8pm
Derya Türkan &
Friends
(p97)

7pm Beyond
Tradition (p97)

10pm Senny Camara
Ensemble (p97)

8pm
Simon Thoumire:
Scots Fiddle &
Clarsach
(p95)

6pm
Angels in America
(p30)

1pm
Angels in America
(p30)

7.30pm **AD BSL**
CAP REL
EXXY
(p24)

8pm
HANG TIME
(p36)

8pm
HANG TIME
(p36)

3pm **AD &**
8pm **CAP**
HANG TIME
(p36)

3pm
HANG TIME
(p36)

11am
Kleio Quartet &
Sheku Kanneh-
Mason
(p82)

11am
Paul Lewis
(p80)

11am
Maxim
Emelyanychev &
SCO Wind Soloists
(p83)

11am
Vilde Frang &
Friends
(p83)

8pm
Scottish Ensemble &
Brighde Chaimbeul
(p86)

11am
Gringolts Quartet
(p83)

8pm
Haribo Kimchi
(p43)

8pm
Haribo Kimchi
(p43)

2pm & 8pm
Haribo Kimchi
(p43)

8pm
Haribo Kimchi
(p43)

8pm
Haribo Kimchi
(p43)

7pm **CAP**
Coleridge-Taylor's
The Song of
Hiawatha
(p62)

7.30pm
Voices of Canada
(p62)

10.30am Come and
Sing Bach Chorales
(p64)
3.30pm Alisa
Weilerstein plays the
Cello Suites (p64)
9pm Vikingur
Ólafsson plays Bach &
Beethoven (p64)

6.30pm
Strauss's Elektra
(p16)

8pm
The Golden Age of
Hollywood
(p68)

10.30am & 1.30pm
Art of Listening
Workshops
(p45)

25
Tue

26
Wed

27
Thu

28
Fri

29
Sat

30
Sun

8pm
Taverna Miresia
(p38)

8pm
Taverna Miresia
(p38)

5pm & 8.30pm
Taverna Miresia
(p38)

8pm **AD**
Taverna Miresia
(p38)

8pm
Mere Mortals
(p22)

3pm & 8pm
Mere Mortals
(p22)

8pm **AD**
Mere Mortals
(p22)

7pm
Verdi's
A Masked Ball
(p14)

7pm
Verdi's
A Masked Ball
(p14)

7pm
Verdi's
A Masked Ball
(p14)

2pm **AD**
Verdi's
A Masked Ball
(p14)

8pm
Camilla George
(p95)

8pm
Routes to Roots
(p98)

7pm Orchestra
Baobab (p99)

10pm RÓIS
(p99)

10pm
Up Late with Donald
Shaw
(p99)

8pm
Clown Show
(p32)

8pm
Clown Show
(p32)

2pm & 8pm **BSL**
Clown Show
(p32)

3pm **AD**
Clown Show
(p32)

7.30pm
Al-Sirah
Al-Hilaliyyah
(p40)

7.30pm
Al-Sirah
Al-Hilaliyyah
(p40)

7.30pm **AD**
Al-Sirah
Al-Hilaliyyah
(p40)

7.30pm
Al-Sirah
Al-Hilaliyyah
(p40)

11am
Pierre-Laurent
Aimard
(p80)

11am
Julie Roset &
Susan Manoff
(p84)

11am
Pavel Haas Quartet
(p85)

11am
Members of
the Berliner
Philharmoniker
(p85)

11am & 2:30pm
REL
Dementia-Friendly
Concerts
(p87)

7.30pm **CAP**
When Prophecy
Fails
(p25)

7.30pm **CAP**
When Prophecy
Fails
(p25)

2.30pm **AD CAP** &
7.30pm **CAP**
When Prophecy
Fails
(p25)

5.30pm **CAP BSL**
When Prophecy
Fails
(p25)

11am **CAP**
The Golden Age of
Hollywood
(p68)

7.30pm
Mahler's Das
Klagende Lied
(p70)

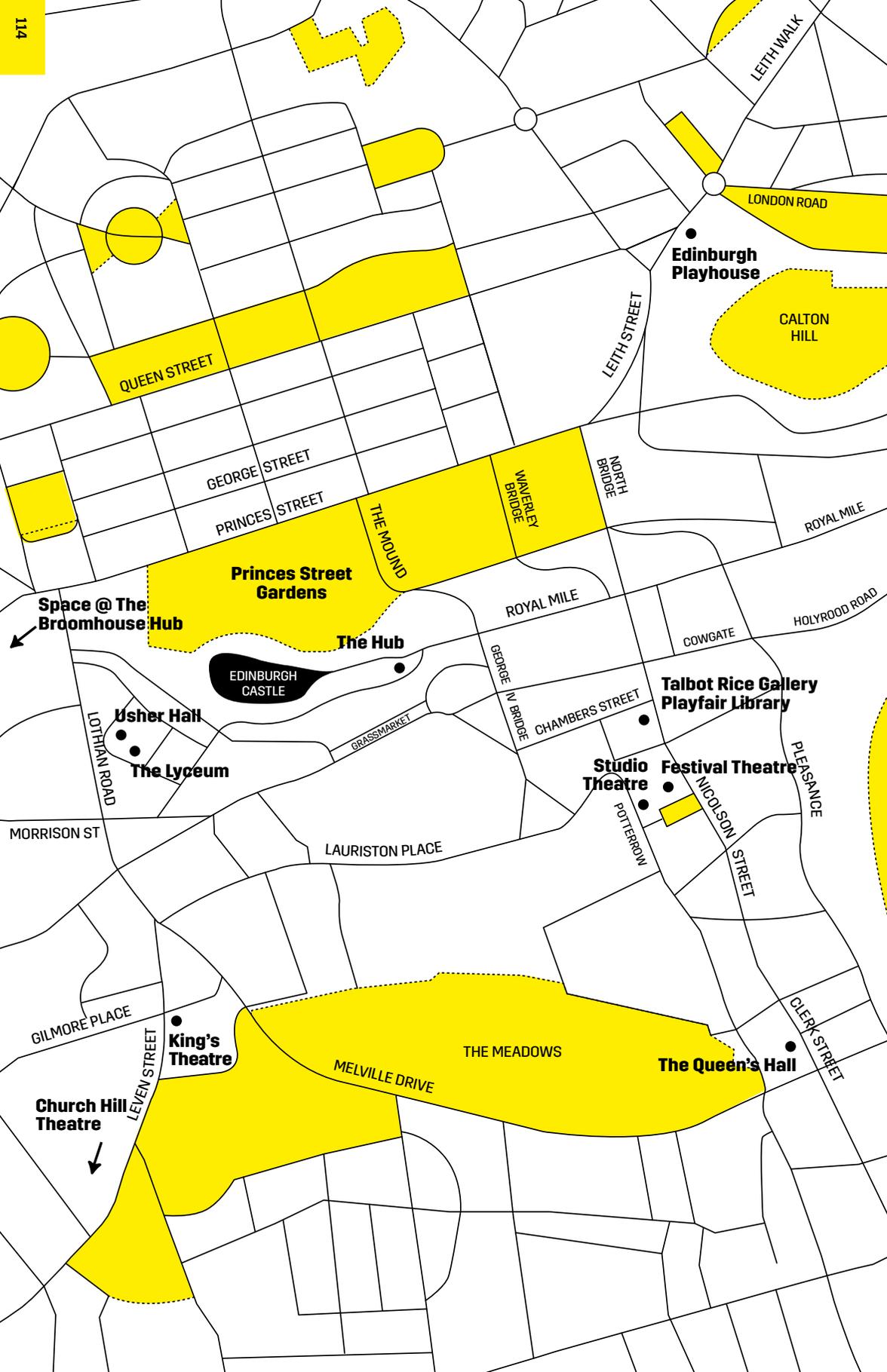
7pm
Colin Currie Group
plays Steve Reich
(p71)

7pm
Elgar and
Tchaikovsky
(p72)

7:30pm
Closing Concert
(p72)

8pm **CAP**
Jordi Savall: A Sea
of Music (p69)

10.30am & 1.30pm
Art of Listening
Workshops
(p45)



QUEEN STREET

GEORGE STREET
PRINCES STREET

Princes Street
Gardens

The Hub

EDINBURGH
CASTLE

Usher Hall

The Lyceum

King's
Theatre

Church Hill
Theatre

WAVERLEY
BRIDGE

ROYAL MILE

GEORGE IV
BRIDGE

CHAMBERS STREET

Studio
Theatre

Festival Theatre

Talbot Rice Gallery
Playfair Library

The Queen's Hall

MELVILLE DRIVE

THE MEADOWS

LONDON ROAD

Edinburgh
Playhouse

CALTON
HILL

LEITH STREET

NORTH
BRIDGE

ROYAL MILE

COWGATE

HOLYROOD ROAD

PLEASANCE

CLEAK STREET

LEITH WALK

MORRISON ST

GILMORE PLACE

LEVEN STREET

LOTHIAN ROAD

GRASSMARKET

LAURISTON PLACE

POTTERROW

NICOLSON STREET

PLANNING YOUR TRIP

How to Get Here

Edinburgh Waverley station is at the heart of the city and easily accessible from across the country. Use

nationalrail.co.uk to plan your journey. If you're travelling from further afield, Edinburgh Airport is located just eight miles from the city centre and can be reached by regular trams and buses.

We recommend travelling sustainably around Edinburgh by foot, bike or public transport during August. Download the Bus and Tram app from Lothian Buses and Edinburgh Trams to plan your trips. We recommend leaving your car at home if you can.

PARTNER HOTELS & RESTAURANTS

The Hub Bar

Castlehill EH1 2NE
eif.co.uk/the-hub



THE BALMORAL
EDINBURGH

The Balmoral

1 Princes Street EH2 2EQ
+44 (0) 131 556 2414
roccoforthotels.com/the-balmoral-hotel



SHERATON
GRAND
Hotel & Spa Edinburgh

Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa

1 Festival Square EH3 9SR
+44 (0) 131 229 9131
sheratonedinburgh.co.uk



One Square Bar & Brasserie

1 Festival Square EH3 9SR
+44 (0) 131 229 9131
onesquareedinburgh.co.uk

SUMMER FESTIVALS

Edinburgh Jazz and Blues Festival

17–26 Jul | ejbf.co.uk

The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

7–29 Aug | edintattoo.co.uk

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

7–31 Aug | edfringe.com

Edinburgh International Film Festival

13–19 Aug | edfilmfest.org

Edinburgh Art Festival

14–30 Aug | edinburghartfestival.com

Edinburgh International Book Festival

15–30 Aug | edbookfest.co.uk

You can find information on Edinburgh's 11 major festivals throughout the year at edinburghfestivalcity.com

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL VENUES

Church Hill Theatre

Morningside Road EH10 4DR

Edinburgh Playhouse

18–22 Greenside Place EH1 3AA

Festival Theatre

13–29 Nicolson Street EH8 9FT

The Hub

Castlehill EH1 2NE

King's Theatre

2 Leven St EH3 9LQ

The Lyceum

Grindlay Street EH3 9AX

Talbot Rice Gallery / Playfair Library

The University of Edinburgh, Old College, South Bridge EH8 9YL

Princes Street Gardens

EH2 2HG

Space @ The Broomhouse Hub

79–89 Broomhouse Crescent EH11 3RH

Studio Theatre

22 Potterrow EH8 9BL

The Queen's Hall

85–89 Clerk Street EH8 9JG

Usher Hall

Lothian Road EH1 2EA

BOOKING INFORMATION

HOW TO BOOK

Online eif.co.uk

Public booking opens **Thu 26 March, 12noon**

MEMBERS' PRIORITY BOOKING

Booking opens at **12noon** on each date

Thu 19 March Gold Ambassador

Fri 20 March Silver Ambassador & Ambassador

Mon 23 March Gold Friend & Silver Friend

Tue 24 March Friend

To find out how you can access priority booking by becoming a member, visit eif.co.uk/membership or call **+44 (0) 131 473 2065**

TELEPHONE BOOKING

Telephone **+44 (0) 131 473 2000**

Thu 19 – Wed 25 March (Members only)

Mon to Fri 12noon – 4pm

Sat and Sun closed

Thu 26 March – Thu 6 August

Mon to Fri 12noon – 4pm

Sat and Sun closed

Fri 7 August – Sun 30 August

Daily 10am – 8pm

IN-PERSON BOOKING

The International Festival box office is open for in-person bookings throughout the Festival.

Fri 7 August – Sun 30 August

Daily 12noon – 5pm (open until show start time on performance nights at The Hub)

The Hub, Castlehill, EH1 2NE

If you require in-person assistance with your booking prior to the Festival, you can book an appointment. (See p101 for details).

Box office services will be available at all venues at least one hour prior to performance start times.

Opening times may be subject to change. Visit eif.co.uk/booking-information for up-to-date information.

TICKET PRICES & FEES

Ticket prices may vary from previously published prices, according to demand. This flexible pricing model enables us to offer affordable ticketing initiatives, broadening audience access to performances. All ticket prices are inclusive of mandatory fees, such as booking fees and The Lyceum restoration fee. Tickets for events at Edinburgh Playhouse will incur an additional £2 restoration fee per ticket. If you choose to receive your tickets by post, a £3 charge will be applied.

TICKET EXCHANGES & REFUNDS

No refunds will be given except in the event of cancellation of a performance. Tickets may be exchanged up to 48 hours before a performance to another performance of the same show, subject to availability. A £1.50 fee per ticket exchanged will be charged, except for Festival members.

TICKET PROTECTION

We have partnered with TicketPlan to offer optional ticket protection for £2 per ticket. This allows you to recoup 100% of the paid ticket price (including any fees) if you are unable to attend your event for any number of covered reasons, including illness, travel delays, adverse weather conditions and more.

For more information, visit

ticketplangroup.com/eifrefundpromise

Refund Protection is an optional service offered by Edinburgh International Festival and administered by TicketPlan. It is not an insurance policy.

YOUNG CHILDREN POLICY

We adhere to each venue's individual policy and advise that you visit eif.co.uk/venues or contact our box office for further information before booking tickets.

HOW TO SAVE

£10 GIVE IT A GO TICKETS

Cost shouldn't be a barrier to cultural discovery. To encourage you to try something new for less, our £10 Give it a Go Tickets are available for every event in the programme to anyone who might benefit from them. A limited number will go on sale for every show when public booking opens on Thu 26 March, with more released for selected performances closer to the time. For details, visit eif.co.uk

CONCESSIONS

- Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent people and under 18s are entitled to 50% off the standard price.
- Anyone who requires an Essential Companion can claim one free ticket with one paid ticket.
- Arts workers and under 30s are entitled to 30% off the standard price, available from Thu 26 March.

All concessions are subject to availability. Proof of eligibility may be requested at venues.

GROUP BOOKINGS

Groups of ten or more receive 10% off standard tickets for selected performances. Group discounts are available from Thu 26 March. For groups of more than 20, email groups@eif.co.uk

MULTIBUY OFFERS

A 20% discount applies when you buy tickets for three or more morning concerts at The Queen's Hall. Excludes Dementia-Friendly Concert. A 20% discount applies when you buy tickets for both *Bach to Bach* concerts (p64). All offers exclude top-price tickets (prices A and J) and concessions.

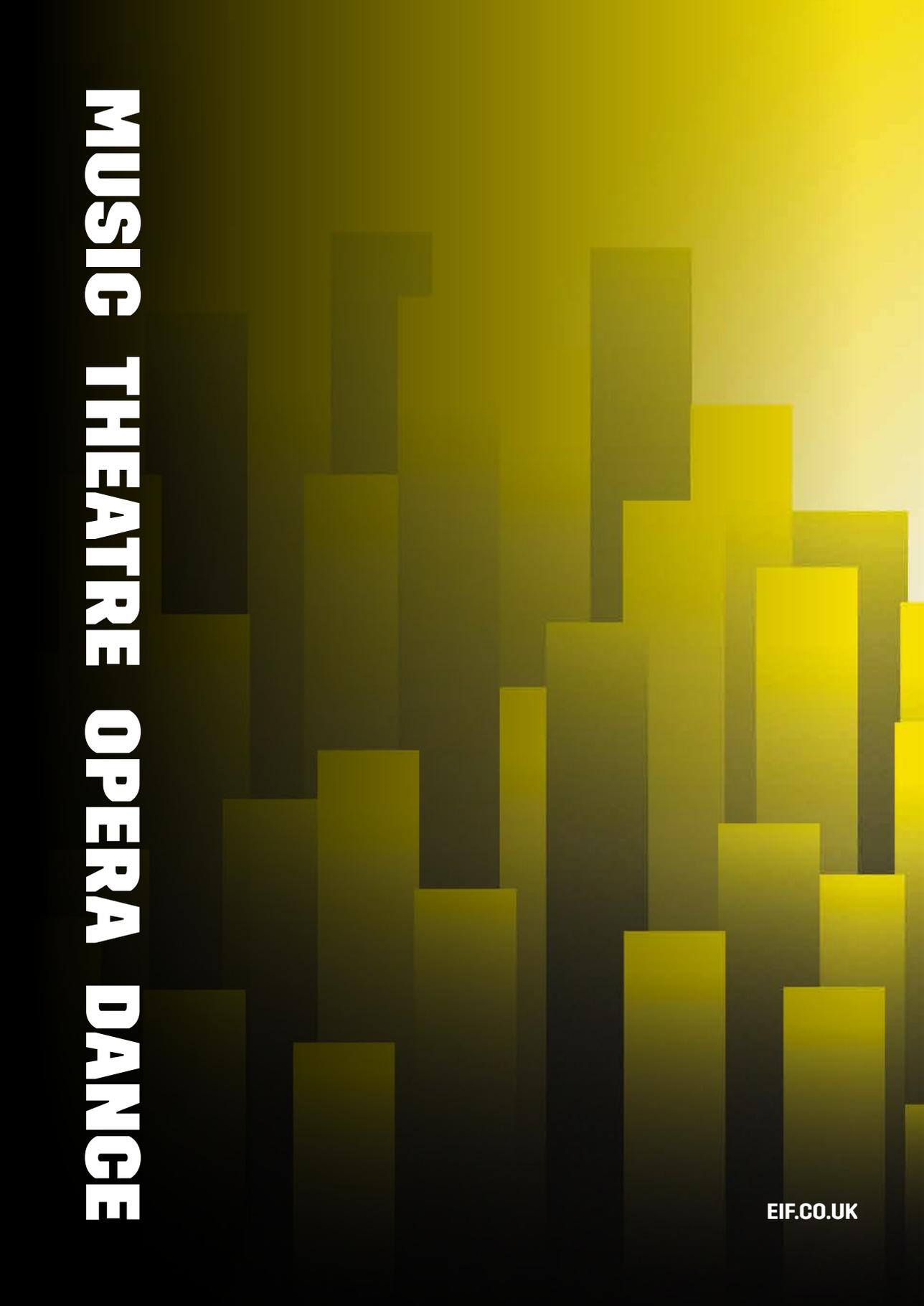
YOUNG MUSICIAN'S PASS

Young musicians or singers aged 8–18 who live in Scotland are eligible for free tickets to Festival concerts and exclusive access to meet with world-class artists. Booking opens on Mon 18 May. T&Cs apply. Sign up at eif.co.uk/ympass

TICKETS FOR GOOD

Every year, we donate hundreds of tickets to NHS staff, charity workers, teachers, unpaid carers and low-income benefit recipients through Tickets for Good. Find out more at ticketsforgood.com

All special offers are subject to availability. Terms and conditions apply, see eif.co.uk/terms



MUSIC THEATRE OPERA DANCE

EIF.CO.UK