



**PRESS RELEASE**  
**28 May 2020**

### **SARAH DAVIDSON TO JOIN THE BOARD OF THE SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA**

The Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO) is delighted to announce the appointment of Sarah Davidson CB to its Board of Directors.

Sarah Davidson is currently Chief Executive Officer at the Carnegie UK Trust, an organisation which seeks to improve the lives and wellbeing of people across the UK and Ireland, through influencing public policy and practice. Prior to this appointment, Davidson held the prestigious role of Director-General for Organisational Development and Operations at the Scottish Government where she led around 2,000 staff with the goal of improving the delivery of corporate functions, implementing new Social Security powers and embedding an internal change programme.

With a deep knowledge of public policy issues across the UK, Sarah Davidson also has professional interests in leadership development, organisational culture, and diversity and inclusion.

**Colin Buchan, Chair of Scottish Chamber Orchestra said** 'It is wonderful news that Sarah Davidson is joining the Board of the SCO. Sarah has a vast wealth of knowledge and experience which I know will be a tremendous asset to the company, and my colleagues and I are very much looking forward to working with her.

**Sarah Davidson CB commented** 'I am looking forward to joining the Board and working with my fellow Directors to support the continued success and reach of this excellent orchestra.

**-ENDS-**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

**For further information, review tickets and images please contact:**

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## **SCOTTISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA - BIOGRAPHY**

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, 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.

The SCO has long-standing associations with many eminent guest conductors including Conductor Emeritus Joseph Swensen, Principal Guest Conductor Emmanuel Krivine, 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 the late Sir Peter Maxwell Davies, Sir James MacMillan, Martin Suckling, Einojuhani Rautavaara, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Nico Muhly and Associate Composer Anna Clyne.

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 Scottish Chamber Orchestra receives funding from the Scottish Government.

## **SARAH DAVIDSON CB – BIOGRAPHY**

Sarah Davidson is CEO at the Carnegie UK Trust, an organisation which seeks to improve the lives and wellbeing of people across the UK and Ireland, through influencing public policy and practice.

She joined the Trust in 2019 after a 25 career in the Civil Service, latterly in Director General roles in the Scottish Government. She has particular professional interests in leadership development; organisational culture, and diversity and inclusion.

Sarah was made a CB for public service in 2019. She is a Fellow of the RSA.

She lives in Edinburgh and works across the UK and Ireland from the Carnegie Trust's base in Dunfermline.