



UNI —  
VERSAL

# **MUSIC FESTIVAL**

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**25 - 26 NOVEMBER 2022**

## **PROGRAMME**

**[www.abdn.ac.uk/uni-versal](http://www.abdn.ac.uk/uni-versal)**

*Brought to you by the University of Aberdeen*



The UNI-Versal **MUSIC FESTIVAL** will be a mini festival of musical performances and workshops inspired by local people and places. Drawing on existing music and voices from the region, past and present we have worked with the University's music department as well as partner organisations to produce a rich and exciting programme for you to enjoy.



## FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER

All Things Vile and Terrible	11:30 - 13:00
Pop-up Café Sessions	12:00 - 14:00
Music & Gender Roundtable	
Talk by Popgirlz Scotland	13:30 - 15:00
Compline by Candlelight	17:00 - 17:45
Helena Kay & Peter Johnstone	19:30 - 21:30

## SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Introducing Gamelan Talk	10:00 - 10:30
Gamelan Workshop	10:45 - 12:15
Bellringing Sessions	12:00, 12:45, 13:30 & 14:15
Steel Pans Workshops	13:00 - 14:00 & 14:30 - 15:30
Doric Dwams Dance	14:00 - 14:30
The Outwith Ensemble: Playlist	16:30 - 18:00
18th-Century Ceilidh	20:00 - 23:30



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**‘22**

**CULTURE FEST**

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FILM

NEW IDEAS

SCOTS CULTURE

HERITAGE

MUSIC

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**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER 2022**

**Children's Hymns.**

**609** 7.6.7.6., with Refrain.

ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL. W. H. MONK, 1823-1889.

*Verse 1, and the Refrain after Verses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.*

( 932 )

**ALL THINGS VILE & TERRIBLE****FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 11:30 – 13:00**

King's College Chapel,

University of Aberdeen

**FREE / Booking Required**

Many of the best-known Christian hymns celebrate the wonders of creation – just think of 'All Things Bright and Beautiful'. But the repertory of hymn texts and tunes is not all sweetness and light, as well as weighty biblical topics such as sin, mortality, and sacrifice, hymns also incorporate the ideas and assumptions of their authors, some of which, unsurprisingly, have come to seem outdated and offensive.

Join us for this fascinating event as we explore a handful of well-loved hymns with problematic themes and consider what to do about this congregational inheritance. There will be scholarly perspectives from musicology and divinity alongside creative contributions from student musicians.

**Everyone is welcome and you don't have to sing if you don't want to!**

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## POP-UP CAFÉ SESSIONS

**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 12:00 – 14:00**

Venue 1: MacRobert Cafe, MacRobert Building, University of Aberdeen

Venue 2: Atrium - Institute of Medical Sciences Building (IMS), Foresterhill Campus

**FREE / Drop-In / No Booking Required**

Enjoy a selection of music from all genres and styles while you have a coffee in either the MacRobert café at the Old Aberdeen campus, or in the IMS Atrium café at the Foresterhill campus. Students from the music department will play and sing for you while you relax and enjoy their diverse performances.

**“WHERE WORDS FAIL,  
MUSIC SPEAKS”**

HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN

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## MUSIC & GENDER ROUNDTABLE TALK BY POPGIRLZ SCOTLAND

**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 13:30 – 15:00**

James Scotland Suite (MR028), MacRobert Building, University of Aberdeen

**FREE / Booking Required**

Join **Rachel Alice Johnson** ('Kohla') and **Josephine Sillars** for this insightful roundtable discussion where they will break down Vick Bain's 'Counting the Music Industry' research, discussing inequalities within playlisting and spotlight articles published in The Times, The Glasgow Guardian, and The Scotsman.

**Popgirlz Scotland** is a support group for female/female-identifying/trans artists in the Scottish music scene, which now has over 160 members, its main objective is friendship-building between members to tackle sexism within the music industry. Rachel created the group in late 2019 with the idea of making a safe, motivating space for women artists. It includes collaborative **Twitter** and **Instagram** pages where members can help and support one another, and Rachel organizes social events where members can meet, collaborate, and become friends.

**All are welcome to this inclusive event.**

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## COMPLINE BY CANDLELIGHT

**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 17:00 – 17:45**

King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen, **FREE** / Booking Required

Come and unwind after a busy day as the **University of Aberdeen Chapel Choir** sings the beautifully reflective service of Compline. The melodies of the ancient chants of this service are timeless, and give you space to reflect and relax as they ring around our beautiful candlelit chapel.

**All are most welcome – and for some extra sustenance, hot chocolate will be served after the service.**

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**HELENA KAY &  
PETER JOHNSTONE  
JAZZ DUO**

**FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER,  
19:30 – 21:30**

Main Hall, King's Pavilion,  
University of Aberdeen.

**FREE / Booking Required**

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Helena Kay (tenor saxophone) and Peter Johnstone (piano) have been playing together since they met in the National Youth Jazz Orchestra of Scotland and the Tommy Smith Youth Jazz Orchestra.

Their duo project, formed in 2017, will feature some original music, as well as some of their favourites from the Great American Songbook and the jazz canon.

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**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER 2022**



## INTRODUCING GAMELAN TALK

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 10:00 – 10:30**

Multimedia Room, King's College Conference Centre,  
University of Aberdeen. **FREE / Booking Required**

This short talk by **Dr Stina Homer** will introduce the key concepts of Balinese music, focussing on the type of gamelan that we have at Aberdeen: gamelan gong kebyar. Open to non-musicians and musicians alike, the talk will explain the foundations of this captivating music as well as its place in the culture and history of Bali.



## COME & PLAY: GAMELAN WORKSHOP

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 10:45 – 12:15**

First Floor Studio, King's Pavilion, University of Aberdeen  
**FREE / Booking Required**

Discover Balinese gamelan gong kebyar music in a relaxed and inclusive workshop.

**No experience is necessary:** complete beginners, experienced musicians, and everyone in between are welcome.

Come along to play beautiful, tuned percussion and gongs and explore the music's cultural context. The gamelan set at the University of Aberdeen is the only one of its kind in Scotland (out of only half-a-dozen in the UK) so don't miss out on the opportunity to play these fascinating instruments.

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## BELLRINGING SESSIONS

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 12:00, 12:45, 13:30 & 14:15**

St Machar's Cathedral, The Chanonry, Old Aberdeen

**FREE / Booking Required**

The **Cathedral Church of St Machar's** is one of only around 20 churches in Scotland that has bells that can be rung 'full circle'. You may remember the 'flying bell-ringing monks' on the old Mars Bar adverts but if you come along to this interesting workshop, you will find out how church bell ringing really works. Join us to find out about the history of the bells, why we ring bells and how the bells work. You will even get the chance to have a go yourself, and don't worry your feet will be firmly on the floor! Each session will be 30 minutes long.



## COME & PLAY: STEEL PANS WORKSHOPS

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 13:00 – 14:00 & 14:30 – 15:30**

MacRobert Building Annex, University of Aberdeen

Meeting Point: MacRobert Foyer. **FREE / Booking Required**

Come along and try out some Caribbean Steel Pans in a fun, relaxed event open to everyone no matter what your experience. During the workshop, which will be led by **Brodie McCash**, you'll get the chance to learn **Hot, Hot, Hot** - a staple piece played by **Pandemonium**, the University of Aberdeen's own steel pan ensemble. From complete beginner to experienced player everyone is welcome.

**Please meet in the MacRobert Foyer area 5 minutes before the start time of the event and a staff member will escort you to the venue.**

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## DORIC DWAMS DANCE

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 14:00 – 14:30**

Main Hall, King's Pavilion,  
University of Aberdeen  
**FREE / Booking Required**

Join Cellist **Emily De Simone** and North-East poet **Shane Strachan**, with music written by **Aileen Sweeney** and choreography by **Rosie Mackley**, featuring live dance by young contemporary dancers from **Citymoves'** Fusion dance troupe. '**Doric Dwams**' was first commissioned as a piece for cello and spoken word by the 'Wirds an Soonds Project' for NE Scots and music in city and shire schools.

Strachan's haiku savours the distinctive sound and quality of North-East place and dialect, combined with Sweeney's evocative and atmospheric music for cello. This premiere version with dancers echoes the spoken word, exploring dynamics between architecture and nature through the body.

The performance will be followed by a short Q&A with the creative team.

This performance is sponsored by Sound Festival and UoA WORD Centre for Creative Writing.

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## THE OUTWITH ENSEMBLE: PLAYLIST

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 16:30 – 18:00**

Main Hall, King's Pavilion, University of Aberdeen. **FREE** / Booking Required

We are pleased to be launching this exciting new venture, led by **Dr John De Simone** and **Dr Aaron McGregor**. **The Outwith Ensemble** brings together some of the finest professional performers in the North East together with a selection of our talented performance students. This premiere project takes inspiration from the private listening experiences of today, where playlists connect music through both personal curation and manipulation by algorithms on streaming platforms. This exciting performance will present a diverse (and sometimes surprising) selection of music as a stream of consciousness, drawn together by a series of newly written vignettes by **John De Simone**.



## 18TH-CENTURY CEILIDH

**SATURDAY 26 NOVEMBER, 20:00 – 23:30**

Main Hall, King's Pavilion, University of Aberdeen. **FREE** / Booking Required

**Bring your dancing shoes and party like it's 1799!**

Expect lots of lively ceilidh dances with a caller to keep you right and live music from 18th-century Scotland performed on period instruments. Together with more modern ceilidh dances, you'll get to try out some historic Scottish country dances led by **Dr Aaron McGregor** and the University's own **Early Music Ensemble**.

**There will be a bar provision during the event, accepting cards only.**

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