



PRESS RELEASE

25 May 2022

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Scottish Chamber Orchestra reveals new 2022/23 Season with star guests, new music, community projects and cross-genre collaborations

- **Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev returns for his third season with the Orchestra**
 - **Jay Capperault is announced as the SCO's new Associate Composer**
 - **Star guests include Nicola Benedetti, Bernard Labadie and Karen Cargill**
 - **The Season opens with the world premiere of Sir James MacMillan's Second Violin Concerto**
- **The SCO's community residency in Greater Craigmillar enters its second year**
- **A host of new cross-genre collaborations and concert formats, including the first ever UN:TITLED concerts, hosted by presenter Gemma Cairney**

Watch the SCO's 2022/23 season launch film [here](#)

Download images [here](#)

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra is delighted to announce its first complete season of full-length, restriction-free concerts in more than two years. Led by Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev, the Season features classical masterworks, choral greats, diverse collaborations, new music, digital offerings and landmark community projects.

Maxim Emelyanychev

Returning for his third Season as Principal Conductor, Maxim's connection with the SCO continues to flourish and in the 2022/23 Season he appears in eight programmes performing as both conductor and soloist. Highlights of Maxim's programmes include two premieres by Sir James MacMillan – the world premiere of his Second Violin Concerto performed by Nicola Benedetti (28-30 September), and the UK premiere of the composer's football-themed *Eleven* (30 March – 1 April). Further performances include two great choral works – Haydn's *The Creation* (6-7 October) and Brahms' *A German Requiem* (11-12 May), an all-Brahms programme including his *Violin Concerto* with Aylen Pritchett (23-24 February), an evening of Mendelssohn with the SCO Chorus (1-3 March), and a lavish Baroque-inspired programme (24-26 November).

Maxim Emelyanychev, Principal Conductor says: *"I'm excited to be back with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra for the 2022/23 Season, and to be performing music that truly demonstrates the breadth of the Orchestra's artistry. The 2022/23 Season inevitably feels like something of a rebirth after the restrictions of the pandemic, and what better way to mark that than with Haydn's brilliantly exuberant Creation? I'm so looking forward to sharing this Season of musical adventures with our audiences here in Scotland and beyond."*

Gavin Reid, Chief Executive of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra says: “*I really can’t quite describe just how it feels to be able to present a full programme of concerts and projects once again. Led from the front by Maxim Emelyanychev, our new season brings everything that is wonderful and special about the SCO. Electrifying performances of well-loved music from an extraordinary orchestra, with international artists such as Nicola Benedetti, Pekka Kuusisto, Karen Cargill, Allan Clayton and Lawrence Power, brand new music from some of our most creative minds including Sir James MacMillan, Anna Clyne, Nico Muhly, Cassandra Miller and Julian Anderson, adventurous collaborations with friends from different musical worlds such as US neo-folk singer/songwriter Sam Amidon and Scottish Traditional stars Chris Stout and Catriona McKay, and the sheer thrill of our own SCO Chorus in glorious music by Handel, Brahms, Haydn and much more. With unique digital performances, uplifting community music-making and a special nod to the first ever Edinburgh Music festival, I do hope you will join us as we embark on our latest musical journey.*”

Star Guests, Choral Greats and Classical Masterworks

The **SCO Chorus** performs in six concerts this Season, presenting some of the best-loved choral works in the Classical canon. Led by Chorus Director **Gregory Batsleer**, highlights include Haydn’s *The Creation* (6-7 October), Handel’s *Israel in Egypt* (1-2 December) and Brahms’ *German Requiem* (11-12 May). Handel’s lavish music for royal occasions is celebrated in a concert featuring music from *Zadok the Priest* and *Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne* (23-24 March), while the women of the Chorus join Maxim Emelyanychev and sopranos Hilary Cronin and Jessica Cale for a performance of Mendelssohn’s music from *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (1-3 March). A much-loved fixture on the Scottish musical calendar, the SCO Chorus’ Christmas Concert will feature music by Bax and Rutter as well as the SCO commission *The Heart of Night* by Anna Clyne.

The SCO is delighted to welcome a starry host of guest artists to its 2022/23 Season; including conductor **Mark Wigglesworth**, who leads the Orchestra in a performance of Beethoven’s Symphony No 5 alongside Shostakovich’s Cello Concerto No 2 with **Laura van der Heijden** (27-29 April), **John Storgårds**, who conducts *Tchaikovsky’s Symphony No 5* and the Scottish premiere of Cassandra Miller’s Viola Concerto, performed by **Lawrence Power** (4-5 May), and pianist **Yeol Eum Son**, who performs Mozart’s Piano Concerto in B-flat with conductor **Andrew Manze** (15-16 December).

Further guests include conductors **Peter Whelan**, **Clemens Schuldt** and **Joana Carneiro**, violinist and director **Anthony Marwood**, violinist **Colin Scobie**, oboist and conductor **François Leleux**, mezzo-soprano **Karen Cargill**, as well as soloists from the SCO’s own ranks, including Principal Clarinet **Maximiliano Martin** and Principal Flute **André Cebrián**.

Cross-Genre Collaborations

As part of its commitment to introducing new audiences across Scotland to classical music, the SCO continues to present collaborations with artists from different musical worlds.

BBC Radio 1 and Radio 6 Music presenter **Gemma Cairney** joins the SCO as the host of its first ever **UN:TITLED** concerts, that take the Orchestra outside the confines of the concert hall and present an informal and inspiring mix of music that defies conventional boundaries. With live performances from SCO players and special guests to be announced. Featuring Steve Reich’s sonically hypnotic *Double Sextet*, US composer Andy Akiho’s *21* for cello, marimba and electronics, and two works by Californian composer and environmentalist Gabriella Smith – *Maré* and *Tesselations* (29 October - Summerhall, Edinburgh and 30 October - St Luke’s, Glasgow).

Inspirational Finnish multi-musician **Pekka Kuusisto** returns to the SCO with a residency in March. For his first performance he’s joined by friend and colleague, US neo-folk singer/songwriter **Sam Amidon**, for a performance featuring music from Sibelius and Janáček, Missy Mazzoli and new arrangements of Appalachian Folk Songs (9-10 March). For the second concert in his Residency, he presents the long-awaited Scottish premiere of Nico Muhly’s exuberant violin concerto *Shrink*, alongside Britten’s larger-than-life *Les Illuminations* sung by tenor Allan Clayton (15 -17 March).

As part of **Celtic Connections 2023**, two of Scotland’s best-known traditional musicians – fiddler **Chris Stout** and harpist **Catriona McKay** – come together to work with the SCO for the first time, playing traditional duo pieces, new music and intimate chamber works, alongside special guests including acclaimed ‘Shetlandic’ poet Christie Williamson and conductor James Lowe (26-27 January).

The SCO celebrates the music of **Felix Yaniewicz**, largely forgotten today but a remarkable figure in Scottish music – a Polish-Lithuanian composer and virtuoso violinist, and co-founder of the very first Edinburgh Music Festival in 1815. Conductor Peter Whelan and violinist Colin Scobie present his dramatic Third Violin Concerto, alongside a programme of music he performed and presented during the Scottish Enlightenment (7-9 December).

New Music

As always, the SCO celebrates and champions new voices, be they composers, musicians or young people looking to get into the classical music profession.

There are five premieres in the 2022/23 Season, including the world premiere of Sir James MacMillan's Violin Concerto No 2 and the UK premiere of *Eleven* as well as the Scottish premieres of Julian Anderson's Cello Concerto '*Litanies*', Nico Muhly's Violin Concerto '*Shrink*' and Cassandra Miller's *Viola Concerto*.

Jay Capperauld announced as new Associate Composer

The SCO is delighted to announce Jay Capperauld as the Orchestra's new **Associate Composer**, taking over from Anna Clyne. Over the next four years Jay will embed himself in all aspects of the SCO's work not only composing new works for the Orchestra but also working closely with the wider SCO team.

As part of the SCO in Craigmillar Residency Jay will create *Tapestry*, a commission celebrating the Greater Craigmillar community and developed in collaboration with local groups. He'll also lead workshops as part of **Seen and Heard**, the SCO's creative project for adults, which returns in autumn 2022.

Jay will also be part of the SCO's **New Voices** scheme, a two-year mentoring programme that will offer a platform for five emerging composers and music creators to expand their creative practice and experiment with the chamber music format. The 2022/24 cohort will work with the SCO to create new pieces of music that will be performed as part of future SCO Seasons. The programme follows on from the SCO's successful *New Stories* scheme, expanding to encompass a broader and more diverse cohort. More details about *New Voices* will be announced shortly.

Jay Capperauld, SCO Associate Composer says: *"I am incredibly honoured and humbled to be appointed as the SCO's new Associate Composer. Having recently worked with this astounding orchestra on my piece 'Death in a Nutshell', I am beyond thrilled to have this unique opportunity to become further embedded in the SCO's activities as well as form meaningful musical connections with the SCO musicians, audiences and everyone involved over the coming years. Amazingly, this is a real 360° moment for me, as the SCO performed my first ever attempts at composing music in workshops when I was in high school (and I still have that recording on CD at home); so to say that 15 years later, I will be embarking on this exciting relationship with the SCO is truly a childhood dream come to life".*

SCO in the Community

The SCO's unique community residency in **Greater Craigmillar**, Edinburgh, enters the second year of its five-year programme in August. This is the Orchestra's most substantial community project to date, as its team of professional musicians and creative learning practitioners deliver imaginative, cross-artform workshops and performances for children, young people, families and adults to explore their musical potential and help celebrate their creativity. More information on the SCO in Craigmillar can be found [here](#).

Further highlights of the SCO's creative learning programmes and community work include a *Re:Connect Tea Dance* at the Queen's Hall, the SCO's first concert specially conceived for people living with dementia, together with their friends and family. The Orchestra presents an afternoon of music, tea and cake and a chance to join the SCO's musicians as they perform much-loved, well-remembered classics and singalong, old-time favourites. The concert has been developed in close collaboration with people living with dementia and family members, in association with Alzheimer Scotland (7 February).

The Orchestra also presents a Family Festival, sponsored by Baillie Gifford, featuring arts and crafts, wandering musicians and storytelling alongside an inclusive performance of ***The Chimpanzees of Happytown*** – a 45-minute relaxed concert for four to eight year olds performed by the SCO, conductor Gregory Batsleer, children's TV presenter Chris Jarvis and the SCO's very own Aisling O'Dea (11 February).

Reaching audiences digitally

Building on the work it has done throughout the pandemic to connect with audiences digitally, for the 2022/23 Season the SCO makes four performances available exclusively online and free of charge. Filmed in Edinburgh's iconic Leith Theatre, the four specially conceived music videos are; Shostakovich's powerful String Quartet No 8 (premiered on 5 January), String Quartet No 1 by Florence Price (9 February), *Primal Message* by Los Angeles-born composer Nokuthula Ngwenyama (6 March) and Jonny Greenwood's 2014 work *Water* (6 April). The digital works are available to watch online for free for one month after the broadcast date.

Full SCO Digital Season listings are available at sco.org.uk/digital

2022/23 Subscriptions:

SCO Subscriptions booking opens on Wednesday 25 May, 10am and closes on Friday 24 June, 5pm.

Subscribe online: Customers will be able to renew Subscriptions or book a new one online at sco.org.uk/subscriptions

Subscribe by Post:

Customers can use a booking form to subscribe by post. All booking forms should be returned to SCO Subscriptions, 4 Royal Terrace, Edinburgh EH7 5AB by Friday 24 June.

Subscribe by Phone:

Our Subscription team will be able to fill out a form for customers over the phone. Call 0131 557 6800 Monday-Friday, 10am-4pm.

Tickets for individual concerts go on sale via venues on Monday 27 June at 10am.

For further information and images please contact:

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Notes to Editors

- The internationally celebrated Scottish Chamber Orchestra is one of Scotland's National Performing Companies. Formed in 1974 and core funded by the Scottish Government, the SCO aims to provide as many opportunities as possible for people to hear great music by touring the length and breadth of Scotland, appearing regularly at major national and international festivals including the Edinburgh International Festival and BBC Proms, and by touring internationally as proud ambassadors for Scottish cultural excellence.
- Making a significant contribution to Scottish life beyond the concert platform, the Orchestra works in schools, universities, colleges, hospitals, care homes, places of work and community centres through its extensive Creative Learning programme.
- An exciting new chapter for the SCO began in September 2019 with the start of dynamic young conductor Maxim Emelyanychev's tenure as the Orchestra's Principal Conductor.
- The SCO has long-standing associations with many eminent guest conductors including Conductor Emeritus Joseph Swensen, François Leleux, Pekka Kuusisto, Richard Egarr, Andrew Manze and John Storgårds.
- The Orchestra also enjoys close relationships with many leading composers and has commissioned almost 200 new works, including pieces by Associate Composer Jay Capperault, Anna Clyne, the late Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Sir James MacMillan, Sally Beamish, Martin Suckling, Einojuhani Rautavaara, Mark-Anthony Turnage and Nico Muhly.
- The SCO and Emelyanychev released their first album together (Linn Records) in November 2019. The repertoire - Schubert's Symphony No 9 in C major 'The Great' – was part of the first concert Emelyanychev performed with the Orchestra in March 2018.
- SCO in Craigmillar is kindly supported by Scops Arts Trust, The Daphne Hamilton Trust, The Plum Trust, The Stevenston Charitable Trust, Cruden Foundation, The D'Oyly Carte Charitable Trust, The Misses Barrie Charitable Trust, Mrs Jean Fraser's Charitable Trust, our Creative Learning Partner Baillie Gifford and those who wish to remain anonymous.

CONCERT LISTINGS

SEASON OPENER: BENEDETTI & EMELYANYCHEV

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor
Nicola Benedetti Violin

ADAMS The Chairman Dances
MACMILLAN Violin Concerto No 2 (World Premiere)*
TCHAIKOVSKY Symphony No 6 'Pathétique'

Join Scottish superstar violinist Nicola Benedetti and Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev to celebrate the launch of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra's 2022/23 Season – in music of joyful wit, searing power and high emotion.

Nicola Benedetti gives the world premiere of the brand-new Violin Concerto No 2 by Scotland's foremost composer, Sir James MacMillan. His long musical relationship with Benedetti forms the basis for this major new work, which showcases the violinist's renowned technical agility and exquisite poetry.

Maxim Emelyanychev brings the concert to a cathartic conclusion with the raw emotions of the 'Pathétique' Symphony by Tchaikovsky, while US composer John Adams kicks things off with his witty evocation of Chairman Mao tripping a foxtrot.

**Commissioned by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Swedish Chamber Orchestra, the Adam Mickiewicz Institute and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra.*

Wed 28 Sep, 7.30pm Perth Concert Hall
Thu 29 Sep, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 30 Sep, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

THE CREATION

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor
Sophie Bevan Soprano
Andrew Staples Tenor
Hanno Müller-Brachmann Bass Baritone
SCO Chorus
Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

HAYDN Die Schöpfung (The Creation)

From wriggling worms to mighty whales, and dazzling starlight to the inky ocean depths, Haydn's *Creation* is a jubilant celebration of the wonders of the natural world, and of humankind's place within it.

In exhilarating choruses and intimate arias, *The Creation* charts seven days of intense invention from churning chaos to blazing light, in an expression of hope, optimism and spirituality that's warm and resonant – whatever your personal beliefs.

Maxim Emelyanychev, widely respected for the rare power and energy he brings to period performances, conducts the combined forces of the SCO and the SCO Chorus in Haydn's life-affirming choral masterpiece.

Thu 6 Oct, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 7 Oct, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

FROM DARKNESS TO LIGHT WITH ANTHONY MARWOOD

Anthony Marwood Violin/Director

IVES The Unanswered Question
RASKATOV Five Minutes from the Life of W A Mozart
HAYDN Symphony No 8 in G 'Le soir'
BRUCKNER String Quintet: Adagio
ELGAR Sospiri
STRAVINSKY A Soldier's Tale: Tango, Valse, Ragtime
WEILL Violin Concerto

We welcome revered British violinist Anthony Marwood to direct the SCO in a very personal selection of pieces. This is music to bring a smile to your face – and maybe to subvert your expectations too – as it moves from shadowy mystery to blazing brightness.

Charles Ives poses profound questions of the cosmos, while Alexander Raskatov wittily interrogates Mozart, and Haydn continues the wit in his stormy 'Le soir'. The lush, romantic richness of Bruckner and Elgar provides a stark contrast with three acerbic dances from Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale*, bittersweet music from a time of pandemic.

Marwood closes his exhilarating journey through musical worlds with Kurt Weill's brilliantly entertaining Violin Concerto, full of the composer's trademark sophisticated yet acidic tunes.

Wed 2 Nov, 7.30pm Younger Hall, St Andrews
Thu 3 Nov, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 4 Nov, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

SCHULDT CONDUCTS SCHUMANN

Clemens Schuldt Conductor
Alban Gerhardt Cello

SCHUMANN Overture, Scherzo & Finale
ANDERSON Cello Concerto 'Litanies' (Scottish Premiere)
SCHUMANN Symphony No 3 'Rhenish'

Two sunny symphonic works by Schumann sit side by side with a new concerto from one of Britain's most accomplished composers, in this richly-flavoured concert under exciting young German conductor Clemens Schuldt.

Schuldt is internationally famed for his vivid, vivacious performances, and has previously collaborated with the SCO to thrilling effect. He conducts his compatriot Schumann's charming Overture, Scherzo and Finale – effectively a miniature symphony without a slow movement – alongside the boisterous energy and infectious joy of Schumann's expansive musical portrait of the Rhine.

In between, German cellist Alban Gerhardt brings his deep passions to bear on *Litanies*, the lyrical, virtuosic cello concerto by Julian Anderson, written for and dedicated to him.

Thu 10 Nov, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 11 Nov, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

MAXIM'S BAROQUE INSPIRATIONS

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor/Harpsichord

GRIEG Holberg Suite
ESCAICH Baroque Song
VIVALDI Concerto in B minor for 4 violins RV 580
GÓRECKI Harpsichord Concerto
HINDEMITH Suite française Tänze
VIVALDI Concerto con multi stromenti RV 558

Experience Baroque music at its grandest and most exuberant – as well as more recent works inspired by all its splendour and fantasy.

SCO Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev is renowned for his flamboyant performances of early music, and he's both conductor and soloist in this lavish concert.

Vivaldi pits four violins, then a whole panoply of mandolins, lutes, violins, recorders and more against his orchestra in two of his era's most extravagant concertos. Grieg brings a distinctively homespun, Nordic flavour to Baroque dances in his charming Holberg Suite, while Hindemith reimagines ancient

French dances for a modern orchestra. Polish composer Górecki, meanwhile, conjures up a tour de force of intense expression in his gripping Harpsichord Concerto.

Thu 24 Nov, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 25 Nov, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

Sat 26 Nov, 7.30pm Aberdeen Music Hall

ISRAEL IN EGYPT

Richard Egarr Conductor / Harpsichord

Rowan Pierce Soprano

Mary Bevan Soprano

Helen Charleton Alto

James Gilchrist Tenor

Ashley Riches Bass Baritone

Andrew Foster-Williams Bass Baritone

SCO Chorus

Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

HANDEL *Israel in Egypt* (Parts 2 & 3)

Conductor and harpsichordist Richard Egarr is one of the musical world's most charismatic figures, injecting his performances with infectious energy and joy, and bringing a sense of wonder and adventure to all he directs.

For many years an SCO Associate Artist, Egarr returns for the high drama and epic spectacle of one of Handel's most thrilling, theatrical oratorios.

With its plagues of flies and frogs, its impenetrable darkness and flashes of lightning, *Israel in Egypt* tells the story of Exodus, as Moses and the Children of Israel flee Egypt and make their perilous crossing of the Red Sea – in some of Handel's most colourful, intensely expressive music. Egarr is joined by six brilliant soloists and the SCO Chorus for this gripping, galvanising choral masterpiece.

Thu 1 Dec, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 2 Dec, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

FELIX YANIEWICZ AND THE SCOTTISH ENLIGHTENMENT

Peter Whelan Conductor/Harpsichord

Colin Scobie Violin

HANDEL arr MOZART Overture, Alexander's Feast

YANIEWICZ Violin Concerto No 3 in A

GOW arr MAXWELL QUARTET Coilsfield House; Drunk at Night, Dry in the Morning

ERSKINE, EARL of KELLIE Overture in C, Op 1 No 2

TRAD arr JC BACH Two Scotch Songs: Lochaber; The Broom of Cowdenknows

HAYDN Symphony No 100 in G 'Military'

Largely forgotten today, Felix Yaniewicz was a remarkable figure in Scottish music: a Polish-Lithuanian composer and virtuoso violinist, and co-founder of the very first Edinburgh Music Festival, way back in 1815.

Discover Yaniewicz's own brilliantly dramatic Third Violin Concerto, as well as the music he performed and presented during the Scottish Enlightenment, in the company of acclaimed period performance conductor Peter Whelan and Colin Scobie, first violinist in the Maxwell Quartet and a respected soloist in his own right.

Celebrate the grandeur of Scotland's own historic music – with a bracing Overture by Fife-based Thomas Erskine, Scotland's most illustrious 18th-century composer, as well as Scottish song settings

by JS Bach's most pioneering son, plus new arrangements of traditional tunes by Niel and Nathaniel Gow.

Haydn's stirring 'Military' Symphony – which Yaniewicz performed under the composer during his visits to London – brings the evening to a majestic close.

Weds 7 Dec, 7:30pm Easterbrook Hall, Dumfries

Thu 8 Dec, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 9 Dec, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

YEOL EUM SON PLAYS MOZART

Andrew Manze Conductor

Yeol Eum Son Piano

BACEWICZ Concerto for String Orchestra

MOZART Piano Concerto in B-flat, K595

DVOŘÁK Symphony No 7 in D minor

Multi-award-winning South Korean pianist Yeol Eum Son is famed for her power, her poetry and her remarkably perceptive playing. Join her as she brings gracefulness and crystalline clarity to Mozart's final piano concerto.

Dvořák intended his seventh symphony to stir the world, and it does just that. Inspirational conductor and musical scholar Andrew Manze devotes his boundless energy to Dvořák's sunniest Symphony, brimming with birdsong and wonder at nature.

The gusto and dynamism of Polish composer Grażyna Bacewicz's neo-classical Concerto for String Orchestra opens the concert in bracing style.

Thu 15 Dec, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 16 Dec, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

VIENNESE NEW YEAR

Joseph Swensen Conductor

Kolja Blacher Violin

Programme to include:

J STRAUSS II The Blue Danube

J STRAUSS I Radetzky March

CHAUSSON Poème

RAVEL Tzigane

Come and join the celebrations as the SCO marks the arrival of 2023 in style – with music to lift the spirits and seduce the senses.

Passionate, joyful and exuberant, Joseph Swensen is a former SCO Principal Conductor and a much-loved figure in concert halls around the world. He's on the podium for a flavoursome concert of exquisite musical bon-bons and lollipops from the Strauss family's Vienna and far beyond – from the graceful lapping of *The Blue Danube* to the foot-tapping cheer of the majestic *Radetzky March*.

Outstanding German violinist Kolja Blacher joins the Orchestra for two sensuous classics of French sophistication: the elegant romance of Chausson's luscious *Poème* and the fiery gypsy flavours of Ravel's sparkling *Tzigane*.

Sun 1 Jan, 3pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Tue 3 Jan, 7.30pm Younger Hall, St Andrews

Weds 4 Jan, 7pm Ayr Town Hall

MUSIQUE AMÉRIQUE

Joseph Swensen Conductor
Maximiliano Martín Clarinet

MILHAUD *La Création du monde*
COPLAND Clarinet Concerto
BERNSTEIN orch RAMIN Sonata for Clarinet and Orchestra
POULENC Sinfonietta

Put on your dancing shoes and let your hair down to join the SCO in jazzy, foot-tapping style on both sides of the Atlantic, with Conductor Emeritus Joseph Swensen as master of ceremonies.

Dixieland meets Baroque brilliance in Milhaud's bewitching ballet score *La Création du monde*, infused with the jazz he encountered on the streets of Harlem, while Poulenc freely mixes Mozart, Tchaikovsky and catchy Parisian tunes in the breathless energy of his sunny Sinfonietta.

SCO Principal Clarinet Maximiliano Martín is a remarkably expressive soloist in his own right, and he completes the programme with two larger-than-life masterpieces: the bittersweet lyricism and wild euphoria of Copland's Clarinet Concerto, written for jazz legend Benny Goodman; and Bernstein's jazzy, snazzy Sonata, recast across the vivid colours of the Orchestra.

Thu 12 Jan, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 13 Jan, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

AN EVENING WITH FRANÇOIS LELEUX

François Leleux Conductor/Oboe

FARRENC Symphony No 3 in G minor
MENDELSSOHN arr TARKMANN Lieder ohne Worte
MENDELSSOHN Overture, 'The Hebrides'
SCHUBERT Symphony No 4 in C minor 'Tragic'

Gripping drama and high emotion in deeply romantic music – in the company of inspirational French oboist and conductor François Leleux, a regular and much-loved SCO collaborator.

A visionary teacher, and a fighter for women's rights, Louise Farrenc was one of the most influential figures in 19th century French music. Her bold, energetic Third Symphony launches Leleux's concert with astonishing power and brilliance, before colourful instrumental reimaginings of Mendelssohn's delicate piano pieces *Songs without Words*, and all the adventure of his dramatic trip to the Scottish isle of Staffa in the 'Hebrides' Overture.

Leleux closes this vibrant concert with the teenage Schubert's compelling 'Tragic' Symphony, shot through with all the turbulence and exuberance of youth.

Thu 19 Jan, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 20 Jan, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow
Sat 21 Jan, 7.30pm Aberdeen Music Hall

MÖDER DY / MOTHER WAVE **Part of Celtic Connections 2023**

Catriona McKay Scottish Harp
Chris Stout Violin
James Lowe Conductor

Two of Scotland's most internationally celebrated traditional musicians join the SCO for new tunes, fresh perspectives and some much-loved music.

Long-time musical associates, Shetland-born fiddler Chris Stout and Dundee-born harpist Catriona McKay are renowned for their dynamic approach to Scottish traditional music. With the North Sea an abiding presence in their diverse and curious collective sound, the visceral emotion of their music-making is powerful in its hunger to reach the soul.

Known for their pioneering collaborations across classical, contemporary and experimental fields, the intensity of Stout & McKay's music can turn on a sixpence as they seamlessly weave and dance between their traditional roots and their shared passion for explorations in music.

Featuring special guests including critically acclaimed 'Shetlandic' poet Christie Williamson, Catriona and Chris, and their long-time friend and colleague, conductor James Lowe, join the SCO to bring this unique music to life.

Thu 26 Jan, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 27 Jan, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

celticconnections.com

MOZART'S FLUTE CONCERTO

Joana Carneiro Conductor

André Cebrián Flute

DEBUSSY *Le coin des enfants* (Children's corner)

MOZART Flute Concerto in D, K314

STRAVINSKY *Dances Concertantes*

MOZART Overture and Ballet music, Idomeneo

Dazzling virtuosity and elegant dance: dynamic Portuguese conductor Joana Carneiro brings together music to delight, entertain and amuse in this captivating concert.

The SCO's Principal Flute André Cebrián demonstrates his renowned skills as a soloist in Mozart's youthful Flute Concerto in D – music created to showcase its player's wit and panache.

Mozart and Stravinsky both bring refinement and sophistication to their dance music, created centuries apart – Mozart in the majestic spectacle of his ballet music and Stravinsky with all the glamour of Hollywood in the 1940s.

Dancing snow, jiving toys and dozing elephants are among the innocent delights in the six exquisite pieces of Debussy's *Children's Corner*.

Wed 15 Feb, 7.30pm Younger Hall, St Andrews

Thu 16 Feb, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 17 Feb, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

MAXIM CONDUCTS BRAHMS

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor

Aylen Pritchin Violin

BRAHMS Violin Concerto in D

BRAHMS Symphony No 1 in C minor

Bristling power, heartrending melodies, exquisite craftsmanship: not for nothing is Brahms commonly included alongside Bach and Beethoven in the triumvirate of German master composers. Join Maxim Emelyanychev for fresh perspectives on two of Brahms' mightiest, most stirring and deeply moving masterpieces.

Violinist Aylen Pritchin has been making huge waves in the international scene with the purity and passion of his performances. A close colleague and collaborator with Emelyanychev, he brings a

historically-informed slant to the graceful elegance and life-affirming lyricism of the Brahms Violin Concerto.

Emelyanychev closes the concert with Brahms Symphony No 1 – noble and majestic, but also mercurial and poetic. It took the composer decades to create, but it's a work to match the achievements of Beethoven in a new age.

Thu 23 Feb, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 24 Feb, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

THE DREAM

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor

Hilary Cronin Soprano

Jessica Cale Soprano

SCO Chorus (Sopranos and Altos)

Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

MENDELSSOHN Symphony No 4 'Italian'

MENDELSSOHN Incidental music from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*

Spend an evening with Mendelssohn the magician – creator of sunny, carefree worlds, and of spectacular Shakespearean evocations – in the company of Maxim Emelyanychev and the SCO.

The 'Italian' Symphony is Mendelssohn's dazzling celebration of the blue skies and radiant sunshine he encountered in Italy – captured in music explicitly designed to transport you there.

Mendelssohn loved Shakespeare from his childhood, and he ushers you into a magical world of mismatched lovers and bickering fairies in his exquisite music for *A Midsummer Night's Dream* – musical storytelling at its most vivid.

Wed 1 Mar, 7.30pm Perth Concert Hall

Thu 2 Mar, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 3 Mar, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

FOLK INSPIRATIONS WITH PEKKA

Pekka Kuusisto Violin/Director

Sam Amidon Voice/Banjo/Acoustic Guitar

ANÁČEK arr KUUSISTO Kreutzer Sonata

TRAD/AMIDON Appalachian Folk Songs

(with string arrangements by NICO MUHLY)

MAZZOLI Dissolve, O My Heart

SIBELIUS Symphony No 3

Inspirational Finnish multi-musician Pekka Kuusisto makes a spectacular return to the SCO with an exciting residency in the 2022/23 Season.

He's joined by friend and colleague Sam Amidon, US neo-folk singer/songwriter, in pitch-black murder ballads and music of obsessive love from the USA and Europe. Janáček's *Kreutzer Sonata* – arranged by Kuusisto from a string quartet to a full string orchestra – was inspired by a scandalous Tolstoy novella of desire, jealousy and murderous rage, reflecting the composer's own obsessive love for a woman 38 years his junior. Interwoven between its movements, Amidon sings folk songs from rural Appalachia of crime, redemption and transcendental vision.

Kuusisto brings the wide-ranging concert to a glowing conclusion with one of Sibelius's most buoyant, optimistic symphonies, weaving together threads of Finnish folk and classical refinement.

Thu 9 Mar, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 10 Mar, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

LES ILLUMINATIONS

Pekka Kuusisto Violin/Director

Allan Clayton Tenor

MUHLY Three Songs for tenor, violin and drone

HAYDN Symphony No 104 in D 'London'

MUHLY Violin Concerto 'Shrink' (Scottish Premiere)*

BRITTEN Les Illuminations

Hallucinations and wild imaginings: join Finnish musical pioneer Pekka Kuusisto on a journey into the strange and the wonderful in the second concert in his SCO residency.

With adulation for his *Peter Grimes* last year at London's Royal Opera House, Allan Clayton is the most exciting British tenor of the moment – and one of our most celebrated interpreters of Britten. He's the soloist amid the fanfares, parades and sensual visions of Britten's larger-than-life *Les Illuminations*, settings of phantasmagorical verse by French poet Arthur Rimbaud.

There's more Gallic surrealism in the witty *Songs for tenor, violin and drone* by New York-based Nico Muhly, and Kuusisto is the soloist in the long-awaited Scottish premiere of his friend and colleague's dashing, exuberant violin concerto *Shrink*. In between, Haydn's final, grandest and most joyful Symphony, written expressly to surprise and delight.

**Co-commissioned by Norwegian Chamber Orchestra, Australian Chamber Orchestra, Mahler Chamber Orchestra, St Paul Chamber Orchestra and Scottish Chamber Orchestra.*

Wed 15 Mar, 7.30pm Younger Hall, St Andrews

Thu 16 Mar, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 17 Mar, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

HANDEL: MUSIC FOR THE ROYALS

Bernard Labadie Conductor

Lydia Teuscher Soprano

Iestyn Davies Countertenor

Neal Davies Bass Baritone

Peter Franks Trumpet

SCO Chorus

Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

HANDEL Coronation Anthems: Zadok The Priest; The King Shall Rejoice

HANDEL Water Music Suite No 1 in F

HANDEL Music for the Royal Fireworks

HANDEL Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne

George Frideric Handel was a superstar composer in 18th-century London. But he saved his most extravagant offerings for royal occasions, creating music expressly conceived to impress and astonish.

Join distinguished Canadian conductor Bernard Labadie for some of Handel's dazzling works designed to delight kings and queens, in the company of a starry line-up of international soloists and the choral might of the SCO Chorus.

The exuberant *Water Music*, written for George I to hear on the River Thames, and the glittering *Music for the Royal Fireworks*, created for a spectacular pyrotechnic display in 1749 to mark the end of war, are rightly two of Handel's best-loved works.

The roof-raising choral glories of *Zadok the Priest* and *The King Shall Rejoice* – two of the four Coronation Anthems written for the accession of George II in 1727 – open and close the concert in lavish style, while the *Ode for the Birthday of Queen Anne* is a joyful anniversary celebration from 1713.

Thu 23 Mar, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 24 Mar, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

SCHUBERT'S UNFINISHED SYMPHONY

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor/Piano

MOZART Overture, Die Zauberflöte

SCHUBERT Symphony No 8 'Unfinished'

MACMILLAN Eleven (UK Premiere)

MOZART Piano Concerto No 22 in E-flat, K482

Franz Schubert might never have completed his Symphony No 8, but he packed all the drama and emotion of a longer work into its two compelling movements – as well as his famously unforgettable melodies, of course.

Schubert's 'Unfinished' forms the centrepiece of this wide-ranging concert, with Maxim Emelyanychev as both conductor and soloist in Mozart's spectacular, opera-inspired Piano Concerto No 22. The dashing good humour of Mozart's much-loved Overture to *The Magic Flute*, and the first UK performances of Sir James MacMillan's new, football-themed *Eleven* complete a concert of high spirits and pithy power.

Thu 30 Mar, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 31 Mar, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

Sat 1 Apr, 7.30pm Aberdeen Music Hall

SUMMER NIGHTS WITH KAREN CARGILL

Chloé van Soeterstède Conductor

Karen Cargill Mezzo Soprano

MAYER Symphony No 1 in C minor

BERLIOZ Les nuits d'été

BEETHOVEN Symphony No 8 in F

As the days grow longer and the blossoms bloom, look forward to the warmth and laughter of summer in the company of fast-rising French conductor Chloé van Soeterstède.

Internationally acclaimed Scottish mezzo soprano Karen Cargill guides you through the joys and sorrows of the luscious love songs in Berlioz's bittersweet *Les nuits d'été*. It's all about the fun, though, in Beethoven's most upbeat, exuberant symphony, full of musical jokes and sly wit.

Van Soeterstède opens the concert with a true discovery: 19th-century German composer Emilie Mayer was one of the most acclaimed musical figures of her age, famed for her passionate, rugged music full of power and invention – nowhere more so than in her dynamic First Symphony.

Wed 19 Apr, 7.30pm Younger Hall, St Andrews

Thu 20 Apr, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Fri 21 Apr, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

BEETHOVEN'S FIFTH

Mark Wigglesworth Conductor

Laura van der Heijden Cello

BRITTEN Simple Symphony
SHOSTAKOVICH Cello Concerto No 2
BEETHOVEN Symphony No 5 in C minor

The most famous symphony ever written, and justly one of the most admired, Beethoven's Fifth celebrates victory over the forces of fate in an unforgettable journey from struggle and conflict to blazing affirmation. Even if you feel you already know all there is to know about this iconic piece, inspirational conductor Mark Wigglesworth is just the person to reveal new depths and splendours that might just make you think afresh.

Now an established international soloist following her BBC Young Musician win in 2012, brilliant British cellist Laura van der Heijden is the soloist in Shostakovich's dark, dramatic and deeply cathartic Second Cello Concerto – a profoundly moving experience for all who hear it. The playful innocence of Britten's Simple Symphony – based on tunes he'd composed as a young child – complete this concert of darkness and light.

Thu 27 Apr, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 28 Apr, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow
Sat 29 Apr, 7.30pm Aberdeen Music Hall

TCHAIKOVSKY'S FIFTH

John Storgårds Conductor
Lawrence Power Viola

SIBELIUS The Tempest Suite No 2
MILLER Viola Concerto (Scottish Premiere)*
TCHAIKOVSKY arr G. MORTON Symphony No 5

Passions, hopes and desires, in a gripping journey from funereal darkness to blazing glory. Tchaikovsky poured his soul into the Fifth Symphony, and the result is Romantic music at its most heartfelt.

Powerful Finnish conductor John Storgårds brings this concert to a thrilling climax with an intimate chamber orchestra arrangement of Tchaikovsky's most emotional symphony.

Beforehand, outstanding British viola player Lawrence Power is the soloist and dedicatee of a new concerto by the remarkable Canadian composer Cassandra Miller, one of the most exciting, free-thinking figures in contemporary music.

Sibelius' rich and potent music for Shakespeare's stormy final drama makes a magical opening to the concert.

**Co-commissioned by BBC Radio 3, Brussels Philharmonic, National Arts Centre Orchestra and Scottish Chamber Orchestra, supported by The Viola Commissioning Circle.*

Thu 4 May, 7.30pm The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 5 May, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

BRAHMS REQUIEM

Maxim Emelyanychev Conductor
Sophie Bevan Soprano
Hanno Müller-Brachmann Bass Baritone
SCO Chorus
Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

BRAHMS Ein deutsches Requiem (A German Requiem)

The SCO's 2022/23 Season comes to a contemplative close with Brahms' beautiful and deeply moving German Requiem.

An agnostic himself, Brahms wrote his requiem as a humanist message of hope and comfort for those mourning lost loved ones, charting a poignant journey from trauma and anxiety to courage and acceptance. It's one of his most personal works, bringing together richly conceived choruses with achingly beautiful solo vocal writing.

Maxim Emelyanychev is joined by two exceptional soloists and the SCO Chorus for this musical monument to hope and consolation in troubled times.

Thu 11 May, 7.30pm Usher Hall, Edinburgh
Fri 12 May, 7.30pm City Halls, Glasgow

Please note there will be no interval in this concert.

SCO CHORUS CHRISTMAS CONCERT THE HEART OF NIGHT

SCO Chorus

Gregory Batsleer Chorus Director

Programme to include:

BAX *Mater ora filium*

CLYNE *The Heart of Night* (SCO Commission)

PÄRT *Da pacem Domine*

POSTON *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*

RUTTER *Hymn to the Creator of Light*

A much-loved fixture on the Scottish musical calendar, the SCO Chorus' seasonal concert ushers in Yuletide with a warming collection of music under the inspirational direction of Gregory Batsleer.

The freely flowing lyricism of Bax's rich and reverential contrasts with the deeply *Mater ora filium* spiritual purity of Pärt's serene *Da pacem Domine* and Anna Clyne's contemplative *The Heart of Night*, written specially for the SCO Chorus.

The programme also includes Poston's timeless *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree* and Rutter's dazzling choral epic *Hymn to the Creator of Light*.

Tue 20 & Wed 21 Dec, 7.30pm Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh

Please note, this concert is not part of the Subscription ticket offer, but can be added on to your booking.

Please note there will be no interval in this concert.

FAMILY FESTIVAL THE CHIMPANZEES OF HAPPYTOWN

Chris Jarvis Presenter

Gregory Batsleer Conductor

Introduced by Aisling O'Dea

Based on the book by

Giles Andreae and Guy Parker-Rees

Music by Paul Rissmann

RISSMANN *The Chimpanzees of Happytown*

Chutney the Chimpanzee is on a mission to turn dreary Drabsville USA into technicolour Happytown, but there's just one problem – a very grumpy and stubborn Mayor!

Join us for a host of fun family activities including arts and crafts, wandering musicians and storytelling. Then take your seats in the concert hall for 45 minutes of fabulous live music performed by the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, conductor Gregory Batsleer, children's TV presenter Chris Jarvis and the SCO's very own Aisling O'Dea.

This inclusive performance is designed with a relaxed and supportive approach to noise and movement within the auditorium. Ideal for four to eight year olds – and their adults!

Sat 11 Feb, 12pm & 2.30pm
Assembly Rooms, Edinburgh
Sat 12 Feb, 2pm
Aberdeen Music Hall

Please note, this concert is not part of the Subscription ticket offer, but can be added on to your booking.

Please note there will be no interval in this concert.

RE:CONNECT TEA DANCE

Created to be welcoming, entertaining and accessible, this special event has been developed in collaboration with people living with dementia and family members.

Memories and melodies mingle in the air at the SCO's very first concert specially created for people living with dementia, together with their friends and family.

Enjoy an afternoon of music, tea and cake, and join our musicians as they perform much-loved, well-remembered classics and singalong, old-time favourites.

Tue 7 Feb, 1pm
The Queen's Hall, Edinburgh

Tickets £6 and a carer comes free.
Tickets include tea and cake.

Please note, this concert is not part of the Subscription ticket offer, but can be added on to your booking.

UN:TITLED

SCO Ensemble
Gemma Cairney MC
Plus special guests

Co-curated by
Su-a Lee, Louise Goodwin
and Gemma Cairney

STEVE REICH Double Sextet
GABRIELLA SMITH Maré
GABRIELLA SMITH Tesselations
ANDY AKIHO 21

Step outside the confines of the concert hall and join us for an informal, inspiring mix of music that defies conventional boundaries.

BBC Radio 1 and Radio 6 Music presenter Gemma Cairney hosts live performances from SCO players, plus special guests at Summerhall and St Luke's.

Minimalist master Steve Reich delivers driving rhythms in his hypnotic and sonically sumptuous Double Sextet, while Californian composer and environmentalist Gabriella Smith inspires wonder for the natural world in the fresh, organic growth of her trance-like *Maré* and *Tesselations*.

US composer and steel pan virtuoso Andy Akiho is at the cutting edge of US music, but not so well known in Europe: discover the looping grooves of his *21* for cello, marimba and electronics.

Sat 29 Oct, 8pm Summerhall, Edinburgh

Sun 30 Oct, 8pm St Luke's, Glasgow

Tickets £12.50

Please note, this concert is not part of the Subscription ticket offer. Tickets will go on sale via www.sco.org.uk at 10am on Monday 27 June 2022.

DIGITAL SEASON 2022/23

FILMED AT LEITH THEATRE

Four composers; four singular visions of music; one fantastic venue.

Discover – or rediscover – fresh sounds and new musical voices across four specially-conceived music videos filmed in Edinburgh's iconic Leith Theatre. Join us across the year as each work is premiered online, showcasing the SCO's exceptional musicians in both intimate and larger scale gatherings.

SHOSTAKOVICH String Quartet No 8

In just three days of white-hot creativity in 1960, Dmitri Shostakovich composed what would become his most powerful and most widely admired chamber work. His String Quartet No 8 is one of his most personal, unflinchingly honest pieces.

In music ranging from bleak despair to savage humour to whirling energy, it's an unforgettable, profoundly cathartic experience, given a special video performance by a quartet of the SCO's outstanding string players.

Thu 5 Jan 2023, 7.30pm

Available to watch online for free for one month after broadcast date.

PRICE String Quartet No 1

Florence Price was the first African-American woman composer to have her music performed by a major US orchestra. Neglected after her death in 1953, her bold, vibrant music is undergoing a much-needed rediscovery, allowing today's listeners to enjoy again her passionate mix of Brahmsian richness, jazz and African rhythms.

A quartet of the SCO's string players explores the opulent harmonies and gentle lyricism of Price's 1929 First String Quartet, which brings Tchaikovskian tenderness to traditional spiritual melodies.

Thu 9 Feb 2023, 7.30pm

Available to watch online for free for one month after broadcast date.

NGWENYAMA Primal Message | Gordon Bragg Conductor

Nokuthula Ngwenyama is a Los Angeles-born viola player and composer of Zimbabwean/Japanese parentage, globally respected as a virtuoso champion of her instrument and a uniquely eloquent, communicative composer.

Her 2018 Primal Message imagines the first contact we detect from elsewhere in the cosmos – or, perhaps, the most fundamental communication we exchange with each other. Tender and optimistic, Ngwenyama's visionary work celebrates the joyful power of music to connect and unite.

Mon 6 Mar 2023, 7.30pm

Available to watch online for free for one month after broadcast date.

GREENWOOD Water | Gordon Bragg Conductor

Best known as one fifth of rock band Radiohead, Jonny Greenwood is now equally respected as a composer of Oscar-nominated film soundtracks and powerful works for the concert hall that straddle boundaries between classical, experimental and contemporary music.

Inspired by lines from a poem by Philip Larkin, his 2014 Waterimagines light bouncing and refracting within a glass of liquid, in a delicate, luminous soundscape of rippling musical currents and kaleidoscopic harmonies for flutes, piano, string orchestra and the gentle strumming of Indian tanpuras.

Thu 6 Apr 2023, 7.30pm

Available to watch online for free for one month after broadcast date.