

To Book Tickets

Admission to Music Prize events are free unless otherwise stated.
To avoid disappointment we strongly recommend you book in advance
through the University of Aberdeen Events Office:

Telephone: **01224 273874**
Email: **musicprize@abdn.ac.uk**

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Concert

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

For more information about **sound festival**:

Telephone: **01330 825431** or visit **www.sound-scotland.co.uk**

To book tickets for **sound** events, please book through
the Aberdeen Box Office on **01224 641122**

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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**

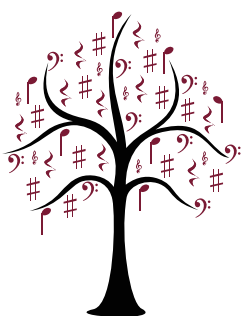
an international
competition
for composers



UNIVERSITY
OF ABERDEEN

music prize

20 – 22 November 2009



AIYF Compose!

The University of Aberdeen Music Prize
and Aberdeen International Youth Festival join forces
to host a competition for young composers. To find out
more about upcoming competitions, please contact the
University Events Office by email: **musicprize@abdn.ac.uk**,
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The University of Aberdeen Music Prize is funded by:



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AND SOCIAL SCIENCES



welcome

to the third **University of Aberdeen Music Prize** – an international celebration of music composition. Once again the weekend offers an exciting programme of events, many of which we are pleased to present in association with **sound**, North East Scotland's Festival of New Music.

In November 2008, the University of Aberdeen, in association with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and BBC Radio 3 launched the third worldwide competition for composers. Entries came from 35 countries as far afield as Peru, Russia, South Africa and Israel – and the five finalists will join us for the Music Prize weekend in Aberdeen on 20 – 22 November.

At the heart of the activities is the judging of the 2009 University of Aberdeen Music Prize by distinguished international composer James MacMillan. 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 2010 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 **sound**, Aberdeen is firmly established as a centre for creative excellence.

2007 winner, Jun Lee, has established himself within the contemporary music scene and has since worked on a variety of projects, including a recent commission to re-orchestrate *Apollo* for a screening of *For All Mankind* at the Science Museum in London.

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

I hope you enjoy the wonderful weekend of music.

Dr Paul Mealar FRSA
Director

University of Aberdeen
Music Prize



the patron

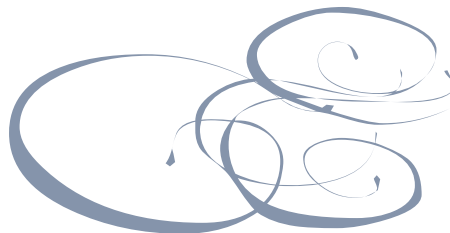


Dame Evelyn Glennie DBE

Patron

Dame Evelyn Glennie is regarded as one of the greatest percussionists and musicians of our time. She is the first person in musical history to successfully create and sustain a full-time career as a solo percussionist, and as one of the most eclectic and innovative musicians on the scene today she is constantly redefining the goals and expectations of percussion. Evelyn gives more than 100 performances a year worldwide, performing with the greatest conductors, orchestras and artists, and also composes and records music for film and television. Evelyn's activities also include film collaborations, writing, television appearances, lobbying the Government on political issues and motivational speaking. She also performs with orchestras on the Highland Bagpipes.

In 1993, Evelyn was awarded an OBE, which was extended in 2007 to 'Dame Commander' for her services to music. To date she has received over 80 international awards. Dame Evelyn was awarded an honorary degree by 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



James MacMillan

Judge

James MacMillan is one of today's most successful living composers and is also internationally active as a conductor. His prolific output includes orchestral work *The Confession of Isobel Gowdie*, percussion concerto *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, premiered by Evelyn Glennie in 1992, a cello concerto for Mstislav Rostropovich, the major choral-orchestral work *Quickening*, and three symphonies. Recent works include his opera, *The Sacrifice*, and the Music Prize weekend will feature the Scottish premiere of orchestral interludes from that work.

MacMillan is in demand internationally as a conductor and was recently announced as Principal Guest Conductor of the Netherlands Radio Kamer Filharmonie, following nine years as Composer/Conductor of the BBC Philharmonic. He was awarded a CBE in 2004.

the programme

friday 20 november

7.30pm – 9.30pm

BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra Concert

Music Hall, Union Street

£9.50 to £20, £5 for school pupils, £8 standby tickets. Tickets available from Aberdeen Box Office; telephone: 01224 641122

To celebrate Scotland's leading composer James MacMillan's 50th birthday, and his participation in the University of Aberdeen Music Prize and **sound**, this concert includes the Scottish premiere of orchestral interludes from his most recent opera.

James MacMillan *The Sacrifice: Three Interludes* (Scottish Premiere)

Mozart *Piano Concerto No.22, K482*

Dvorak *Symphony No.8*

Piers Lane Piano

Petr Altrichter Conductor

saturday 21 november

10.30am – 4.30pm

University of Aberdeen Music Prize Composition Workshop

Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill

Admission free; to book your ticket, contact University Events on 01224 273874

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

10.30 – 11.20 *Shade <-> Light* by Yuko Ohara

11.30 – 12.20 *The Pavilion* by David Elliott

12.30 – 1.20 *You Live on My Skin*
by Jonas Valfridsson

2.30 – 3.20 *Vernarrtheit* by May-Kay Yau

3.30 – 4.20 *Lux, mea crux; Crux, mea lux!*
by Hiroshi Nakamura

12 noon – 12.30pm

The Chapel Choir of the University

St Andrews Cathedral, King Street

Admission free, no tickets required

A programme of plainchant and music by James MacMillan performed by the Chapel Choir of University of Aberdeen as part of the St Andrews Cathedral at Noon lunchtime concert series.

1.00pm – 1.45pm

University New Music Group

Aberdeen Art Gallery, Schoolhill

Admission free, no tickets required

A concert from the University of Aberdeen New Music Group featuring works by group director, Paul Tierney, and James MacMillan.



the programme

6.30pm – 7.30pm

Composer Portrait: James MacMillan

With the Edinburgh Quartet, the Chapel Choir of King's College and Roger B Williams (Organ)

King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen

£8, £5 concession, £2 students and under 18s
Tickets available from Aberdeen Box Office; telephone 01224 641122

James MacMillan will present a selection of his own music, including the UK premiere of *Who are these angels?* (co-commissioned by the Edinburgh Quartet, **sound** and De Doelen, Rotterdam, and funded by the Scottish Arts Council), *Memento* for string quartet, *The Lamb Has Come* and *HB to MB* for solo cello.

With the support of Leche Trust



sunday 22 november

11.00am – 12.15pm

Chapel Service

King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen

Admission free, no tickets required

In 2009, King's College Chapel celebrates 500 years since its consecration. As part of the University of Aberdeen Chapel 500 Celebrations, this Sunday Service will feature music and preaching by composer James MacMillan with performances by University musicians.

5.00pm – 6.00pm

sound Lecture 2009: James MacMillan

Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill

Admission free; to book your ticket, contact University Events on 01224 273874

"Aesthetic plurality and licence in British contemporary music. Is it better here than elsewhere?"

James MacMillan discusses the great strengths of contemporary music in the UK; its plurality of styles and ideas and its openness to every possibility. Referring directly to his own experiences and those of other modern composers, MacMillan takes on those critics who paint British music as conservative and insular.

A short reception will follow, prior to the Music Prize Gala Concert.

With the support of Buchanan Foods



6.30pm – 7.45pm

University of Aberdeen Music Prize Gala Concert

Cowdray Hall, Schoolhill

Admission free; to book your ticket, contact University Events on 01224 273874

Members of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra will perform the five new pieces written for the Music Prize. The winner of the Prize will be announced at this Classical Idol Festival finalé by competition judge, James MacMillan. 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.

meet the composers



David Elliott
USA
The Pavilion

David received his MM in Composition from the Royal College of Music in London, and his BM in Composition with a minor in piano from the Manhattan School of Music. His teachers include Professor Kenneth Hesketh at RCM, and Professor Nils Vigeland at Manhattan. Before switching to Composition during his undergraduate studies, David was a clarinet major. He began his piano and clarinet studies at the age of ten, and in 1998 he was chosen to perform with the National Youth Orchestra in Carnegie Hall, New York. As a freelance composer, many of David's orchestral and chamber music works have been performed by various ensembles, and he continues to actively write music for ensembles in the US and UK.



Hiroshi Nakamura
Japan
Lux, mea crux, Crux, mea lux!

Hiroshi Nakamura was born in 1965 in Shiga, near Kyoto, the old capital of Japan. He received private tuition in music from Eiichi Tada and Akira Miyoshi in Tokyo. Since then, he has studied under a selection of world-class musicians at Akiyoshidai Music Seminar (Yamaguchi, Japan, 1995-98). Hiroshi has taken part in a number of composition competitions worldwide, including The Kazimierz Serocki 10th International Composer's Competition, ISCM Polish Section 2006, Concorso Internazionale di Composizione Settimane Musicali di Stresa 2007, and the 5th International Prokofiev Competition 2008. His pieces have been performed by the Polish Radio Orchestra, Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra, and at SNG Opera and Balet Ljubljana, among others.

Hiroshi holds an MA in Philosophy at Nihon University, Tokyo where he is currently a lecturer in Musicology.



Yuko Ohara
Japan
Shade <—> Light

Yuko Ohara was born in Yokohama, Japan. She studied musicology, piano and composition at Ferris University in Japan, where she completed a Masters Degree and was awarded a Distinction in Composition and Musicology. In 2003, she received a grant to study abroad at the Royal College of Music, London. She completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Composition with Distinction, and won the United Music Publishers Prize for Composition in 2006.

Yuko has been shortlisted for prizes at several composition competitions in Japan, UK, Italy and USA, including a commission by SPNM (Sound and Music) for a project as part of the Soundwaves Festival 2008. Her piece, *Psychedelic Mirage*, for oboe and electronics, was premiered by Christopher Redgate and Paul Archbold. Yuko is currently studying for a PhD in Performing Arts Research at Brunel University.



Jonas Valfridsson
Sweden
You Live on My Skin

Jonas Valfridsson, born 1980 in Jönköping, Sweden, is one of a new generation of young Scandinavian composers. With a mix from both modernistic and other traditions, Valfridsson's music is appreciated for its colourful instrumentation, subtle textures and mysterious beauty. He works mostly with orchestras and chamber ensembles with electronics, where he tries to make a very close connection between the idioms of electronic and instrumental music.

Valfridsson has a Masters Degree in Composition, and has studied in Gothenburg, Paris and Stockholm. His orchestra work, *In Killing Fields Sweet Butterfly Ascend*, was awarded the Toru Takemitsu composition award 2007, and was premiered by the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra. From 2009-2010, he is on a stipend at the Internationales Künstlerhaus Villa Concordia in Bamberg, Germany.



May Kay Yau
Hong Kong
Vernarrtheit

Born in Hong Kong, May Kay Yau entered the Hong Kong Academy of Performing Arts at the age of 17. There she was the winner of the Concerto Trial and had her first orchestral piece presented in the concert of the 5th Anniversary of the Establishment of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Following that she was awarded a scholarship to pursue a Masters Degree at the Royal Academy of Music in London with Paul Patterson. Her compositions have been performed in various music festivals in China, Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Israel, Portugal, Greece and UK. She has also collaborated with the London Sinfonietta, the BBC Singers, National Theatre, RAM Harp Ensemble, and the Gemini Ensemble. She is the composer-in-residence with the Wuji Ensemble.

May Kay is currently a third year PhD student at the University of Bristol, funded by the ORS and the University Research Studentship.

meet 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 throughout 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



Bernard Docherty
Violin

Bernard Docherty is a prizewinning violin graduate of the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, and has been co-leader of the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra for the past seventeen years. He is also in constant demand as a guest orchestral leader at home and abroad. A former member of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, he was a pioneer of the SCO's schools' development programme. He also led the string quartet 'Quartz', well known for their innovative arrangements and upbeat presentations.

Bernard has gained a reputation as a leading string coach, his main successes being the strings of the Edinburgh Youth Orchestra, the strings of the RSAMD Junior and Senior Orchestras and various Chamber ensembles. He is also in demand as a specialist assessor and adjudicator for many instrumental competitions and prominent music festivals. He has travelled to many parts of the UK as a soloist with various ensembles.



Alastair Savage
Violin

Alastair Savage is originally from Ayrshire and played both classical violin and traditional music in his youth. He graduated from the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama with Honours in 1994 and completed his studies at the Royal Academy of Music in London a year later. He then worked as a freelance player with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, BBC National Orchestra of Wales and toured extensively with the Scottish Ensemble. He joined the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra as a staff player in 1997, and he has since toured China, the USA, South America and Europe with them. As a soloist he has broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and BBC Radio Scotland, and has released two solo CDs of predominantly his own compositions. As a session musician he has collaborated with many performers in the folk and rock world.



Andrew Berridge
Viola

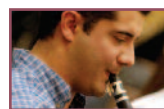
Andrew Berridge was born on the Wirral and grew up in Leeds where he studied violin from the age of 5. After further studies with Peter Mountain and Ena Cohen he read Law for a year at the University of Liverpool before transferring to Music. He won an Arts Scholarship that enabled him to study at the Royal Northern College of Music in Manchester, first on violin with Ben Holland and then viola with Roger Bigley and Scott Dickinson. There 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 Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and has appeared regularly with the Scottish Ensemble.



Alison Lawrance
Cello

Alison Lawrance was born in Leicestershire and went to the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in 1982. During her time there she won various prizes including the Birdie Warshaw Cello Prize, the Toussaint Prize for Bach and the Elsie Doris Moss Memorial Competition. She was Principal Cellist of the London Soloists Chamber Orchestra before joining the Orchestra of Scottish Opera.

In 1993 Alison joined the Scottish Ensemble, where she is principal cellist. She is a founder member of the Saltire Quartet, which promotes contemporary Scottish music. Until recently Alison was a member of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra; she joined the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra in 2009. She has been guest lead cellist of the English National Opera Orchestra, Orchestra of Scottish Opera, BBC SSO and the Northern Sinfonia. Recently she could be heard playing solo cello in Craig Armstrong's music for Oliver Stone's film *World Trade Centre*.



Yann Ghire
Clarinet

Yann Ghire was born in 1971 in Nice and studied clarinet and piano at the Nice Conservatoire, and subsequently at the Paris Conservatoire where he was awarded four First Prizes, including those for clarinet and bass clarinet. Following a period at the Mozart Academy in Prague, when he also made an extensive world tour with the Academy Quartet and Septet, Yann entered the Juilliard School of Music in New York where was awarded his Masters Degree. On his return to France he worked as a freelance player for a number of major French orchestras, including the Paris Bastille Opera Orchestra, the Orchestre de Paris and the Strasbourg Philharmonic Orchestra. He has been principal clarinet with the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra since June 1998 and has performed as a soloist in numerous concertos since his solo debut with the orchestra in October that year.