

# St Magnus Festival

1 of 8

Orkney Islands 18-23 June 2010

## welcome

I'm delighted to introduce our 2010 brochure. Read on and you'll find an exhilarating mix of events in which national and international artists rub shoulders with local performers in the near-endless light of Orkney at midsummer.

A number of our performances boast the Polska! Year logo. Polska! Year is an exciting series of events presenting the best of Polish arts and culture. Under the patronage of HM The Queen and HE the President of the Republic of Poland, the series has been running since Spring 2009, introducing some major talents to UK audiences. It will conclude in June at the St Magnus Festival.

We are proud to have been invited to programme and present the final events of this prestigious project and look forward to the culmination of what has been an inspiring creative collaboration. We welcome, as special guests, an array of world-class Polish musicians and, in his bicentennial year, we celebrate the genius of Poland's greatest composer, Fryderyk Chopin.

Our MagFest strand sets out to delight and surprise, inspiring new audiences as well as enhancing the Festival experience for regular Festival-goers. Each year MagFest reinvents itself, and this year we transform a disused building in the centre of Kirkwall into a sophisticated venue which plays host to an eclectic programme of music, circus skills and cabaret.

We look forward to welcoming you this summer. Please book early to ensure you are part of it all.

**Glenys Hughes** Festival Director



Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

## friday 18 june

1

**Orkney Arts Theatre, Kirkwall, 7pm**

### **The Doctor and the Devils** by Dylan Thomas

adapted and directed by **Vivia Leslie**  
music by **Alasdair Nicolson**

#### **1a preview**

**Thursday 17 June, Orkney Arts Theatre, 7.30pm**

A special adaptation of Dylan Thomas's powerful screenplay set in Edinburgh in the 1820s, based on the infamous, real-life story of Burke and Hare and Scottish surgeon Dr Knox. The gripping tale, the wonderfully Dickensian characters, Dylan Thomas's lyrical language and Alasdair Nicolson's atmospheric music all combine to make a compelling piece of community theatre.

*approximately 2 hours*

2 & 3

**St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 7pm & 9.30pm**

### **Le Jongleur de Notre Dame**

**Hebrides Ensemble**  
**Chris Patfield** *mime-juggler*  
**Håkan Vramsmo** *baritone*  
**Joshua Armstrong** *director*

*Le Jongleur* is a charming music-theatre piece by **Peter Maxwell Davies**, based on the French mediæval tale of a juggler who joins a monastery. Lacking the talents of the other monks, he has no gift to offer a statue of the Virgin except his ability to juggle. A carnival band of young people introduces this heartwarming musical extravaganza.

*Le Jongleur* will be performed in the centre of the Cathedral Nave, with all seats offering a good view of the performance area.

*approximately 1 hour*

The Hebrides Ensemble's Festival residency is sponsored by **Loganair**

MAGFEST

4

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 7.30pm

MagFest **UP CLOSE****Andy Cant!**

Andy has been the creator and guiding spirit behind some of Orkney's – and the Festival's – most memorable tunes and performances. Here at last Andy is given *carte blanche* with his own show. His multiplicity of styles, the thickness of his contacts book and the breadth of his imagination suggest that audiences should expect the unexpected!

approximately 1 hour 45 minutes

5

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 10.30pm

MagFest **UP CLOSE****Bester Quartet**

Bester Quartet is a reincarnation of the legendary Krakow Klezmer Band. One of Poland's most passionate and creative bands, the Quartet blends the traditional Jewish music of Eastern Europe with Balkan music and elements of contemporary jazz. Bester Quartet has become a phenomenon on the world music scene and performs to sell-out audiences at prestigious venues worldwide.

*'The sheen of their ensemble sound, the virtuosity of their solos and the intelligence and drama of their performances easily persuade listeners to hang on to every note. When Bester and Dyyak played two-accordion passages, with Tyralski's violin singing imploringly in its high register, the effect was haunting.'* Chicago Tribune

approximately 1 hour 15 minutes

Ticket includes admission to the Festival Club

Part of **POLSKA! YEAR** MagFest sponsored by Highland Park

Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

**Festival Club  
The Chair**

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

**saturday 19 june**

6

King Street Halls, Kirkwall, 10.30am

**Coffee Concert****Orkney Traditional Music Project**

The talented young musicians of Orkney Traditional Music Project make a welcome return to the Festival programme for an hour of informal music-making.

approximately 1 hour

Ticket includes light refreshments after the concert.



Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

7

Pier Arts Centre, Stromness, 11am

**Simon Armitage**  
poetry reading

Simon Armitage is one of Britain's most widely known and popular poets. He has received numerous awards for his work, which includes nine poetry collections, several novels and an acclaimed translation of the medieval poem *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*. He has also written extensively for stage, radio and television.

*'Armitage creates a muscular but elegant language of his own out of slangy, youthful, up-to-the-minute jargon and the vernacular of his native northern England. He combines this with an easily worn erudition, plenty of nous and the benefit of unblinkered experience...'* Sunday Times

approximately 1 hour

Sponsored by **Stromness Hotel**

Ticket includes a light buffet lunch at 12.15pm in the Stromness Hotel.

8

Phoenix Cinema, Pickaquooy Centre, 11.30am

**Chopin as Symbol****Adrian Thomas**

Professor of Music, Cardiff University

The Polish poet Leopold Staff once wrote a short poem called 'Townie', which ended with the line, 'I am afraid of becoming Chopin'. In Chopin's bicentennial year, this talk looks at the legacy of his music for both writers and composers. Adrian Thomas is a specialist on Polish music and a member of the Honorary Committee of the 'Fryderyk Chopin 2010' celebrations in the UK.

approximately 1 hour



**There is a regular public bus service between Kirkwall and Stromness. For details, contact the Tourist Information Centre, tel: 01856 872856. (Journey time 30 minutes)**

9

Stromness Town Hall, 2.30pm

**Royal String Quartet**  
**Ewa Kupiec** piano

**Beethoven** String Quartet in Eb, op.74, 'Harp'  
**Szymanowski** String Quartet no.1  
**Chopin** Piano Concerto no.2 in F minor  
(piano & string quartet version)

The award-winning Royal Quartet play one of Beethoven's most beautiful string quartets plus two works from their native Poland - Szymanowski's exotic, impressionistic quartet and Chopin's romantic concerto, a work very dear to the composer's heart. The distinguished Polish pianist, Ewa Kupiec, joins the Royals for a rare performance of the chamber version of this lovely piece.

approximately 2 hours

Part of **POLSKA! YEAR**

recorded for future broadcast on **BBC Radio 3**

WORLD'S BEST FESTIVAL

10

Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall, 6.30pm

## Side by Side BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Orkney Schools Orchestra

Stephen Bell *conductor/presenter*  
David Flack *horn*

Music by Copland, Arnold, Maxwell Davies, Elgar,  
Mozart, Grieg, Chopin, Lutoslawski and J Strauss

This very special event is the culmination of a 6-month project for young musicians. Orkney Schools Orchestra joins the BBC SSO to form a combined orchestra of 130 players for this family-friendly concert presented by Stephen Bell, a conductor renowned for his ability to communicate with audiences of all ages.

approximately 1 hour sponsored by Talisman Energy UK

11

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 7.30pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE

### Bester Quartet

see event 5

12

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 8.30pm

## Hebrides Ensemble Håkan Vramsmo baritone

**J Strauss II** Emperor Waltz arr. Schoenberg  
**Krasa** Passacaglia and Fugue  
**Mahler** Songs of a Wayfarer arr. Schoenberg  
**Prokofiev** Overture on Hebrew Themes  
**Schubert** songs  
**J Strauss II** Roses from the South arr. Schoenberg

Mahler's bittersweet songs of love and loss are framed by Prokofiev's irresistible, klezmer-inspired overture and the string trio by the brilliant Czech Jewish composer Hans Krasa. Schoenberg's arrangements of Strauss's dazzling waltz melodies evoke the musical splendour of 1880s Vienna.

*'The Hebrides Ensemble confirmed its reputation as Scotland's finest contemporary music group... Fluency, technical brilliance and a sense of the personal and the epic characterised the performance.'* The Daily Telegraph

approximately 1 hour 40 minutes

13

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 10pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE

### Andy Cant!

see event 4

Ticket includes admission to the Festival Club

Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

## Festival Club Alastair Savage Trio

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

# sunday 20 June

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 11.15am

## Festival Service

conducted by Rev Fraser Macnaughton  
with St Magnus Cathedral Choir



**Buses for Stromness** will leave Palace Road at 12.30pm and return from Stromness Pierhead, calling at Stromness Academy, at 6pm.  
**A seat on the bus should be booked in advance.**

14

Stromness Parish Church, 1.15pm

## Simon Armitage

poetry reading see event 7

approximately 1 hour

15

Stromness Town Hall, 2.30pm

## Ewa Kupiec piano

**Chopin** Scherzo in C# minor, op. 39  
Four Mazurkas, op. 41  
Waltz in Ab major, op. 42  
Tarantella in Ab major, op. 43  
Polonaise in F# minor, op. 44

**Bacewicz** Sonata no. 2

**Chopin** Two Nocturnes, op. 48  
Fantasie in F minor, op. 49

Ewa Kupiec's performances of Chopin have been lauded for their originality and insight. This programme features some of Chopin's most inspired piano works plus the second sonata by Grazyna Bacewicz, Poland's most prominent female composer. The sonata was first performed by its dedicatee, Wladyslaw Szpilman, whose extraordinary story is told in the film *The Pianist* (see Monday programme).

*'Kupiec plays with a rare mixture of spirit, a faultless technique, a complete understanding of musical texture and an ability to shape music with transparency and an impressive richness of colours.'*

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung

approximately 2 hours

Part of

**POLSKA! YEAR**

16

Stromness Academy Theatre, 5pm

## A Johnsmas Foy Home and Migration: Stories, Dance, Music, Song

This year's Foy explores love, home, migration and belonging. Narratives weave together through music, dance, writing and song. The performance features dance by the Orkney Traditional Dance Association, and writing by George Mackay Brown, local writers and Nalini Paul, GMB Writing Fellow.  
Conceived by Nalini Paul; directed by Aimée Leonard.

approximately  
1 hour

sponsored by

The George Mackay Brown Fellowship

Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**



17

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 6pm

**MagFest** UP CLOSE**The Table****Karbido present an extraordinary music-theatre piece for four men and a table**

Four poker players emerge from the darkness and sit around a table. It's not a game of poker, though, but a fantastic quartet performed on the table, which is transformed into a musical instrument capable of detecting and amplifying the most delicate vibrations. A mesmerising performance which takes the audience on an acoustic journey round the globe.

*'Awesome, manic or witty. If it's difficult to imagine, that's because you'll never have seen or heard anything quite like it'* The Scotsman (5 stars)

*'An extraordinary musical spectacle'* The Times

approximately 1 hour

Part of

**POLSKA! YEAR**

20

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 10.15pm

**MagFest** UP CLOSE**The Table**

see event 17

Ticket includes admission to the Festival Club

Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

**Festival Club**  
**Three Peace Sweet**

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

**monday 21 June**

18

Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall, 7.30pm

**BBC Scottish**  
**Symphony Orchestra****Martyn Brabbins** conductor  
**Olga Pasichnyk** soprano  
**St Magnus Festival Chorus**

<b>Britten</b>	Four Sea Interludes
<b>Poulenc</b>	Gloria
<b>Maxwell Davies</b>	new work for choir and orchestra
<b>Elgar</b>	Enigma Variations



Martyn Brabbins conducts a magnificent programme featuring two great British orchestral works - Britten's dramatic depiction of the sea and Elgar's inspired portraits of his 'friends pictured within'. The distinguished Ukrainian-Polish soprano, Olga Pasichnyk, joins the Festival Chorus for Poulenc's joyous Gloria, and choir and orchestra perform a new work, composed specially for the occasion, by Sir Peter Maxwell Davies.

approximately 2 hours

sponsored by  
**Talisman Energy UK**

19

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 10.15pm

**Royal String Quartet****Górecki** Quartet no. 3 *'...songs are sung'*

Polish composer Henryk Górecki achieved huge world-wide popularity in the 1990s with his elegiac third symphony, the *'Symphony of Sorrowful Songs'*. His third quartet, *'...songs are sung'*, is a similarly intense and meditative work, perfectly suited to the late-night ambience of St Magnus Cathedral and to the expressive playing of the Royal Quartet.

approximately 1 hour

Ticket includes admission to the Festival Club

Part of

**POLSKA! YEAR**

21

King Street Halls, Kirkwall, 11am

**Simon Armitage**

poetry reading see event 7

22

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 1pm

**Hebrides Ensemble****Members of the BBC SSO\*****William Conway** conductor\*

**Bach** Prelude and Fugue in C# minor  
arr. Maxwell Davies

**Aleksander Kosciwo** Ore Osse Oculo**Maxwell Davies** Scottish Renaissance Dances**Lewis Forbes** Play Piece

commissioned by Robert Clark and Susan Costello

**Lutoslawski** Dance Preludes**Pawel Mykietyń** Three for Thirteen\*

Hebrides Ensemble's typically adventurous programme draws together the Scottish and Polish strands in our programme. A new work by a talented composer from the 2009 Composers' Course is presented alongside music by our two Polish guest composers. Maxwell Davies's Scottish Dances find echoes in Lutoslawski's witty Dance Preludes, and the two works which frame the programme find inspiration in the music of the 18th century.

approximately 1 hour

sponsored by  
**RE:NEW MUSIC**Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

WORLD PREMIERE

23

depart Palace Road, Kirkwall, 2.30pm  
St Ninian's Church, Deerness, 3.15pm

## Festival Excursion Royal String Quartet with Andrzej Bauer cello

**Schubert** String Quintet in C

Almost an island, Orkney's most easterly parish of Deerness is connected to the mainland by a narrow sandy isthmus. The lovely little St Ninian's Church, situated on the shore, is the venue for this concert. The eminent cellist, Andrzej Bauer, joins the Royal Quartet to perform one of the most sublime pieces of chamber music.

approximately 1 hour

recorded for future broadcast on **BBC Radio 3**

\* Buses leave Palace Road, Kirkwall, at 2.30pm, arriving back at 5.45pm. Ticket includes transport and light refreshments. **Parking is limited:** use of Festival buses is advised.

Part of **POLSKA! YEAR**

Phoenix Cinema, Pickaquoy Centre, 3pm

## Festival Film The Pianist

Roman Polanski's Oscar-winning film is based on the extraordinary story of Polish musician Wladyslaw Szpilman. Set in Warsaw in World War II, *The Pianist* features music by Chopin, Bach and contemporary Polish composer, Wojciech Kilar.

**Tickets** from the Pickaquoy Centre,  
tel: 01856 879900

sponsored by  
**The Pickaquoy Centre**

running time 2 hour 20 minutes

St Magnus Centre, Kirkwall, 6pm

## The History of Orkney Literature Book launch

From the skalds and sagamen of the Viking age to the colourful folklorists and translators of the Victorian era and the internationally acclaimed poets and novelists of the twentieth century, Orkney has developed a unique literary culture of its own. Dr. Simon Hall launches his new book *The History of Orkney Literature* with this lively tour through the history of Orkney writing, with readings in English and Orcadian vernacular.

approximately 45 minutes admission free

24

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 6pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE The Table see event 17

25

Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall, 7.30pm

## BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

Michal Dworzynski *conductor*

Olga Pasichnyk *soprano*

**Karłowicz** Symphonic Prologue from  
'Music for the White Dove'

**Lutoslawski** Chantefleurs et Chantefables

**Ravel** Mother Goose Suite

**Tchaikovsky** Symphony no. 4

Polish conductor Michael Dworzynski opens this delightful programme with a romantic work by his compatriot, Karłowicz, and closes it with one of the greatest Russian symphonies. In between we hear two magical evocations of childhood - Lutoslawski's delicate 'Song-flowers and Song-stories' and Ravel's charming French fairytales.

'Michal Dworzynski is a huge talent... one of the most electric young conductors in the business'  
The Herald

'The singing of Olga Pasichnyk [in 'Chantefleurs et Chantefables'] is outstanding' Gramophone magazine

approximately  
2 hours 10 minutes

recorded for future  
broadcast on **BBC Radio 3**

Part of  
**POLSKA! YEAR**

26

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 10pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE Trebunie Tutki

Trebunie Tutki is a family band from Poland's Tatra mountains. Playing fiddles, flutes, 'regional' cello, bass, bagpipes and wooden horn, these remarkable, award-winning musicians combine their own 'highlander' music with contemporary influences. The band's distinctive sound is coupled with traditional costumes and dance to create a vibrant, colourful and unmissable show.

approximately  
1 hour 15 minutes

Ticket includes  
admission to  
the Festival Club

Part of **POLSKA! YEAR**

27

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 10.15pm

## Chopin Impressions Leszek Mozdzer jazz piano

Award-winning pianist, composer and arranger, Leszek Mozdzer is one of the finest Polish jazz musicians to have emerged in the past decade. His breathtaking improvisations on themes by Chopin demonstrate his immense technical prowess and musicality and have reinforced his position as one of the great virtuosos of the European jazz scene.

approximately  
1 hour

Ticket includes  
admission to the  
Festival Club

Part of **POLSKA! YEAR**



Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

## Festival Club Lone Star Swing

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

# tuesday 22 june

28

King Street Halls, Kirkwall, 11am

## A Johnsmas Foy

Home and Migration:  
Stories, Dance, Music, Song

see event 16

29

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 1pm

## Nicola Benedetti violin Alexei Grynyuk piano

Prokofiev Sonata no.1 in F minor, op. 80

Brahms Sonata no. 3 in D minor, op. 108

Nicola Benedetti has captivated audiences and critics alike with her musicality, poise and radiant performances. Making her St Magnus debut, Nicola is joined by Ukrainian pianist Alexei Grynyuk to perform two masterworks: Prokofiev's virtuosic, dark-hued first sonata and Brahms' autumnal, final work for violin and piano.

approximately 1 hour

30

depart Palace Road, Kirkwall, 2.40pm

Italian Chapel, 3.15pm

## Music in the Italian Chapel Andrzej Bauer cello

The beautiful Italian Chapel provides an intimate setting for a recital by one of Poland's finest cellists. Andrzej Bauer plays two of Bach's great suites for solo cello and a work specially written for him by our guest composer, Pawel Mykietyn.

Festival excursion:

Buses leave Palace Road,  
Kirkwall, at 2.40pm,  
arriving back at 5pm.

Part of

### POLSKA! YEAR

Phoenix Cinema, Pickaquoy Centre, 4pm &amp; 6pm

## Festival Film The Full Monteverdi

John La Bouchardière's award-winning film starring I Fagiolini transforms Monteverdi's 4th Book of Madrigals into a highly charged and moving portrait of contemporary love. A film to whet your appetite for this evening's concert by the celebrated vocal ensemble.

'A brilliant film - a searing dramatisation' The Times

running time 1 hour

£5 at door

31

Orkney Arts Theatre, Kirkwall, 6pm

## The Doctor and the Devils

see event 1

32

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 6.30pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE Circulous!

Prepare to be amazed by our stunning selection of physical performers. Expect spectacular martial arts, breathtaking roller skating, contemporary clowning and awe-inspiring acrobatics; but be sure that everything you see will have a very particular twist of its own. Charlie Holland, creator of *Oiseau Rouge* and *Faring*, brings his cast together from Germany, Holland, Australia, New Zealand and the UK - for these four shows only!

approximately  
1 hour 10 minutes

sponsored by  
Clark Thomson

33

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 8.30pm

## Cries from the Heart I Fagiolini

Monteverdi Madrigals from Books IV-VIII

Poulenc Sept Chansons

Monteverdi Lamento d'Arianna

Berio Cries of London

Britain's leading solo-voice ensemble is strongly associated with Monteverdi, a composer whose music, written 400 years ago, still has the power to move listeners today. Poulenc had been working on Monteverdi's madrigals before writing his *Sept Chansons* in 1936. *Cries of London* is a comic and virtuosic play on the Tudor custom of incorporating street cries into consort works.

'The sheer wit and charm of I Fagiolini's singing and acting tend to obscure the high musical standards of everything they do.' The Guardian

approximately 1 hour 45 minutes

recorded for future broadcast on **BBC Radio 3**

34

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 9.30pm

## MagFest UP CLOSE Circulous!

see event 32

Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

## Festival Club Leszek Mozdzer jazz piano

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

WORLD  
OF  
MUSIC  
FESTIVAL

# wednesday 23 june

35

King Street Halls, Kirkwall, 11am

## Andrzej Bauer

cello

## Jan Krzysztof Broja piano

Couperin Pièces en Concert arr. P Bazelaire

Bauer Frattoriale

Paderewski Nocturne arr. A Bauer

Chopin Cello Sonata in G minor, op. 65



Two linked concerts by distinguished Polish artists conclude our celebration of the music of Chopin. This morning we hear his passionate sonata for cello and piano, while our lunchtime recital features Chopin as song writer. The cello sonata was his last major work and the piano part was played by Chopin himself at his last public concert.

approximately 1 hour

Part of

**POLSKA! YEAR**

Coffee and tea will be served downstairs in **The Hub** from 10.15am.

36

St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 1pm

## Olga Pasichnyk soprano Natalya Pasichnyk piano

Songs by **Chopin, Glinka, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninov, Lysenko** and Ukrainian folk songs

The seventeen songs which Chopin produced in his short life are as musically rich as any of his études or mazurkas and contain a wealth of beautiful piano writing. Olga and Natalya Pasichnyk perform Chopin's Polish songs in a colourful, Slavonic programme which includes folksongs from the sisters' native Ukraine.

approximately 1 hour

Part of

recorded for future broadcast on **BBC Radio 3** **POLSKA! YEAR**

37

depart **Palace Road, Kirkwall, 2.30pm**  
**St Magnus Church, Birsay, 3.15pm**

## Excursion to Birsay I Fagiolini

Our ever-popular excursion to the north-west tip of the Orkney mainland for a concert in St Magnus Church, built on the site of the mediaeval Christ's Kirk. I Fagiolini's vocal kaleidoscope encompasses 16th century madrigals, Britten's *Sacred and Profane*, folk song arrangements and Flanders and Swan.

\* Buses leave Palace Road, Kirkwall, at 2.30pm, arriving back at 5.30pm. Ticket includes transport and light refreshments. **Parking is limited:** use of Festival buses is advised.



Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

38

King Street Halls, Kirkwall, 6pm

## St Magnus Composers' Concert Hebrides Ensemble



Eight world premières in one concert! With the ink barely dry, the eight new pieces created over the past ten days by the talented composers of the **Orkney Composing Course** are premièred by the Hebrides Ensemble, directed by the conductors of **Orkney Conducting Course**.

approximately 1 hour

39

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 6.30pm

## MagFest Circulous!

UP CLOSE

See event 32

sponsored by **Clark Thomson**

40

Pickaquoy Centre, Kirkwall, 8pm

## BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra

Michal Dworzynski *conductor*Nicola Benedetti *violin*

Beethoven Symphony no. 8 in F

Szymanowski Violin Concerto no. 1

Maxwell Davies Overture: St Francis of Assisi

Stravinsky The Firebird Suite

At the heart of this glittering programme is Nicola Benedetti's performance of Szymanowski's rhapsodic concerto, a work Nicola has made very much her own. The BBC SSO rounds off its Orkney residency and brings the 2010 Festival to a close with Stravinsky's thrilling and gorgeously orchestrated showpiece.

*'Benedetti was absolutely on top of the winding, ornamental curve of the long violin melodies. Her mix of tenderness and intensity was alluring.'* The Herald

approximately  
2 hours 10 minutes

sponsored by  
**Talisman Energy UK**

41

Jewson's Shed, Kirkwall, 9.30pm

## MagFest Circulous!

UP CLOSE

See event 32

Albert Hotel, Kirkwall, 10pm

## Festival Club Trebunie Tutki & Saltfishforty

£6 at door or £20 season ticket in advance

WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 2010

# friday 25 june

42

Orkney Arts Theatre, Kirkwall, 7.30pm

another chance to see ...  
**The Doctor and the Devils**

see event 1

## St Magnus Composers' Course

14th-23rd June

St Magnus Composers' Course is directed by composers **Alasdair Nicolson** and **Sally Beamish**. Eight composers work with the **Hebrides Ensemble** in developing and rehearsing new compositions and the course culminates in a Festival performance of the music created over the ten days.

**Observers are welcome to attend the following sessions, which are held in the Congregational Church, opposite St Magnus Centre, unless otherwise stated:**

**Thursday 17**

10am-1pm workshop with Hebrides Ensemble

**Friday 18**

10am-12 noon workshop with Hebrides Ensemble

**Saturday 19**2.30pm-5.30pm writing for the voice with Alison Wells *soprano***Sunday 20**10am-1pm Pawel Mykietyn and Aleksander Kosciow introduce their music, followed by an open rehearsal of Mykietyn's *3 for 13* (see event 22)\*.

2.30pm-5.30pm workshop with Hebrides Ensemble

**Monday 21**9am-12 noon writing for amateur musicians with Inchcolm New Music Ensemble  
Christian Life Centre, East Road

4pm-7pm workshop with Hebrides Ensemble

**Tuesday 22**10am-11am Sir Peter Maxwell Davies analyses one of Bach's cello suites, with Andrzej Bauer *cello*6.30pm-9.30pm rehearsal with Hebrides Ensemble and OCC conductors  
St Magnus Centre

Orkney Conducting Course and St Magnus Composers' Course are supported by:  
**Esmée Fairburn Foundation, Musicians Benevolent Fund, Radcliffe Trust, Hope Scott Trust and Binks Trust**

\* sponsored by  
**RE:NEW MUSIC**

# Orkney Conducting Course

14th-23rd June

**Orkney Conducting Course** is directed by **Sian Edwards** and **Charles Peebles**. Initial sessions with two pianos prepare students for two days of hands-on experience with the **BBC SSO** and the **Hebrides Ensemble**. OCC conductors also collaborate with the composers of St Magnus Composers' Course and on Wednesday 23 June they conduct a concert of new music composed by SMCC participants. OCC pianists are **Elizabeth Burley** and **Michael Bawtree**.

**Observers are welcome to attend the 2-piano sessions which are held between 14 and 21 June from 10am-1pm and 2pm-5pm (except on the afternoons of 17 and 20 June). Other open sessions are:**

**Wednesday 17**7.30pm-10pm Festival Chorus rehearsal  
Pickaquoy Centre**Saturday 19**10am-1pm Hebrides Ensemble with Alison Wells *soprano*  
*Pierrot Lunaire***Sunday 20**2pm-5pm operatic and oratorio repertoire with Håkan Vramsmo *baritone***Tuesday 22**10am-1pm BBC SSO  
2.30pm-5.30pm Pickaquoy Centre  
6.30pm-9.30pm rehearsal of SMCC pieces with Hebrides Ensemble

**All sessions in St Magnus Centre unless otherwise indicated. £20 season ticket in advance or £3 per session at door**

## Festival on Tour

### BBC SSO Ensembles

Tuesday 22 June  
**Eday School, 7.30pm**

**Stronsay School, 7.30pm**

**Festival on Tour**  
 is sponsored by  
**Wood Group**

### Trebunie Tutki

Tuesday 22 June  
**Gable End Theatre, Hoy, 8pm**

### Inchcolm New Music Ensemble

**Steve King** *director*  
 The new music group of Heriot-Watt University performs music inspired by the plainchant of Inchcolm Abbey.

Wednesday 23 June  
**Moncur Memorial Church, Stronsay, 4pm**

Thursday 24 June  
**St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, 7.30pm**

Friday 25 June  
**Noltland Castle, Westray, 4pm**

Admission at door for all **Festival on Tour** events.  
 For details of transport to the isles, contact **Orkney Ferries**, 01856 2044 or **Loganair**, 01856 872494.



Festival information and ticket booking line **01856 871445**

WEDNESDAY 22 JUNE