

University of Aberdeen
music prize

an international
competition
for composers

4-6 November 2011

PROGRAMME



UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

In association with the

BBC
SCOTTISH SYMPHONY
ORCHESTRA



UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

The University of Aberdeen Music Prize is funded by:



Supported by

The National Lottery®

through Creative Scotland



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL



ABERDEEN
CITY COUNCIL

UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN'S
COLLEGE OF ARTS
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

In association with:



welcome



to the fourth University of Aberdeen Music Prize

- an international celebration of musical composition. Once again the weekend offers an exciting programme of events, many of which we are pleased to present in association with **sound**.

In November 2010, the University of Aberdeen, in association with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and BBC Radio 3, launched the fourth worldwide competition for composers. The competition saw over 300 entries from as far afield as Japan, Russia, Belgium, New Zealand, Italy, France and Spain.

At the heart of the activities over the coming days is the judging of the 2011 University of Aberdeen Music Prize by distinguished international composer Julian Anderson.

After the workshop sessions and weekend performances, one competition finalist will be offered a £5,000 commission for a full orchestral piece to be performed by the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in 2012 and broadcast on BBC Radio 3.

The University of Aberdeen Music Prize is one of the most talked-about composition prizes in the world, and by joining forces with the **sound** festival of new music, Aberdeen is firmly established as a centre for creative excellence.

2009 winner, May Kay Yau, won the competition with her piece *Vernarrtheit*. May Kay Yau is now making a name for herself with major commissions and performances all over the world.

Will this year's winner go on to join the ranks of Bach, Beethoven and Mozart?

I hope you enjoy this wonderful weekend of music.

**Professor Paul Mealor FRSA
Director**

**University of Aberdeen
Music Prize**

the programme

Friday 4 November

7.30pm - 9.30pm

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Concert

Music Hall, Union Street, Aberdeen

Tickets cost £9.50 to £20, £5 for school pupils and standby tickets. Tickets available from Aberdeen Box Office. www.aberdeenboxoffice.com (01224 641122)

To celebrate international composer Julian Anderson and his participation in the 2011 Music Prize, the BBC SSO includes his piece *Eden*. The orchestra also performs Sibelius' *Symphony No.2*.

Saturday 5 November

10.30am - 4.30pm

University of Aberdeen Music Prize Composition Workshops

Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill, Aberdeen

Admission free: to book your free place, please contact University Events on 01224 273233 or email musicprize@abdn.ac.uk

Members of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra rehearse five new pieces for String Quartet and Trumpet from the University of Aberdeen Music Prize. Our distinguished judge, Julian Anderson, will lead the workshop.

10.30 - 11.20 **Marc Garcia Vitoria: Plastic Trio**
11.30 - 12.20 **Shai Cohen: Circles of Time**
12.40 - 1.30 **Christophe Looten: Quintet**
2.30 - 3.20 **Azusa Yomogida: Autana III**
3.40 - 4.30 **Zvonimir Nagy: Ayres**

1.00pm

Geoff Palmer, cello and Pete Stollery, electronics

Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill, Aberdeen

Admission free, no booking required

Pete Stollery and Geoff Palmer are based at the University of Aberdeen. Although both are composers in their own right, in this event we hear them performing the music of others - works close to their hearts for cello and electronics by Matthew Whiteside, Jonathan Harvey and the Finnish composer Kaija Saariaho. Geoff will also play Britten's profoundly beautiful *Second Suite* for unaccompanied cello.

Britten: *Second Suite for Cello, Op. 80*
Matthew Whiteside: *Dichroic Light I*
Jonathan Harvey: *Ricercare una melodia*
Kaija Saariaho: *Petals*

sound 

3.00pm

Scott Dickinson, Viola

Migvie Church, Migvie, Tarland, AB24 4XP

Tickets through Aberdeen Box Office. www.boxofficeaberdeen.com (01224 641122) £6 (£4 concession)

Scott Dickinson is Principal Viola of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. Come equipped for this concert with warm clothes - this beautiful church has limited heating.

Ligeti: *Loop*
Ligeti: *Hora Lunga*
Magnus Robb: *Skyn*
Stravinsky: *Elegy*
Jonathan Harvey: *Chant*
Britten: *Elegy*
Julian Anderson: *Prayer*

With the support of Astor of Hever Trust

sound 

the programme

Saturday 5 November

6.30pm – 7.45pm

Composer Portrait: Julian Anderson

**King's College Chapel,
University of Aberdeen**



£8 (£5 concession or £2 for students & under 18s)
Tickets through Aberdeen Box Office.
www.boxofficeaberdeens.com (01224 641122)

Julian Anderson will present a selection of his own music, interviewed by Dr Edward Campbell, lecturer in musicology at the University of Aberdeen.

With **Scott Dickinson**, viola,
Simon Smith, piano
and **Joanna Nicholson**, clarinet

Prayer for solo viola (2009)
Piano Etudes Nos. 1 - 3 for solo piano (1998)
The Bearded Lady for piano and clarinet (1994)

Sunday 6 November

11.00am – 12.15pm

Music Prize Chapel Service

King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen

Admission free, no booking required

Sermon: **Dr Paul Mealor**

The Chapel Choir of King's College, Aberdeen
(**Dr David Smith** - Director)

Music to include: **Mealor: *Ubi caritas***
Mealor: *O vos omnes*

As part of the Music Prize Weekend, Paul Mealor - Professor of Composition at the University of Aberdeen and composer of the motet, *Ubi caritas* sung at the recent Royal Wedding of Their Royal Highnesses The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge - preaches a sermon on the relationship between music and faith and offers a window into the spiritual and sacred aspects at the heart of his music. Mealor's *Ubi caritas* soared to number 1 in Classical Charts all over the world following the Royal Wedding and was described by Michael White in the *Independent* as, 'The real hit of the Wedding' and by

the *Los Angeles Times* as, 'ethereal, deeply moving and heart-felt'. The Chapel Choir will perform two of his pieces alongside the sermon.

1.00pm – 3.00pm FAMILY EVENT

What's the Score Animation Previews

**Belmont Picturehouse,
49 Belmont Street, Aberdeen**

Admission free: to book your free place, please contact University Events on 01224 273233 or email musicprize@abdn.ac.uk

Come along to this special cinema screening of the compositions for film created by local young people. In November 2010, we opened up the University of Aberdeen's Music Department over a weekend and invited young people age 12-18 to come and learn how to create music for film or TV - even if they had no musical experience and couldn't play an instrument. The response was phenomenal and the outcome of the weekend's work will be shown at this screening. Anyone wishing to sign up for next year's workshop should come along to this event to see what it's all about and reserve their place for next year. It's not one to miss for music enthusiasts.

6.00pm – 7.15pm

University of Aberdeen Music Prize Gala Concert

Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill, Aberdeen

Admission free: to book your free place, please contact University Events on 01224 273233 or email musicprize@abdn.ac.uk

Members of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra will perform the five new pieces specifically written for the Music Prize. The winner of the prize will be announced at this classical-idol festival finale by competition judge, Julian Anderson. The winner will receive a £5,000 prize in the form of a commission to write a new piece for the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

the patron



Dame Evelyn Glennie DBE

Dame Evelyn is regarded as one of the greatest percussionists and musicians of our time. Born in Aberdeen, she is the first person in musical history to establish an international career as a solo percussionist. She remains a world-class figure in music, giving more than 100 performances a year worldwide, performing with the greatest conductors, orchestras, and artists.

Dame Evelyn was awarded an honorary degree from the University of Aberdeen in 1991, and we are delighted she has agreed to be the patron for the University of Aberdeen Music Prize.

the judge



Julian Anderson

Julian Anderson has had an immensely distinguished career in composition to date - his first acknowledged work, *Diptych* (1990) for orchestra, won the 1992 Royal Philharmonic Society Prize for Young Composers and was subsequently nominated as the BBC entry in the 1996 International Rostrum of Composers in Paris. His two commissions for the London Sinfonietta, *Khorovod* (1994) and *Alhambra Fantasy* (2000), have been widely performed by leading ensembles across Europe and the USA. His other most-played works include the orchestral BBC Proms commission *The Stations of the Sun* (1998) which has been taken up by both the Boston Symphony and Cleveland Orchestras, and the chamber work *Poetry Nearing Silence* (1997) a commission from the Nash Ensemble. Julian is currently writing an opera commissioned by English National Opera for 2014, and a number of works for the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

Julian was Professor of Composition at the Royal College of Music from 1996 and was Head of Composition there from 1999 to 2004. From 2004 to 2007 he was Fanny Mason Professor of Music at Harvard University. He returned to the UK in Autumn 2007 to work as a freelance composer and take up a newly devised post at Guildhall School of Professor of Composition and Composer in Residence.

We are thrilled to have Julian join us for this wonderful weekend of music and to help judge this exciting competition for emerging talent.

the composers



Azusa Yomogida Japan **Autana III**

Azusa Yomogida began playing the piano when she was 4 years old, and began composing when she was just 14. She graduated from Shobi University in Music Media at the top of her class.

Azusa has taken part in a number of prestigious composition competitions worldwide, including Futura in Tokyo, Festival Futura in France, and the international electronic music festival Silence 2008 in Italy.

She participated in IRCAM Stage Overview Program in Paris in July this year and has also been studying Electroacoustic music with Eric Daubresse, Grégoire Lorieux, Emmanuel Jourdan, Jean Lochard, and Mikhail Malt.



Marc Garcia Vitoria Spain **Plastic Trio**

Marc Garcia Vitoria studied composition at the ESMUC in Barcelona and then went on to obtain an MA in Music Composition and Theory at the Haute École de Musique de Geneva, specialising in Electroacoustic and Instrumental Composition.

His pieces have been played by ensembles such as Ensemble Contrechamps, Ensemble Linea, Ensemble Intercontemporain and Trio de Magia.

In 2007 he represented the ESMUC at the 6èmes rencontres internationales de composition musicale de Cergy-Pontoise, where he obtained the jury prize for his piece *L'union libre*. He recently received a commission for a piece by the Insititut Valencià de la Música, and is now working on a new piece for Ensemble Intercontemporain to be premiered in October 2011.



Dr. Shai Cohen Israel Circles of Time

Shai Cohen works as a teacher, composer and jazz performer. He studied composition with Professor Lewensohn Gideon and Professor Olivero Betty and composes symphonic music, chamber music, electronic music, and music for solo instruments.

In 2003 Shai became a lecturer at the Department of Music in Bar-Ilan University. He is also a lecturer at Levinsky College of Education and Open University, Music Department.

Among the performers of his music are distinguished musicians and ensembles such as SNU Symphony Orchestra (Korea), the Moscow Contemporary Music Ensemble (Russia), Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music (Japan), ensemble Kaprizma (Israel), The Israel Contemporary Players and many others.



Christophe Looten France Quintet

Christophe Looten was a student of the École du Louvre and graduated from the Conservatoire de Paris. Having won numerous prizes, he began a career as a teacher, and was appointed Professor of Musical Analysis and History at the Regional Conservatoire of Limoges.

After two years in residence at the Casa de Velázquez in Madrid, Christophe was awarded the Lavoisier Grant which enabled him to go to the United States, where he obtained several fellowships. Christophe has been Composer in Residence at many institutions including Wellesley University, Round Top Festival Institute and region Nord-Pas-de-Calais. He won many prizes throughout his career and his *First Symphony* was presented by Radio France in 2000.



Zvonimir Nagy USA Ayres

Zvonimir Nagy was educated at the Academy of Music of the University of Zagreb, Conservatoire Jacques Ibert, École Normale de Musique de Paris and Texas Christian University, completing his doctoral studies in music composition at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois.

Zvonimir is Assistant Professor of Musicianship Studies at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he teaches a forward-looking music theory curriculum.

A recipient of many music awards, fellowships and scholarships, both as a composer and performer, Zvonimir has received the distinguished Croatian Music Institute Award; Concours National de Piano de Paris, 1st prize; The Durlington Composition Award; and Chopin International Piano Competition Texas, 1st prize - amongst many others.

the musicians

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra is recognised as one of the UK's finest orchestras, with an international reputation for bringing both contemporary music and the established repertoire vividly to life. As a BBC orchestra, its performances can be enjoyed across the BBC networks, including Radio 3 and Radio Scotland. As well as appearing across the UK to enthusiastic audiences and earning great critical acclaim, the BBC SSO runs many educational and community projects. Its commitment to new music complements the University of Aberdeen Music Prize's aim to encourage excellence in contemporary composition.

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Quintet

Alastair Savage Violin



Alastair is originally from Ayrshire and learned violin and guitar as a child playing both classical and traditional music. A prize winning Scottish fiddle player in his youth, he studied classical playing at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland where he graduated with honours and followed this with postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy in London. On beginning professional life he worked with many of Britain's leading groups including the BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales as well as touring extensively with the Scottish Ensemble. He joined the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in 1997 with whom he has toured China, USA, South America and throughout Europe. As a traditional performer he has recorded two albums of predominantly his own music and has broadcast as a soloist on both BBC Radio 3 and Radio Scotland. As a composer his music has been used by BBC television and radio and he continues to work as a session player with many of the leading musicians in the world of folk and rock music.

Andrew Berridge Viola



Andrew Berridge was born on the Wirral and grew up in Leeds where he studied violin from the age of 5. After further studies with Peter Mountain and Eta Cohen he read Law for a year at the University of Liverpool before transferring to Music. He won an Arts' Scholarship that enabled him to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, first on violin with Ben Holland, and then viola with Roger Bigley and Scott Dickinson. Here he won prizes for viola and chamber music before embarking on a freelance career in the North of England playing with all the major orchestras. He joined the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in 2003 - its youngest member at the time - as co-principal viola. He is also a tutor at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and has appeared regularly with the Scottish Ensemble.



Alison Lawrance Cello

Alison was born in Leicestershire and went to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama to study with Stefan Popov. During her five years there she won various prizes and awards and was Principal Cellist of the London Soloists Chamber Orchestra. On leaving college she moved to Scotland to join the Scottish Opera Orchestra. In 1993 Alison joined the Scottish Ensemble and is still its principal cellist. Alison was a member of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra for 10 years and is now sub principal cellist in a job share with the BBC SSO. She has been guest lead cellist of the English National Opera, Scottish Opera, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, and Northern Sinfonia. She is a founder member of the Saltire Quartet, which specialises in promoting contemporary Scottish music. Alison can be heard on many Craig Armstrong film soundtracks.



Amy Cardigan Violin

Amy Cardigan studied at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and the Royal Academy of Music. During her time at the RCS, Amy was the recipient of the Robert Highgate Scholarship, the Eric Dodds Memorial Scholarship and was a winner of the Keldwyth Award for Cumbrian musicians. She was a regular participant of the Mendelssohn on Mull chamber music festival and also participated in the Zermatt Chamber Music Festival for three years, playing alongside members of the Scharoun Ensemble of the Berlin Philharmonic. Amy was a member of the European Union Youth Orchestra for four years, with whom she toured extensively throughout Europe, as well as Russia and Brazil. After completing her studies, Amy freelanced for four years, playing with many of the orchestras in the UK, before becoming a member of the first violin section of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. She is also a founding member of the Broderick Horn Trio and the European Chamber Players, with whom she has toured Austria, Liechtenstein and the UK.



Mark O'Keeffe Trumpet

Creative Scotland winner 2003, Mark O'Keeffe has held the post of principal trumpet with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra since December 1996. He is a native of County Cork, Ireland, where he began his musical studies at the age of seven. After playing in the local brass band and receiving trumpet lessons from his father, his love of the trumpet developed. Over the past fifteen years he has appeared as soloist with the BBC SSO performing new works by Judith Bingham, Mark-Anthony Turnage, Thea Musgrave and Tansy Davies, as well as concertos by Telemann, Hummel and Shostakovich. In addition to his career with the BBC SSO, he has recorded solo repertoire on the Delphian label and is a committed chamber musician playing with ensembles which share his passion for new music. These include guest Principal Trumpet with the London Sinfonietta, London Symphony, Royal Liverpool Philharmonic, City of Birmingham Symphony, BBC Symphony, Halle and Mahler Chamber Orchestras.


To book tickets

Admission to Music Prize events are free unless otherwise stated.
To avoid disappointment we strongly recommend you book in advance:

Telephone: **01224 273233**
Email: **musicprize@abdn.ac.uk**

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Concert

Aberdeen Box Office
Telephone: **01224 641122**
www.boxofficeaberdeen.com

For more information about the **sound** festival: **sound** 
Telephone: **01330 825431**
www.sound-scotland.co.uk

Join our mailing list

To keep up to date with University events, please join our mailing list by visiting **www.abdn.ac.uk/events** or write to **Events, Office of External Affairs, University of Aberdeen, King's College, Aberdeen, AB24 3FX** or email **events@abdn.ac.uk**

