



Media information  
For immediate use

Edinburgh International Festival 2010  
Friday 13 August – Sunday 5 September

**Jonathan Mills, Festival Director today announced the programme for  
Edinburgh International Festival 2010.**

Festival 2010 is a journey of discovery through the diverse contemporary cultures of **North, Central and South America, and Australasia.**

Artists from California, New York and New England, Mexico, Brazil, Chile, Ecuador, Bolivia, Venezuela, Argentina, Samoa, New Zealand, Australia, as well as Spain, Holland and the UK give Festival 2010 a distinctive feel as it explores the modern-day cultures of the 'New World'.

The Festival opens with **John Adams's *El Niño*** and closes with the annual spectacular ***Bank of Scotland Fireworks Concert.***

**World premieres** include political writer Alistair Beaton's exploration of Scotland's futile attempt at establishing a colony in Panama, ***Caledonia***, and **Paco Peña Flamenco Dance Company's *Quimeras.***

Peter Carey's novel ***Bliss*** is the inspiration for a **brand new Australian opera** from composer Brett Dean, to be performed by Opera Australia in its European premiere.

***Montezuma***, directed by Claudio Valdés Kuri, brings a Mexican flavour to the Festival's opera programme.

Music theatre extravaganza ***The Gospel at Colonus*** brings the Festival debuts of **The Blind Boys of Alabama** and The Abyssinian Chancel Choir from Harlem.

A **world premiere** from New York theatre company **Elevator Repair Service**, **The Wooster Group** and the Festival debut of **Meredith Monk** broaden New York's influence on the theatre programme in 2010.

From South America **Teatro Cinema** and **Teatro en el Blanco** are making their Festival debuts, and offering audiences a glimpse of innovative and cinematic theatre from Chile.

The dance programme features **Grupo Corpo**, **Lemi Ponifasio**, the late **Pina Bausch's** tropical *Água*, and **Alonzo King Lines Ballet**.

**Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra**, The Cleveland Orchestra, Russian National Orchestra, Minnesota Orchestra, Finnish Radio Symphony Orchestra and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra performing alongside Scotland's finest, create an impressive line-up in The Usher Hall.

**Jazz** features in 2010, bringing the Festival debuts of the legendary classical and jazz musician Gunther Schuller, and saxophonists Joe Lovano and Tommy Smith.

The Festival remains **highly affordable** with tickets to performances starting at just £8, and a large range of discounts available. Customers aged 26 and under also have access to £8 on-the-day tickets.

**Jonathan Mills**, Edinburgh International Festival Director, said 'This year the Festival takes us on a journey around the contemporary cultures of the Americas and Australasia. As these diverse cultures, separated by vast oceans, converge in Edinburgh, I hope you will join us to celebrate the synergies and revelations they offer.'

ENDS

**Public booking opens Saturday 27 March**  
**Hub Tickets +44 (0)131 473 2000**  
**[eif.co.uk](http://eif.co.uk)**

Further information, photos and interview set up is available from the Festival press office. Please get in touch so that we can help you. **+44 (0)131 473 2020** or **[press@eif.co.uk](mailto:press@eif.co.uk)**.