EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

7–29 AUGUST 2021
THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Principal Supporters

Dunard Fund  American Friends of the Edinburgh International Festival
Léan Scully EIF Fund  Edinburgh International Festival
James and Morag Anderson  Endowment Fund
Sir Ewan and Lady Brown

Festival Partners

Geoff and Mary Ball  Cruden Foundation Limited
Joscelyn Fox  The Negauene Foundation
Gavin and Kate Gemmell  The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust
Donald and Louise MacDonald  Michael Shipley and Philip Rudge
Anne McFarlane  Keith and Andrea Skeoch
The Stevenson Charitable Trust  Claire and Mark Urquhart

Benefactors

Richard and Catherine Burns  David Millar
Lori A. Martin and  Keith and Lee Miller
Christopher L. Eisgruber  Jerry Ozaniec
Flure Grossart  Sarah and Spiro Phanos
Professor Ludmilla Jordanova  Brenda Rennie
Niall and Carol Lothian  George Ritchie
Bridget and John Macaskill  Françoise Robertson
Vivienne and Robin Menzies  Jim and Isobel Stretton

Trusts and Corporate Donations

Badenoch & Co.  Andrew and Becky Swanston
The Calateria Trust  Susie Thomson
The Castansa Trust  Mr. Hedley G. Wright
Cullen Property  Zachs-Adam Family
The Peter Diamand Trust  The West Hall Charitable Fund
The Evelyn Drysdale Charitable Trust
Edwin Fox Foundation  The Sym Charitable Trust
Gordon Fraser Charitable Trust  The Turtleton Charitable Trust
Miss K M Harbison's Charitable Trust  Viewforth Trust
The Inches Carr Trust  The West Hall Charitable Fund
Jean and Roger Miller's Charitable Trust  Penpont Charitable Trust
Risk Charitable Fund  Edinburgh International Festival is supported through
The Sym Charitable Trust  the PLACE programme, a partnership between
The Turtleton Charitable Trust  the Scottish Government – through Creative Scotland –
The University of Edinburgh  the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Festivals
Viewforth Trust  Marketing managers

International Partners

Australian High Commission in the UK  Corporate Members
Austrian Cultural Forum London  Arup
Culture Ireland  Edinburgh Napier University
High Commission of Canada in the United Kingdom  gh digital print
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany  Pulsant
Edinburgh  Business Unlimited
Italian Institute of Culture and Italian Consulate General – Edinburgh  Media & Broadcast Partners
Norwegian Consulate General, Edinburgh  Classic FM
Québec Government Office in London  Classic FM

Public Funders

Edinburgh International Festival Society is registered as a company in Scotland (No 5000476) and
as a Scottish Charity (No SC004694). Registered Address: The Hub, Castlereigh, Edinburgh EH1 2NE.
Welcome to the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival. More than any other Festival, this year’s programme is an act of optimism. We hope that in the following pages you find a thoughtful, reassuring and joyful route back to live performance.

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

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

In the midst of so many challenges, it has been a delight to hear the voice of the artist re-emerge. Much of this programme centres on the juxtaposition of the familiar and the new. Errollyn Wallen weaves new composition through Henry Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas, singer Lisa O’Neill joins Lau in a celebration of past and present musical bonds between Scotland and Ireland and Damon Albarn introduces audiences to his new ambient project, The Nearer the Fountain, More Pure the Stream Flows. While it is not yet safe to welcome large international companies, artists such as Irish actor Domhnall Gleeson, South African soprano Golda Schultz and Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov, will make special appearances. Some of Scotland’s best-loved artists including Alan Cumming, Nicola Benedetti and Hannah Lavery offer exciting works alongside commissioned digital pieces from Alice Ripoll (São Paulo), Omar Rajeh (Beirut) and Gregory Maqoma (Soweto).

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

The 2021 programme is a collective effort between artists, arts workers, local audiences, funders and supporters. We are not certain of what the coming months will bring. We are, however, committed to working together on a return to sharing in the joy of live performance.
6 – 8 Aug From 8pm
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
FREE tickets required
Visit eif.co.uk for full details of the event and how to book tickets.

Sponsored by
Aberdeen Standard Investments

Supported by
EventScotland

In collaboration with
Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Concert performance

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

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

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

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

Errollyn Wallen
John Butt / Frederic Wake-Walker
Dunedin Consort

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

Concert performance

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

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

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

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

Giuseppe Verdi
Stuart Stratford / Sir David McVicar
Scottish Opera

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

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

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

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

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

Benedetti Baroque Orchestra

Nicola Benedetti  Director / Violin

Programme includes

Geminiani  Concerto Grosso in D minor ‘La Folia’
Vivaldi  Concerto in D major RV211
Vivaldi  Concerto in B minor RV366
Vivaldi  ‘Summer’ from The Four Seasons

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

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

Supported by Binks Trust

The Story of the Violin

Nicola Benedetti  Violin

Programme includes

Biber  Passacaglia
Bach  Chaconne
Paganini  Caprices 1 & 24
Ysaye  Sonata No 3

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

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

Supported by Claire and Mark Urquhart

The Soldier’s Tale

Nicola Benedetti  Violin
Nicholas Bayley  Double bass
Maximiliano Martin  Clarinet
Ursula Leveaux  Bassoon
Philip Cobb  Cornet
Peter Moore  Trombone
Louise Goodwin  Percussion

Stravinsky  The Soldier’s Tale

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

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

Supported by Geoff and Mary Ball
CHINEKE! CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

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

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

16 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx. | No interval | £32
Supported by  Professor Ludmilla Jordanova

CHINEKE! ORCHESTRA & WILLIAM EDDINS

William Eddins  Conductor
Simone Ibbett-Brown  Staging
Andrea Baker  Mezzo soprano
Ayanna Witter-Johnson  New Work  WORLD PREMIERE
Judith Weir  woman.life.song

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

Sung in English with supertitles

17 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34
Supported by  Susie Thomson

LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sir Simon Rattle  Conductor
Ibert  Divertissement
Martinů  Jazz Suite
Strauss  Le Bourgeois gentilhomme

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

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

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

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

National Theatre of Scotland
Hannah Lavery  Writer & Director
Kirsty Currie  Designer
Beldina Odenyo  Composer & Musician
Cast includes
Saskia Ashdown, Patricia Panther, Courtney Stoddart

‘No problem here pal. None at all.’
In the early hours of the morning, 31 year-old Sheku Bayoh set out to walk home from his friend’s place after watching a boxing match. Just hours later, he had lost his life in police custody. Lament for Sheku Bayoh is a poetic expression of grief for the human behind the headlines and a non-apologetic reflection on racism in Scotland today.

Lament for Sheku Bayoh inspires activities for schools as part of our year-round commitment to communities across Scotland. Find out more at eif.co.uk/L&E
Contains strong language and descriptions of brutality and racial violence

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

25 Aug 7.30pm
28 Aug 2.30pm

Co-produced by Edinburgh International Festival, National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh
Made possible through the PLACE programme

HINDU TIMES

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

Can the gods help her? Can they save the Earth? And find the elixir of life?
This rehearsed reading is presented by Dundee Rep Theatre, Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh and Pitlochry Festival Theatre in association with Stellar Quines Theatre Company.
Contains strong language and adult themes
Rehearsed reading 20 Aug 7.30pm 
21 Aug 2.30pm & 7.30pm | THE LYCEUM 
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £11

21 Aug 7.30pm

Made possible through the PLACE programme

YOU BURY ME

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

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

14 Aug 7.30pm

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

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

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

20 Aug 5pm, 21 Aug 11am
Gregory Maqoma
20 Aug 1pm, 21 Aug 3pm
Janice Parker
20 Aug 11am, 21 Aug 5pm
Omar Rajeh
20 Aug 3pm, 21 Aug 1pm
Alice Ripoll
1hr approx. (no interval)

DANCE BASE
£11

Choreographers
Gregory Maqoma
Janice Parker
Omar Rajeh
Alice Ripoll

Available to be streamed from eif.co.uk

Made possible through the PLACE programme

Research & Development supported by the British Council
CHOTTO XENOS

A Work for Families
Akram Khan Company

Dance film

Akram Khan  Choreographer
Sue Buckmaster  Director & Adaptation

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

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

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

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

Co-produced by Edinburgh International Festival and Birmingham International Dance Festival
Made possible through the PLACE programme

NIQABI NINJA

BY SARA SHAARAWI

Independent Arts Projects

Sara Shaarawi  Writer
Catrin Evans  Director

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

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

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

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

12–28 August
Hosted in Edinburgh by THE LYCEUM, Grindlay Street, Edinburgh EH3 9AX
Full details can be found at NiqabiNinja.net
Book tickets at lyceum.org.uk
**ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & VALERY GERGIEV**

Valery Gergiev  Conductor  
Daniil Trifonov  Piano  
Christopher Hart  Trumpet

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

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

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

Supported by  
Dunard Fund

---

**A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING**

Edinburgh Festival Ensemble  
Wayne Marshall  Music Director  
Kim Criswell  Staging

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

Rodgers & Hammerstein’s  A Grand Night for Singing

Music by  Richard Rodgers  
Lyrics by  Oscar Hammerstein II  
Musical Arrangements by  Fred Wells  
Orchestration by  Michael Gibson & Jonathan Tunick  
Conceived by  Walter Bobbie

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

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

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

Sung in English with supertitles

A Grand Night for Singing is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd
'And thus, as I fancied, the dense life within made itself faintly audible in my ears, family after family contributing its quota to the general hum, and the whole pile beating in tune to its timepieces, like a great disordered heart.'

ROBERT LOUIS STEVENSON ON EDINBURGH’S COWGATE, 1878

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

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

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

AIDAN O’ROURKE

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

*Curious Seed*

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

Featuring an ensemble of Edinburgh-based performers

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

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

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

Watch for a moment or stay for the duration.

22 Aug 1pm & 29 Aug 4pm  
Holyrood Park  
4hrs approx.  
FREE and unticketed

Made possible through the **PLACE** programme

---

**FIELD – SOMETHING FOR THE FUTURE NOW**

*Curious Seed*

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

Featuring an ensemble of Edinburgh-based performers

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

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

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

Watch for a moment or stay for the duration.

22 Aug 1pm & 29 Aug 4pm  
Holyrood Park  
4hrs approx.  
FREE and unticketed

Made possible through the **PLACE** programme

---

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

*John Kane sits on a hospital trolley.*

*Very shortly, a giant lobster, two women called Mary, a very old man and a jazz percussionist arrive. Then everything starts.*

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

**PREVIEW**

4–6 Aug 8pm £32  
7, 8, 11, 13, 18, 20, 22, 25, 27 Aug 8pm  
10, 12, 14, 17, 19, 21, 24, 26, 28 Aug 7pm

**PERFORMANCES**

29 Aug 6.30pm  | **TRAVERE THEATRE**  
1hr 30mins approx. (no interval)  | £37

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

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

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

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

Made possible through the PLACE programme
SONA JOBARTEH

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

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

26 Aug 7.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26
Made possible through the PLACE programme

LONELY HOUSE

Katharine Mehrling  Actor/singer
Barrie Kosky  Piano

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

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

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

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

20, 21 Aug 9.30pm  OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26
Supported by
Australian High Commission in the UK
A TOAST TO THE PEOPLE

‘But I don’t want comfort. I want poetry. I want danger.
I want freedom. I want goodness. I want sin.’
ALDOUS HUXLEY, BRAVE NEW WORLD

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

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

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

23–27 Aug 8pm
1hr 15mins approx. (no interval)
OLD COLLEGE QUAD
£14

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

23–27 Aug 8pm
In partnership with Edinburgh International Book Festival
Made possible through the PLACE programme

GREAT FESTIVALS NEED GREAT SUPPORTERS

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

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

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

Edinburgh International Festival is a Registered Charity No SC004694
A GRAND NIGHT FOR SINGING
Edinburgh Festival Ensemble
Wayne Marshall Music Director
Kim Criswell Staging
Rodgers & Hammerstein’s A Grand Night for Singing
Music by Richard Rodgers
Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II
Musical Arrangements by Fred Wells
Orchestration by Michael Gibson & Jonathan Tunick
Conceived by Walter Bobbie

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

8, 10, 12, 13 Aug 7.30pm 10, 13 Aug 3pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 30mins approx. | No interval | £35 – £40
Sung in English with supertitles
A Grand Night for Singing is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals Ltd

THE OPENING CONCERT
BBC Symphony Orchestra
Dalia Stasevska Conductor
Anna Clyne New Work WORLD PREMIERE
Respighi Trittico Botticelliano
Stravinsky Pulcinella

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

Sung in English with supertitles
7 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34
Supported by The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Vasily Petrenko Conductor
Isata Kanneh-Mason Piano
Clara Schumann Piano Concerto
Beethoven Symphony No 7

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

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

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & THOMAS SØNDERGÅRD
Thomas Søndergård Conductor
Members of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus
Aidan Oliver Chorus Director
Mendelssohn A Midsummer Night’s Dream

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

Sung in Italian with English supertitles
11 Aug 6pm & 8.30pm
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 – £34
Supported by The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust

EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL
International Festival Stage
10 Arboretum Road, EH3 5PL
Venue subject to planning

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

Programme includes
Geminiani Concerto Grosso in D minor ‘La Folia’
Vivaldi Concerto in D major RV211
Vivaldi Concerto in B minor RV386
Vivaldi ‘Summer’ from The Four Seasons

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

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

Supported by Binks Trust

BBC SCOTTISH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
Marin Alsop Conductor

Jessie Montgomery Strum
Maxwell Davies A Spell for Green Corn
Beethoven Symphony No 5

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

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

Supported by Donald and Louise MacDonald

ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & ELIM CHAN
Elim Chan Conductor

Sol Gabetta Cello
Caroline Shaw Entr’acte
Saint-Saëns Cello Concerto No 1
Beethoven Symphony No 1

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

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

Supported by Sheikha Bacha

CHINEKE! ORCHESTRA & WILLIAM EDDINS
William Eddins Conductor

Simone Ibbett-Brown Staging
Andrea Baker Mezzo soprano
Ayanna Witter-Johnson New work WORLD PREMIERE woman.life.song
Judith Weir woman.life.song

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

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

Supported by Susie Thomson
**ROYAL SCOTTISH NATIONAL ORCHESTRA & VALERY GERGIEV**

Valery Gergiev, Conductor  
Danil Trifonov, Piano  
Christopher Hart, Trumpet  

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

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

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

Supported by Dunard Fund

**LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**

Sir Simon Rattle, Conductor

Ibert, Divertissement  
Martinů, Jazz Suite  
Strauss, Le Bourgeois gentilhomme

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

19 Aug 6.30pm & 8.30pm  
EDINBURGH ACADEMY JUNIOR SCHOOL  
1hr 10mins approx. | No interval | £29 - £34

**DIDO’S GHOST**

Dunedin Consort  
John Butt, Conductor  
Frederic Wake-Walker, Director  
Errollyn Wallen, Dido’s Ghost

A new opera incorporating Purcell’s Dido and Aeneas.

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

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

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

Sung in English with supertitles

Supported by James and Morag Anderson Binks Trust

**THE SOLDIER’S TALE**

Stravinsky, The Soldier’s Tale

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

Performed in English with supertitles

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

Supported by Geoff and Mary Ball
JOYCE DIDONATO & IL POMO D’ORO
My Favourite Things

Zefira Valova  Director/violin
Joyce DiDonato  Mezzo soprano

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

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

Sung with English supertitles

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

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

ARIOADNE AUF NAXOS

Sir Andrew Davis  Conductor
Louisa Muller  Staging

Strauss Ariadne auf Naxos (1916 version)

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

Sung in German with English supertitles

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

Supported by
Dunard Fund
James and Morag Anderson

SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Kazushi Ono  Conductor

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

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

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

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

THOMAS QUASTHOFF QUARTET
For You

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

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

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

MEMBERS OF THE EDINBURGH FESTIVAL CHOIR

Aidan Oliver  Conductor & Chorus Director

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

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

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

10 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Mari Eriksmoen & Daniel Heide

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

11 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Patricia Kopatchinskaja & Fazil Say

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

9 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Austiran Cultural Forum London

Ronald Brautigam, Esther Hoppe & Christian Poltéra

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

7 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust

Mari Eriksmoen Soprano
Daniel Heide Piano

Songs and Lieder by Grieg, Schumann, Wolf and Grøndahl

Supported by Norwegian Consulate General, Edinburgh

Ronald Brautigam Fortepiano
Esther Hoppe Violin
Christian Poltéra Cello

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

International Festival Stage
The University of Edinburgh
South Bridge, Edinburgh EH8 9YL

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

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

In collaboration with The University of Edinburgh
CHAMBER MUSIC

MALCOLM MARTINEAU & FRIENDS

Walter Scott 250

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

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

14 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by  The Calateria Trust

MAXIM EMELYANYCHEV

& PRINCIPALS OF THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

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

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

13 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by  The Calateria Trust

CHINEKE! CHAMBER ENSEMBLE

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

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

16 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by  Professor Ludmilla Jordanova

STEVEN OSBORNE

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

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

12 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by  Gavin and Kate Gemmell
THE STORY OF THE VIOLIN

Nicola Benedetti  Violin
Programme includes
Biber  Passacaglia
Bach  Chaconne
Paganini  Caprices 1 & 24
Ysaÿe  Sonata No 3

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

17 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm  |  OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx.  |  No interval  |  £32
Supported by Claire and Mark Urquhart

GOLDMUND QUARTET

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

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

19 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm  |  OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx.  |  No interval  |  £32
Supported by James and Isobel Stretton
Consulate General of the Federal Republic of Germany Edinburgh

MARIAM BATSASHVILI

Schubert  Allegretto in E flat major D946 No 2
Schoenberg  Six Little Piano Pieces Op 19
Brahms  Sonata in F minor Op 5

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

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

MARIAM BATSASHVILI

Schumann  Fantasiestücke Op 12
Schubert/Liszt  Aufenthalt, Ständchen & Erlkönig
Wagner/Liszt  Isolde’s Liebestod
Liszt  Valse de bravoure

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

20 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm  |  OLD COLLEGE QUAD
1hr approx.  |  No interval  |  £32
Supported by The Inches Carr Trust
Lonely House
Katharine Mehrling  Actor/singer
Barrie Kosky  Piano

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

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

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

20, 21 Aug 9.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by Australian High Commission in the UK

Noa Wildschut & Elisabeth Brauß

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

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

24 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm
Old College Quad | 1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Françoise Robertson

Gerald Finley & Julius Drake

Schumann  Dichterliebe
Schubert  Schwanengesang (excerpts)

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

23 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Donald and Louise MacDonald

Renée Fleming & Hartmut Höll

Lieder and songs by Handel, Fauré and Strauss

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

25 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Dunard Fund
THE NORMAL
Talbot Rice Gallery exhibition


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

FREE tickets required
Book at trg.ed.ac.uk

Throughout August | 10am–5pm
Talbot Rice Gallery, Old College Quad

ALAN CUMMING IS NOT ACTING HIS AGE

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

28 & 29 Aug 7pm & 9.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £37

FATMA SAID & MALCOLM MARTINEAU

Songs by Mozart, Ravel, de Falla and Lorca

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

27 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by The Peter Diamand Trust

MASTERCLASSES WITH THOMAS QUASTHOFF

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

28 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Niall and Carol Lothian

GRINGOLTS QUARTET

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

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

26 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Niall and Carol Lothian

THOMAS QUASTHOFF

GRINGOLTS QUARTET

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

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

26 Aug 12pm & 2.30pm | Old College Quad
1hr approx. | No interval | £32

Supported by Niall and Carol Lothian
IN THE TRADITION

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

RURA
One of Scotland’s most sought-after folk bands, RURA’s rugged yet refined blend of fiddle, Highland pipes, flute, bodhrán and guitar has won them multiple prestigious awards. Their entrancing sound has taken them on tours across more than 20 countries.
9 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

DUNCAN CHISHOLM
Duncan Chisholm is widely considered one of the most authentic interpreters of traditional Highland music, with fiddle playing inspired by Scotland’s dramatic landscapes. In this special performance he is joined by Jarlath Henderson (pipes and whistles), Innes Watson (guitar), Hamish Napier (keys) and James Mackintosh (percussion).
7 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

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

A Folk Song Sharing
An intimate intergenerational exchange of songs and their stories: three artists share favourite songs, how they came to sing them, the story behind the song and how their interpretation evolved. Performances from Nancy Nicolson (Scots song and story), Josie Duncan (Scots, Gaelic and original song) and Arthur Cormack (Gaelic song).
8 Aug 3pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

The Living Archive
Performances inspired by material from the School of Scottish Studies Archives from Kirsty Law (Scots song), Mary MacMaster (clarsach, electro harp) and Mike Vass (fiddle, tenor guitar) with Sophie Stephenson (dance).
8 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

TALISK
Firebrand instrumental trio Talisk have stacked up several major awards for their explosive yet artful sound, including 2016’s Belhaven Bursary for Innovation in Music and 2017’s Folk Band of the Year, both at the MG ALBA Scots Trad Music Awards and BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.
10 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26
**Siobhan Miller**

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

22 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

**Jenna Reid & Harris Playfair with Mr McFall’s Chamber**

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

19 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

**Karine Polwart**

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

22 Aug 3pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

**Jenna Reid**

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

19 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

**Breabach**

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

16 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

**Kinnaris Quintet**

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

12 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

**Dàimh**

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

11 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

**Fara**

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

18 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

**Dàimh**

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

11 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo

**Fara**

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

18 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £26

Supported by The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo
EDINBURGH PARK
International Festival Stage
Lochside Way, Edinburgh EH12 9GG

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

Supported by Sir Ewan and Lady Brown
In collaboration with Parabola

KATHRYN JOSEPH
Indie folk singer-songwriter Kathryn Joseph’s debut Bones you have thrown me and blood I’ve spilled won Scottish Album of the Year in 2015. The Inverness-born artist has since collaborated with RM Hubbert and James Graham of The Twilight Sad and toured a live theatrical staging of her second album From When I Wake The Want Is.
8 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

RICHARD DAWSON
An utterly compelling modern-day folk troubadour, Richard Dawson’s most recent album 2020 chronicles the stark realities of British life, not shying away from themes including racism, homelessness, exploited workers and heartache. The Geordie singer-songwriter brings grace and dark humour to his music, and dignity to his kitchen sink subject matter.
13 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

TIDE LINES
This rousing folk rock four-piece hail from the Scottish Highlands and Glasgow. Their anthemic singalongs have been warmly received since forming in 2016; they sold out the Barrowland Ballroom in five minutes and were named the Rising Sound of Scotland at the 2019 Scottish Music Awards.
9 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

ERLAND COOPER
After growing up in Stromness, the music of Erland Cooper often celebrates the rich Nordic ancestry of Orkney, his island home. This year’s album Holm is an intriguing and moving blend of stark, ambient electronica and modern classical melody, drawing inspiration from psychogeography, poetry and cinematography.
15 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

THE SNUTS
The much loved indie rockers from West Lothian formed a band six years ago while still at school, and have gained a loyal fanbase with their sweaty, energetic live shows. This year’s debut album Whitburn Loopy hit number one in the UK charts, and drew comparisons to The Libertines and The Arctic Monkeys.
11 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26

SHONA THE MUSICAL CHOIR
Shona the Musical Choir is a Scottish/African choir based in Edinburgh, presenting original songs from Shona the Musical, a cross-cultural love story that transcends racial barriers. The story and music are inspired by historical events and the socio-political turmoil of Robert Mugabe’s rule of Zimbabwe. Expect a mix of melodic songs, energetic African drumming, joyful dancing, spectacular costumes and harmonious singing.
16 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £13 – £18

Made possible through the PLACE programme
THE UNTHANKS

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

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

ANNA MEREDITH

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

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

NADINE SHAH

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

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

MOSES BOYD

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

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

CONTEMPORARY MUSIC

BLACK MIDI

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

19 Aug 8.30pm | Edinburgh Park
1hr 15mins approx. | No interval | £21 – £26
**KOKOROKO**

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

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

**LAURA MVULA**

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

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

**BLACK COUNTRY, NEW ROAD**

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

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

**DAMON ALBARN**

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

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

**THE COMET IS COMING**

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

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

**FULL PROGRAMME AVAILABLE AT EIF.CO.UK**
"Think Global, Act Local"

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

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

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

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

To find out more about upcoming projects or to support this work visit eif.co.uk/L&E
At the heart of the International Festival is our wonderful Festival Chorus, one of the UK’s leading symphonic choirs. Its members all share a love of choral singing and enjoy the thrill of performing great works with the world-class orchestras and conductors at the Festival.

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

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

Supported by Risk Charitable Fund
THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

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

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

Benefactors

James and Morag Anderson
Geoff and Mary Ball
Sir Ewan and Lady Brown
Richard and Catherine Burns
Lori A. Martin and
Christopher L. Eisinger
Jocelyn Fox
Gavin and Kate Gemmell
Flure Grossart
Professor Ludmilla Jordanova
Niall and Carol Lothian
Bridget and John Macaskill
Donald and Louise MacDonald
Anne McFarlane
Vivienne and Robin Menzies
Keith and Lee Miller
Jerry Oazine
Sarah and Spiro Phanos
Brenda Rennie
George Ritchie
Françoise Robertson
Michael Shipley and Philip Rudge
Keith and Andrea Skeoch
Jim and Isobel Streton
Andrew and Becky Swanston
Susie Thomson
Claire and Mark Urquhart
Hedley G Wright
Zachs-Adam Family

Ambassador Plus

Véronique Van Broekhoven and
Gina Ramsay
Sheila Colvin
George Gwilt
David and Judith Halkerston
Andrew Lacey
David and Brenda Lamb
Katie and James McNeill
David Millar
Tanya and David Parker
Fiona and Ian Russell
Finlay and Lynn Williamson

Ambassador

Constant Barbas and
Nicholas van Zek
Katy Bedford
William and Elizabeth Berry
Benict Birnberg
Robin and Le Blair
Katie Bradford
Carola Bronte-Stewart
David Caldwell in memory of Ann
Chris Carter and Stuart Donachie
The Rt Hon Lord Clarke
Lady Coulshfield
Sir Sandy and Lady Crombie
Dr Kathleen Dalyell OBE
Professor Andrew Farrall and
Alasdair Morton
Mr and Mrs Ted W Frison
Celia F Goodhew
Martin and Carola Gordon
Malcolm and Avril Gourlay
Anne and John Graham
Ray and Anita Green
Kenneth Harrold
Ray and Pauline Hartman
Shields and Carol Henderson
Albert L Hoffman and David Shepherd
J Douglas Home
Sir Brian and Lady Ivory
Alan M Johnstone
Sir Raymond and Lady Johnstone
John and Angela Kessler
Norman and Christine Lennels
Lortimer and Penelope Mackenzie
Anna Magee
Chris and Gill Masters
Professor Alexander and
Dr Elizabeth McCall Smith
Duncan and Una McChie
Francis Menotti
Sir Ronald and Lady Miller
Dr Paul Mills
Bernard and Jane Nelson
Nick and Julia Parker
George and Lynda Pennel
Dame Susan and Sir Duncan Rice
Andrew and Carolyn Richmond
John D Ritchie
Eileen and Bruce Ritson
Ross Roberts
Caroline Roxburgh
Sir Muir and Lady Russell
Miss A Scott
C Selkirk
James Sokol
Bruce Stephen
Jill Stephenson
Sir Jack and Lady Stewart-Clark
Dame Lorraine Votch Rutherford
Sir David and Lady Wallace
Robin and Sheila Wight
Dr Peter J Williamson and
Margaret Duffy
Ruth Woodburn
Irene M Young

CO-PRODUCTION CREDITS

Falstaff (p15)
A new co-production with Santa Fe Opera.

Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p23)
Originally commissioned by Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh and performed at the 2019 Edinburgh International Festival as a work in progress as part of the You Are Here series. Development work supported by the Stephen W Dunn Creative Fund.

Niqabi Ninja
by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
Supported by British Council Arts Digital Collaboration Fund & Creative Scotland’s Sustaining Creative Development Fund.

Chotto Xenos (p25)
Filmed at and supported by artsdepot, London.

A Grand Night for Singing (p27 & p29)

Medicine (p31)
Developed with the support of the National Theatre.

The Normal (p55)
Supported by Edinburgh College of Art and Creative Scotland.

IMAGE CREDITS

La Veillée d’Âmes © Vincent Muteau
Breabach © Mihaela Bodlovic
Dorothea Röschmann © Harald Hoffmann Sony Entertainment
Golda Schultz © Diego Acosta
Falstaff © James Glossop
Nicola Benedetti © Andy Gotts
Chineke! © Ntando Brown
Lament for Sheku Bayoh © Mihaela Bodlovic
Gregory Maqoma © Moeketsi Mabe
Chotto Xenos © Jean Louis Fernandez
Valery Gergiev © Alberto Venzago
Sona Jobarteh © Dan Pier
Vanessa Kisuule © Jon Aitken
Virgin Money Fireworks Concert © Gaelle Beri
Marin Alsop © Grant Leighton
Simon Rattle © Oliver Helbig
Joyce DiDonato © Simon Pauly
Malcolm Martineau © KK Dundas
Mariam Batsashvili © Josef Fischnaller
Barrie Kosky , Katharine Mehrling, Lonely House © Agentur Baganz
Thomas Quasthoff © Gregor Hohenberg
In The Tradition © Ryan Buchanan
Anna Meredith © Gem Harris
Sona Jobarteh © Fabrice Bourgelle
Kilakuta Republikk Dance Workshop © Ryan Buchanan
Edinburgh Festival Chorus © Gaelle Beri

Join us

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

Audio Described

**PRODUCTION** | **DATE & TIME** | **VENUE**
--- | --- | ---
Falstaff | 12 & 14 Aug 7.15pm | Festival Theatre
Medicine | 18 & 20 Aug 8pm | Traverse Theatre
Lament for Sheku Bayoh | 28 Aug 2.30pm | The Lyceum

British Sign Language Interpreted

**PRODUCTION** | **DATE & TIME** | **VENUE**
--- | --- | ---
You Bury Me | 14 Aug 7.30pm | The Lyceum
Medicine | 18 & 20 Aug 8pm | Traverse Theatre
Hindu Times | 21 Aug 7.30pm | The Lyceum
Lament for Sheku Bayoh | 25 Aug 2.30pm | The Lyceum
A Toast to the People | 23–27 Aug 8pm | Old College Quad

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

Captioned

**PRODUCTION** | **DATE & TIME** | **VENUE**
--- | --- | ---
You Bury Me | 14 Aug 7.30pm | The Lyceum
Medicine | 18 & 20 Aug 8pm | Traverse Theatre
Hindu Times | 21 Aug 7.30pm | The Lyceum
Lament for Sheku Bayoh | 28 Aug 2.30pm | The Lyceum

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

Access Information

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

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

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

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

VENUE EXPERIENCE

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

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

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

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

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

Toilets will be available and will be cleaned regularly.

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

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

International Festival venues

Dance Base
14–16 Grassmarket EH1 2JU

Edinburgh Academy Junior School
10 Arboretum Road EH3 5PL

Edinburgh Park
Lochside Way EH12 9GG

Festival Theatre
13–29 Nicolson Street EH8 9FT

Holyrood Park
Queen’s Drive EH8 8HG

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

Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh
Arboretum Place EH3 5NZ

Talbot Rice Gallery
The University of Edinburgh
Old College
South Bridge EH8 9YL

Traverse Theatre
10 Cambridge Street EH1 2ED

The Lyceum
30b Grindlay Street EH3 9AX
BOOKING INFORMATION

How to Book

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

Booking opens at 10am on Friday 11 June.
Priority booking for Members opens on a staggered basis from Wednesday 2 June.

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

Phone Line Opening Hours

2–13 June
Monday to Saturday 10am – 5pm
Sunday 12pm – 7.30pm

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

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

Ticket Prices & Concessions

Ticket prices may vary from previously published prices.

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

Supported by
The Pirie Rankin Charitable Trust

Access Bookings

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

Disabled people can get 30% off tickets when booking online. If you require a wheelchair space or a free essential companion ticket please contact us by phone or via SignLive. Further information can be found online at eif.co.uk/access or by emailing us on access@eif.co.uk

BSL Video Bookings with SignLive

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

In Person Bookings

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

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

Young Children Policy

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

YOUR SAFETY IS IMPORTANT TO US

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

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

Booking Tickets

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

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

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

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

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

Ticket Exchanges & Refunds

Ticket Exchanges & Refunds

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

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

For extra peace of mind we’ve teamed up with Secure My Booking to offer Ticket Protection, which allows you to recoup 100% of the money you paid for your tickets if you are unable to attend an event that hasn’t been cancelled or rescheduled. Ticket Protection covers illness, accidents, travel delays, adverse weather, strikes and more. This optional extra costs £1.50 per ticket and is only available at the time of booking. For more information, please visit securemybooking.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wed 4</td>
<td>6pm &amp; 8.30pm</td>
<td>Edinburgh Academy Junior School: The Opening Concert (p39)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Edinburgh Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 6</td>
<td></td>
<td>Festival Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 7</td>
<td></td>
<td>The Lyceum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 8</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Royal Philharmonic Orchestra: A Grand Night for Singing (p27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 9</td>
<td>6pm &amp; 8.30pm</td>
<td>Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 10</td>
<td>3pm &amp; 7.30pm</td>
<td>Old College Quad: University of Edinburgh: A Folk Song Sharing (p6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6pm &amp; 8.30pm</td>
<td>Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 11</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Thomas Søndergård: A Grand Night for Singing (p27)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 12</td>
<td>8.30pm</td>
<td>Aberdeen Standard Investments Opening Event: Night Light (p6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Niqabi Ninja by Sara Sharaawi (p25)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Traverse Theatre: Medicine (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Traverse Theatre: Medicine (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Traverse Theatre: Medicine (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Traverse Theatre: Medicine (p31)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dance Base

Edinburgh Academy Junior School
3pm & 7.30pm A Grand Night for Singing (p27)
6pm & 8.30pm Benedetti Baroque Orchestra (p18)
6pm & 8.30pm BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra (p41)
6pm & 8.30pm Royal Scottish National Orchestra & Elim Chan (p41)

Edinburgh Park
8.30pm Richard Dawson (p61)
8.30pm Erland Cooper (p61)
8.30pm Shona the Musical Choir (p61)

Festival Theatre
7.15pm Falstaff (p15)

The Lyceum
7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)
2.30 & 7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)

Old College Quad
12pm & 2.30pm Maxim Emelyanychev & Principals of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p49)
12pm & 2.30pm Nicola Benedetti. The Story of the Violin (p18)
6pm Balázs Stólsós & Vincent Ségal (p33)

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

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

DIGITAL SCREENING
Chotto Xenos film (p25)

Wednesday 18

Thu 19

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

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

Edinburgh Park
8.30pm Richard Dawson (p61)
8.30pm Erland Cooper (p61)
8.30pm Shona the Musical Choir (p61)

Festival Theatre
7.15pm Falstaff (p15)

The Lyceum
7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)
2.30 & 7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)

Old College Quad
12pm & 2.30pm Maxim Emelyanychev & Principals of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p49)
12pm & 2.30pm Nicola Benedetti. The Story of the Violin (p18)
6pm Balázs Stólsós & Vincent Ségal (p33)

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

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

DIGITAL SCREENING
Chotto Xenos film (p25)
Chotto Xenos film (p25)

Edinburgh Park
8.30pm Richard Dawson (p61)
8.30pm Erland Cooper (p61)
8.30pm Shona the Musical Choir (p61)

Festival Theatre
7.15pm Falstaff (p15)

The Lyceum
7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)
2.30 & 7.30pm You Bury Me (p21)

Old College Quad
12pm & 2.30pm Maxim Emelyanychev & Principals of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p49)
12pm & 2.30pm Nicola Benedetti. The Story of the Violin (p18)
6pm Balázs Stólsós & Vincent Ségal (p33)

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

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

DIGITAL SCREENING
Chotto Xenos film (p25)
Chotto Xenos film (p25)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sun 22</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Edinburgh Academy Junior School: Dido’s Ghost (p13)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mon 23</td>
<td>6pm &amp; 8.30pm</td>
<td>Joyce DiDonato &amp; Il Pomo D'Oro (p45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Thomas Quasthoff Quartet (p45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tue 24</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Ariadne Auf Naxos (p11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wed 25</td>
<td>7.30pm</td>
<td>Sona Jobarteh (p35)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ariadne Auf Naxos (p11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thu 26</td>
<td>6pm &amp; 8.30pm</td>
<td>Scottish Chamber Orchestra (p45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Members of the Edinburgh Festival Chorus (p45)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ariadne Auf Naxos (p11)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fri 27</td>
<td>12pm &amp; 2.30pm</td>
<td>Gringolts Quartet (p55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Fatma Said &amp; Malcolm Martineau (p55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Masterclasses with Thomas Quasthoff (p55)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7pm &amp; 9.30pm</td>
<td>Alan Cumming is Not Acting His Age (p33)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat 28</td>
<td>8.30pm</td>
<td>Kokoroko (p65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Laura Mvula (p65)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun 29</td>
<td>2.30pm</td>
<td>Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4pm</td>
<td>Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Old College Quad**

- 3pm  Karine Polwart (p59)
- 8pm  Siobhan Miller (p59)
- 12pm & 2.30pm Gerald Finney & Julius Drake (p53)
- 8pm  A Toast to the People (p38)
- 8pm  A Toast to the People (p38)
- 7pm & 9.30pm Alan Cumming is Not Acting His Age (p33)

**Edinburgh Park**

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

**The Lyceum**

- Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
- Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
- Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
- Niqabi Ninja by Sara Shaarawi (p25)
- 7.30pm Lament for Sheku Bayoh (p21)

**Traverse Theatre**

- 2pm  Medicine (p31)
- 8pm  Medicine (p31)

**Talbot Rice Gallery**

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

**Holyrood Park**

- 1pm  Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)
- 4pm  Field – Something for the Future Now (p31)