

Scottish Ensemble biography

Scottish Ensemble is a pioneering string orchestra based in Glasgow and regularly performing across Scotland, the UK and the globe. A constellation of exceptional musicians led by Artistic Director Jonathan Morton, we champion music for strings, promoting the rich diversity of the string repertoire, exploring adventurous ways through which it can be presented and shared, and seeking out thoughtful ways of connecting it to contemporary life.

Scottish Ensemble is a bold advocate for progress in the classical sector, and in 2020 received the prestigious Royal Philharmonic Society’s Ensemble award in recognition of ‘sheer quality and innovation’.

Whether through imaginative concert programmes and work with soloists (including violinists Nicola Benedetti, Patricia Kopatchinskaja and Pekka Kuusisto, pianist Gabriela Montero, trumpeter Alison Balsom, percussionist Colin Currie, bassist Edgar Meyer, and many more) or cross-artform collaborations (with the likes of Swedish contemporary dance company Andersson Dance, composer/producer Anna Meredith, theatre companies Vanishing Point and Untitled Projects and visual artist Toby Paterson), we present well known pieces alongside newly commissioned or more rarely performed works with the aim of introducing audiences to inspiring music which may challenge, surprise or inspire them, focusing on compelling musical story-telling and visually-striking production.

This ethos of connecting music with contemporary life is extended through our year-round programme of creative learning and community activities, which incorporates collaborations with schools, charities and healthcare organisations to share the well-being benefits of engaging with live music amongst a diverse audience.

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