

scottish
ensemble

2023

2024



Welcome to our 2023/24 Season



We are thrilled to introduce our 2023/24 Season. Whether performing new music in familiar contexts, or familiar music in new contexts, we will strive to make every performance visceral, beautiful, and soulful.

The season is framed by our musical markings of the winter and summer solstices, with *Concerts by Candlelight* and *Concerts for a Summer's Night* allowing us to explore a huge range of music in evocative venues, whilst being connected to the natural cycle of fading and growing light.

Around this core of atmospheric concerts, other collaborations take flight. We are looking forward to sharing the stage with composer and sitarist Jasdeep Singh Degun in Scotland, Manchester and London. Exposing young people to the joys of live music is vital, and we will take our high-energy theatrical concert *in Sync* to schools up and down the country. We're also hugely excited about creating a brand-new memorised and choreographed work with our long-time collaborator, choreographer Örjan Andersson.

I'd like to thank the entire Scottish Ensemble team for all of the thoughtful work and creative flair that has gone into preparing this series of events. We are looking forward to sharing it all with you, our audience! Thank you for your continued presence, support, and enthusiasm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Morton".

Jonathan Morton
Artistic Director



Like Jonathan, I am delighted to invite you to delve into our 2023/24 Season!

We hope that whichever events you join us for this year, you'll find music and experiences that take your breath away.

We pride ourselves on the fact there is no such thing as a 'standard' Scottish Ensemble performance – everything we create is an exhilarating one-off. Our work is visually striking, atmospheric and full of energy and discovery. It is our firm ambition that whether you are new to classical music or a lifelong fan, you'll feel welcome when you arrive at our events, and surprised and captivated by the time you leave.

The sense of connection that comes from sharing a live performance with others is a very powerful way to improve your wellbeing. Behind-the-scenes, we're also deeply committed to extending this sort of experience to those with limited access to live music – taking Music for Wellbeing events into care settings, schools, businesses and communities across Scotland year-round. See p11 for more.

Finally, I think it's worth saying that we are a friendly group of people! We love to learn from our audiences – you make our performances come alive – so at any point throughout the year, if you want to get to know us better or tell us about your experience of what we do, please do get in touch.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jenny Jamison".

Jenny Jamison
Chief Executive



9-14 September 2023

Sat 9 Sep 7.30pm
Brodick Hall
arranmusic.co.uk

Mon 11 Sep 12.45pm
Perth Concert Hall
perththeatreandconcerthall.com
01738 621 031

Tue 12 Sep 7.30pm
An Tobar and Mull Theatre,
Tobermory
antobarandmulltheatre.co.uk
01688 302211

Wed 13 Sep 7.30pm
Seil Community Hall
scottishensemble.co.uk
0141 332 4747

Thu 14 Sep 1.10pm
University of Glasgow
scottishensemble.co.uk
0141 332 4747

The String Quartet: A Blueprint

Four exceptional musicians. An intimate performance. A deep connection.

Performance includes...

Ludwig van Beethoven

String Quartet Op. 18 No. 6

Caroline Shaw *Blueprint*

Jessie Montgomery *Voodoo Dolls*

Antonín Dvořák

String Quartet No. 12 "*American*"

Performance lasts 65 minutes plus intervals of varying lengths – see websites for more information

Ticket prices vary from £13.50 to free

Caroline Shaw describes chamber music as a ‘conversation without words’.

Almost all of our concerts could be considered ‘chamber music’, but performing as a quartet allows us to fully embrace the innate intimacy that is forged between such a small group of players.

Beethoven’s sixth quartet flurries between wild, breath-taking joy and introverted, tender restraint, and lays the foundation for Shaw’s *Blueprint*. Infectious rhythms and melodies from non-classical traditions connect the other pieces performed. *Voodoo Dolls* draws on west African drumming patterns and chant motifs, while Dvořák’s “*American*” quartet channels the folk music traditions he encountered during his time across the Atlantic.

Played with stunning virtuosity, this is set to be a musical conversation full of twists and turns.



4-8 October 2023

Wed 4 Oct 8pm
Marryat Hall, Dundee
dundeebox.co.uk
01382 434 940

Thu 5 Oct 8pm
Queens Hall, Edinburgh
thequeenshall.net
0131 668 2019

Fri 6 Oct 8pm
Eden Court, Inverness
eden-court.co.uk
01463 234 234

Sat 7 Oct 8pm
Adelaide Place, Glasgow
rcs.ac.uk/box-office
0141 332 5057

Sun 8 Oct 4pm
**Royal Northern College of
Music, Manchester**
mcm.ac.uk
0300 303 4212

Jasdeep Singh Degun

**Bringing together traditions
of Indian and Western
Classical music**

Performance includes...

Jasdeep Singh Degun
Excerpts from *Anomaly* and *Arya*
Terry Riley Selected works
Hildegard von Bingen Selected works

Performance lasts 70 minutes with no interval.

Ticket prices vary from £18 to free

“Showcases the classical music of the subcontinent but also mixes, melds and modernises it.” *Financial Times*

Leeds-born sitarist, Jasdeep Singh Degun, is one of Britain's leading voices in the Indian Classical tradition. His music complements the ancient traditions of raags with contemporary compositional techniques to create sparkingly cinematic music for sitar and strings.

In this collaborative performance, our players and Jasdeep will spin a musical tale, driven by the beautiful spontaneity of the Indian Classical tradition, transporting you through layers of mesmerising melody.

A highlight of the journey will be a new work by Jasdeep for sitar and strings, which will come to life in these world premiere performances.



4-9 November 2023

Sat 4 Nov 2pm* & 7pm
Aberdeen Music Hall
aberdeenperformingarts.com
01224 641 122

Thu 9 Nov 7pm
RSNO New Auditorium,
Glasgow
rcs.ac.uk/box-office
0141 332 5057

in Sync will also be touring to schools across the country in November.

*This will be a relaxed performance

in Sync

An explosion of phenomenal live string music for everyone, from ages 11 to 99!

Performance includes...

Jonny Greenwood *Proven Lands*
Anna Meredith *Variation on Tullochgorum*
Reena Esmail *Darshan*
Claude Debussy String Quartet (extract)
Jessie Montgomery *Strum*

Recommended for ages 11+

Performance lasts 50 minutes with no interval.

Ticket prices vary from £10 to £5

Returning after its debut in 2022, *in Sync* is a theatrical concert introducing first-time classical music audiences and established fans to a tour-de-force of classical and folk music from across the world.

With music chosen for its immediacy, drama and emotional variety, *in Sync* is performed entirely from memory. Through movement and storytelling, you'll meet composers, their compositions and the ensemble's performers, bringing you closer to the humans at the heart of the music.

Created in collaboration with Nottingham-based MishMash Productions – experts in introducing young audiences to classical music in welcoming ways – this is a show to enjoy with all the family!



7-13 December 2023

Thu 7 Dec 7.30pm

St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen
aberdeenperformingarts.com
01224 641 122

Fri 8 Dec 7.30pm

Inverness Cathedral
eden-court.co.uk
01463 234 234

Sat 9 Dec 7.30pm

Dundee Parish Church (St Mary's)
dundeebox.co.uk
01382 434 940

Mon 11 Dec 7.30pm

St John's Kirk, Perth
perththeatreandconcerthall.com
01738 621 031

Tue 12 Dec 7.30pm

Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh
thequeenshall.net
0131 668 2019

Wed 13 Dec 7.30pm

Wellington Church, Glasgow
rcs.ac.uk/box-office
0141 332 5057

Concerts by Candlelight

**Music to warm your soul in the
depths of winter**

Performance includes...

Dani Howard *Heads or Tails*

Arvo Pärt *O Emmanuel*

John Tavener *The Lamb*

Joanna Marsh (arr. Azkoul) *In Winter's House*

David Fennessy *New Work* (world premiere)

Performance lasts 70 minutes with no interval.

Our new work from David Fennessy was made possible thanks to a transformative donation made in memory of our late founder John Calder. The Calder Commissioning Fund will enable us to invest in new work for years to come and we are deeply grateful to Sheila Colvin for investing in the future of our music-making.

Ticket prices vary from £20 to free

Amidst the slight chaos of the glittery festive season, our annual Concerts by Candlelight tour offers moments of stillness, contemplation, and a beautiful musical adventure.

In awe-inspiring churches and cathedrals across Scotland, the warm glow of candlelight illuminates vibrant compositions. This year we are particularly excited to present a brand-new work by Glasgow-based composer David Fennessy, the first instalment of a two-part commission featuring across our 2023-24 season. Alongside David's atmospheric offering, we will hear a huge range of atmospheric writing, including works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Philip Glass and Caroline Shaw.

When hundreds of people listen together, there is a special kind of hushed calm, so join us for an evening of music to comfort the soul and bolster the spirit.



8-13 March 2024

Fri 8 Mar 8pm
RSNO New Auditorium,
Glasgow

rsc.ac.uk/box-office
0141 332 5057

Sat 9 Mar 8pm
Caird Hall, Dundee
dundeebox.co.uk
01382 434 940

Tue 12 Mar 8pm
Eden Court, Inverness
[Eden-court.co.uk](https://eden-court.co.uk)
01462 234 234

Wed 13 Mar 8pm
Perth Concert Hall
perththeatreandconcerthall.com
01738 621 031

Impulse: Music in Motion

Anticipation. Ecstasy. Passion.
Cataclysm. The poles of
human emotion captured in
music and movement.

Performance includes...

Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky Serenade for Strings
Dmitri Shostakovich (arr. Barshai)
Chamber Symphony Op. 110a

Impulse: Music in Motion is a preview tour – catch the first outing of what is set to become a major new show.

Performance lasts 65 minutes with no interval.

Ticket prices vary from £22 to free

After many years of collaboration, including our flagship production *Goldberg Variations - ternary patterns for insomnia*, which saw its 50th performance in 2023, we are returning to stages across Scotland with choreographer Örjan Andersson. In a ground-breaking new take on the classical concert, *Impulse: Music in Motion* presents two iconic works of string repertoire in a unique, personal, and deeply human performance.

Playing from memory, our musicians are set free to move as they play. In a combination of improvised and choreographed movements, this performance will present a striking visual representation of the music's patterns, intricacies and emotion. From the wild freedom of Tchaikovsky to the mechanical drive of Shostakovich, a gripping kinetic energy will take hold.



17-21 June 2024

Mon 17 June 8pm
Rossie Byre, Perthshire
perththeatreandconcerthall.com
01738 621 031

Tue 18 June 8pm
Strathpeffer Pavilion
eden-court.co.uk
01463 234 234

Wed 19 June 8pm
Aberdeen Art Gallery and Museum
aberdeenperformingarts.com
01224 641 122

Thu 20 June 8pm
National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh
thequeenshall.net
0131 668 2019

Fri 21 June 8pm
Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow
ros.ac.uk/box-office
0141 332 5057

Concerts for a Summer's Night

An evening of bright and vivid music in sunlit halls

Performance includes...

Edward Elgar Serenade for Strings, (Movement 2)
Tunde Jegede *Dancing in the Spirit*
Pablo Casals *Song of the Birds*
Alexander Borodin
String Quartet No. 2 (Movement 3 - Nocturne)
David Fennessy New Work (world premiere)

Performance lasts 70 minutes with no interval.

Coach travel available from Perth, Dundee and Inverness city centres. Call 0141 332 4747 to book a seat.

Ticket prices vary from £22 to free

Our annual summer concerts bring vibrant string music to open, light-filled venues across Scotland.

With a programme of music ranging from classical to contemporary, including the second part of our new commission from David Fennessy, *Concerts for a Summer's Night* presents a sonic cocktail of bubbling melodies, sweet harmonies, and zesty rhythms.

Returning for its third year, this tour is quickly becoming a highlight of our performance calendar - marking that special moment in Scotland when days stretch longer than nights, and you start to remember the feeling of the sun on your skin (even if it's amidst the usual Scottish all-seasons-in-one-day!).

Scottish Ensemble

Elsewhere

Outside of our six Scottish tours, we'll be performing several one-off concerts across the UK.

Watch our website and social media for details of any additional concerts announced after this brochure is printed!

15 July 2023

Anno, Cheltenham Music Festival

We will be closing this year's Cheltenham Music Festival with a performance of *Anno* with Anna Meredith, a high-energy, bombastic recontextualising of Vivaldi's Four Seasons for string ensemble and electronics. *Anno* was released on Moshi Moshi Records in 2018 and has toured both in the UK and internationally.

Learn more at www.cheltenhamfestivals.com

14 August 2023

Verklärte Nacht, Edinburgh International Festival

We're thrilled to be returning to the Edinburgh International Festival this year, as part of their series at The Hub. We'll be joined by guest director Lawrence Power for a performance of *Verklärte Nacht* by Arnold Schoenberg, plus additional works for strings – from solo to sextet.

Lawrence will be performing on both violin and viola, making this a unique opportunity to hear the breadth of his amazing sound as he leads our musicians in this performance.

Learn more at www.eif.co.uk

8 October 2023

SE presents: Jasdeep Singh Degun, Manchester

We are finishing our tour with Jasdeep Singh Degun with a performance in Manchester at the Royal Northern College of Music, which is accompanied by a workshop with students the following day. Read more about our collaboration with Jasdeep on page 4.

13-14 January 2024

SE presents: Jasdeep Singh Degun & in Sync, Kings Place, London

We are honoured to be opening Kings Place's 2024 Unwrapped series. We are reuniting with Jasdeep Singh Degun for a performance featuring the London premiere of his new work, followed by the London debut of *in Sync*, our collaboration with MishMash Productions, an energetic and interactive performance for all the family!

19 January 2024

Side-by-Side @ RCS, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

We'll be returning to the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland in January for our annual RCS week. Our musicians work with young string players in training at the RCS for five days, in preparation for a performance as part of the RCS's Fridays at One series of concerts.

Learn more about our Young Artist programme with RCS on page 12.

Meet Scottish Ensemble

We are an innovative, collaborative and welcoming ensemble, creating exhilarating musical experiences which deepen connections between audiences and artists. You'll find us at all events, so please come and say hello, or contact us using the details found on the back cover of this brochure.

Violin



Jonathan Morton



Cheryl Crockett



Laura Ghio



Tristan Gurney



Joanne Green



Liza Johnson



Daniel Piro

Viola



Jane Atkins



Andrew Berridge



Alison Lawrance



Naomi Pavri

Double Bass



Diane Clark

Behind the Scenes

Jenny Jamison Chief Executive
Catherine Ferrell..... General Manager
Tom Lovatt..... General Manager (maternity cover)
Kimberley Godley-Hendon .. Finance Manager (maternity cover)
Stuart Burns Head of Artistic Planning
Will Coates-Gibson Digital Producer
Chris Duffy Marketing Officer
Claire Gauci Development Officer
Chris Gemmell Planning & Productions Officer
Monica Gowans Marketing Assistant





Music and

Wellbeing

Music is a powerful tool for improving wellbeing, thanks to both its ability to bring people together for shared experiences and in how it helps us process complex emotions. Over the past few years, we have been developing a **Music for Wellbeing** programme to share live music experiences with audiences who face barriers to attending public events and who face difficult circumstances due to a wide range of factors. Our workshops combine live music with mindful listening, and techniques to help people use music in their day-to-day lives to combat stress and anxiety, or to generate energy.

This year, we continue our long-running collaboration with the wonderful charity, **Maggie's Centres**, which supports people whose lives have been affected by cancer, and which was the catalyst partner for this programme. We'll also be working with **schools across Scotland** to support young people dealing with mental health challenges, as well as with other community groups facing difficult situations, including the **New Scots community** (which includes refugees and asylum seekers).

This area of our work is growing and becoming increasingly fundamental to how we think about our music making: we look forward to working with people across Scotland in these sessions.

Interested in arranging a Music for Wellbeing session for your School, Business or Community Group?

Get in touch with Claire, our Development Officer at claire.gauci@scottishensemble.co.uk, to learn more about our Music for Wellbeing sessions.

Scottish Ensemble

Young Artists

Our Young Artist Programme, in partnership with the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, supports talented young musicians and helps train the next generation of string talent. Following a week-long residency at the RCS in January 2023, where our musicians rehearsed with and performed alongside an ensemble of young musicians, four performers were selected to join our 2023-24 Young Artists Programme.

The programme consists of attending rehearsals with the full ensemble, observing and participating in our Music for Wellbeing programme, meeting with our office team to learn about what goes on behind the scenes and performing with us on one of our Scottish tours!

This year's young artists are (from left to right)

Yik Liang Soo, Violin
Helen LaGrand, Cello
Brendan Norris, Bass
Filippos Matasarou, Violin



Our Supporters

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William S Phillips Fund

Strings Attached Circle

Anonymous
Sheila Colvin
Fabienne Harrison
Andrew Pringle

Strings Attached Partners

Anonymous
Campbell Armour & Angus McLeod
Jeff & Emily Fergus
Dougald Middleton

Strings Attached Associates

Anonymous
Carola Bronte-Stewart
The Right. Hon. Lord Matthew Clarke
Neil & Alison Kelly
Alison Lawson
Janet & Murdo MacDonald
Lesley Paterson in memory of Simon James Potter
Dame Seona Reid
Malcolm & Aileen Wishart

Strings Attached Fellows

Anonymous
Gordon Adam
Fraser Anderson
Peter Armit
Dale A. Bilsland
Ian & Nuala Booth
Margaret Bremner
Roderick & Patricia Brodie
Anna & Stephen Brooke
Colin Brown
Morag Burnett
Dougal Campbell
Georgina Clark
Joe Coleiro
Lindsay & Graeme Colville
Freddie & Michael Dale
Lea & Adrian De Villiers
Thorben Dittes
Robert Fleming & Ellen Thomson
Ken Forbes & Margaret Gibson
Pete Fozard
Donald Fraser
Donald & Alison Gordon
Stuart Goudie & Caron Anderson
Jenny Jamison
Alasdair Johnston
Alison Lawrance
Cathy Lawrance
Graham & Elma Leisk
Janet MacDonald
Jo McIntosh
Neil Metcalfe & Pat Monaghan
Colin & Valerie Miller
Alan Moat
Michael & Margaret Moss
Clare Munn
William Norris
Christina Paulson-Ellis
Euan Petrie
Roy & Sue Rampling
Fred & Irene Shedden
Bill & Linda Stephens
Alastair Stewart
Magnus & Alayne Swanson
Simon Taylor

Anne Thom
Scott Turnbull
William & Carolyn Walker
Lesley Watt
Amy Woodhouse
Alison Wyllie

plus the Strings Attached Friends

Legacies

Anonymous
Joe Coleiro
Iain Currie
L. B. Currie
Alasdair Fraser
Iain McGlashan

Patrons

Marina, The Lady Marks
Lord Vallance of Tummel



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



How to Book

You can find full booking information on the page for each event.

Alternatively visit our website at scottishensemble.co.uk where you can find links to the relevant box offices for each event.

Concessions

We offer concessions at all our concerts.

The following groups are eligible for the concessionary price: Students, Under 30s, and those in receipt of disability or unemployment benefits. Free companion tickets are available with any disability discount ticket booking.

Children go free!

Children under 16 go free to any of our events (with the exception of *in Sync* where under 16s will receive £5 concession tickets). Our under 16 tickets also extend to School Groups, including tickets for teachers! Contact monica.gowans@scottishensemble.co.uk for any group bookings.

Season Discounts

Book more than one concert and save 15% on your whole order. Book two or more events in any one city and the discount will automatically be applied by our box office partner in your city.

Accessibility

We're committed to making our events as accessible as possible. Venue accessibility guides will be shared on our event pages where available and performance lengths are indicated on all event pages. If you have any questions regarding accessibility or support with attending one of our concerts, please drop us a line at office@scottishensemble.co.uk, call us on 0141 322 4747, or contact us via our social media pages.

Stay in Touch

Join our mailing list to receive all the latest news on Scottish Ensemble events and tours – including performances which may be added after this brochure goes to print. We won't send you more than 2 to 3 emails a month, and you can unsubscribe at any time. Visit our website to join.

Our Digital Season

Running alongside our live concerts, our digital season provides an array of online experiences, ranging from audio streams of concerts to music videos of some of our favourite works. Keep an eye on our website for more information.

Strings Attached

Strings Attached is our membership club, where our biggest fans come together to support our work on stage and off. At special events, members get to know our musicians and staff a little better, access behind-the-scenes news and experiences, and even invite a friend along to selected performances for free!

The generous support of individuals enables us to deliver high quality performances, unique educational opportunities and wellbeing sessions to audiences and communities across Scotland.

Join from as little as **£30 a year** and enjoy a range of exclusive benefits – find out more on our website.

Concert Diary

Scottish Ensemble in your area

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	17 Jun 2024	Concerts for a Summer's Night*	p8

* Concert takes place at Rossie Byre, Perthshire, 8 miles from Perth, 22 miles from Dundee





** Concert takes place at Strathpeffer Pavilion, 21 miles from Inverness

Coach travel is available from Perth, Dundee and Inverness for these performances, bookable with your ticket

Scottish Ensemble

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Glasgow G2 3JD

office@scottishensemble.co.uk
0141 332 4747

-  scottishensemble.co.uk
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-  [ScotEnsemble](https://twitter.com/ScotEnsemble)
-  [scottishensemblestrings](https://www.instagram.com/scottishensemblestrings)

Graphics by Jason Kerley

Design by Ian Robson

Photography by: Will Coates-Gibson, Julie Broadfoot,
Matthias Kremer & Tommy Ga-Ken Wan