

Edinburgh International Festival Announces 2021 Programme



Jenna Reid (fiddle), Su-a Lee (cello) and Iain Sandilands (percussion) perform in the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh to celebrate the launch of the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival programme. © Ryan Buchanan

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B-ROLL, INCLUDING AN INTERVIEW WITH FESTIVAL DIRECTORS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)

Classical music: Nicola Benedetti, Sol Gabetta, Sir Andrew Davis, Valery Gergiev, Daniil Trifonov, Marin Alsop, Isata Kanneh-Mason, Sir Simon Rattle, William Eddins, Kazushi Ono, Thomas Søndergård, Elim Chan, Dalia Stasevska and more

Opera: Dorothea Röschmann, Renée Fleming, Golda Schultz, Joyce DiDonato, Danielle de Niese, Thomas Quasthoff, David Butt Philip, Catriona Morison and more

Contemporary music: Anna Meredith, Damon Albarn, Laura Mvula, black midi, The Snuts, Karine Polwart, The Staves, Nadine Shah, The Comet is Coming, Tune-Yards, Caribou, Floating Points and more

Theatre & Dance: Enda Walsh, Domhnall Gleeson, Alan Cumming, Akram Khan, Inua Ellams, Saul Williams, Hollie McNish, Hannah Lavery, Alice Ripoll, Omar Rajeh, Gregory Maqoma, Janice Parker and more

Scottish companies and ensembles: National Theatre of Scotland, Scottish Opera, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Curious Seed, RURA, Kinnaris Quintet, Breabach and more

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2 June, *Edinburgh*: **Edinburgh International Festival**, the world's leading performing arts festival, pioneers the return of live performance in Scotland from **7 – 29 August** with a diverse programme of UK and international artists. This return to live performance marks a significant turning point for Scotland's cultural sector by providing a platform for artists to return to the stage after over a year. The Festival's ambition is to pave the way for other organisations to rebuild their own live performance programmes and to re-establish Edinburgh as a global centre for culture.

The 2021 programme features over **170** classical and contemporary music, theatre, opera, dance and spoken word performances, including **15** new commissions and premieres.

Audience safety is central to the planning of the 2021 Festival, with measures including outdoor venues, social distancing, shorter performances with no intervals, audience members seated in bubbles and, in a first for the International Festival, online access to **21 free full-length performances**.

Venues used for the 2021 International Festival include bespoke outdoor venues at **Edinburgh Academy Junior School**, Parabola's **Edinburgh Park** development and the University of Edinburgh's **Old College Quad**, alongside carefully planned performances at the **Festival Theatre**, **Traverse Theatre**, **The Royal Lyceum Theatre** and **Dance Base**.

Highlights of the programme include:

- Two operas-in-concert featuring two of the world's most celebrated sopranos. A new concert staging of ***Ariadne auf Naxos*** stars **Dorothea Röschmann** in the title role alongside **David Butt Philip** as Bacchus. Composer **Errollyn Wallen** continues the story of *Dido and Aeneas* in ***Dido's Ghost***, interweaving the music of Purcell's original tragedy within her own new opera which stars South African soprano **Golda Schultz**.
- The world premiere of ***Medicine***, **Enda Walsh's** latest play featuring star of stage-and-screen **Domhnall Gleeson** (*Ex Machina*, *Brooklyn*, *The Revenant*, *Star Wars VIII & IX*, *Harry Potter* series), which examines society's relation with mental health.

- **Nicola Benedetti** in residence across two weeks at the Festival, appearing with the **Benedetti Baroque Orchestra**, with a specially selected ensemble in Stravinsky's *The Soldier's Tale* and in a solo performance *The Story of the Violin*.
- **Alan Cumming** returning to the Festival for the first UK performances of his new show *Alan Cumming Is Not Acting His Age*, an evening of story and song which celebrates ageing.
- A contemporary music line-up including London-based guitar bands **black midi** and **Black Country, New Road**; new jazz from **Kokoroko**, **The Comet is Coming** and **Moses Boyd**; iconic female voices including **Laura Mvula**, **Nadine Shah** and **Kathryn Joseph**; **Anna Meredith**'s return to the International Festival; West Lothian indie band **The Snuts**; and **Damon Albarn** performs tracks from his extensive back catalogue, including current project *The Nearer the Fountain, More Pure the Stream Flows*. Visiting international artists include **Fatoumata Diawara**, **Ballaké Sissoko**, **Tune-Yards** and **Caribou**.
- **Scottish Opera** returning to the International Festival with a new production of *Falstaff* by Glasgow-born director **Sir David McVicar**.
- Leading orchestras from across the UK including the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Vasily Petrenko** and featuring **Isata Kanneh-Mason**, the **London Symphony Orchestra** led by **Sir Simon Rattle**, the **Chineke! Orchestra** with **William Eddins** and the **BBC Symphony Orchestra** under the baton of **Dalia Stasevska**.
- Global figures in classical music leading and performing with Scottish orchestras, including two concerts with the **Royal Scottish National Orchestra**, one conducted by **Valery Gergiev** and featuring **Daniil Trifonov** and another led by **Elim Chan** with Argentinian cellist **Sol Gabetta**. **Marin Alsop** conducts the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra** in a programme including Beethoven's Fifth and **Kazushi Ono** leads the **Scottish Chamber Orchestra**.
- A dance offering including new filmed version of **Akram Khan**'s *Chotto Xenos*, four dance films from international choreographers **Omar Rajeh**, **Gregory Maqoma**, **Alice Ripoll** and **Janice Parker** for *Dancing in the Streets* and **Curious Seed**'s *Field – Something for the Future Now*.
- **Thomas Quasthoff** featured in three performances across the Festival, appearing in *Ariadne auf Naxos* as the Major Domo, leading his jazz quartet for an intimate evening of vocal classics and hosting two public masterclasses with outstanding young singers.
- The Royal Lyceum Theatre playing host to live audiences for the first time in over a year, with a programme including the National Theatre of Scotland's *Lament for Sheku Bayoh* and rehearsed readings of *Hindu Times* by **Jaimini Jethwa** and *You Bury Me* by **Ahlam**, the joint winner of The Women's Prize for Playwriting.
- *A Grand Night for Singing* – a staged musical revue which showcases the iconic songs of classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals. Staged by musical theatre performer **Kim Criswell** and conducted by **Wayne Marshall**, the handpicked cast features Criswell alongside **Danielle de Niese**.
- A series of intimate recitals at the Old College Quad including performances from piano masters **Elisabeth Leonskaja**, **Mariam Batsashvili**, **Ronald Brautigam** and the much-loved Scottish

pianist **Malcolm Martineau** celebrating the 250th anniversary of Sir Walter Scott's birth. Vocal recitals include Norwegian lyric soprano **Mari Eriksmoen** in her International Festival debut, **Gerald Finley** and **Renée Fleming**. Also chamber music from **Chineke! Chamber Ensemble**, **Zehetmair Quartet** and more.

- *In the Tradition* – a programme of traditional Scottish music and interconnected folk traditions which features leading artists and ensembles such as **RURA**, **Talisk**, the **Kinnaris Quintet**, **Karine Polwart** and **Siobhan Miller**.

As part of the International Festival's ongoing commitment to accessibility, the 2021 programme includes audio described, captioned and British Sign Language interpreted performances and free tickets to classical music concerts for 200 young people.

General booking for the 2021 International Festival opens on **Friday 11 June**.

Fergus Linehan, Festival Director, Edinburgh International Festival said:

"The programme we are announcing today represents a carefully organised return to live performance. It is a collaborative effort between those who live in our city, our artists, the team at the festival, our donors and stakeholders and all who will be coming along to our performances."

"While so much has been written and said about the challenges of the past 15 months, it is now time to look to the future and to the brilliant musicians, actors, dancers and poets who are getting ready to perform in Edinburgh this August."

"I would like to pay tribute to everyone involved in the Festival who has worked tirelessly in extraordinary circumstances and to thank our many partner organisations and stakeholders who have contributed to this programme. None of us can be certain of what the coming months will bring but we are committed to working together on returning to the joy of live performance."

Culture Minister Jenny Gilruth said:

"Edinburgh's world-class festivals are responding to incredibly difficult circumstances by continuing a proud tradition of innovation. The International Festival's pioneering and safe return to live performance is an exciting moment for the sector and for audiences who have missed the joy of sharing live performance."

"The programme has been planned with the utmost care and attention and an excellent and diverse digital programme extends the spirit of the International Festival to those who are unable to join us in Edinburgh this year."

Councillor Donald Wilson, Edinburgh's Culture and Communities Convener, said:

The Edinburgh International Festival is a celebration of people coming together from all backgrounds, and a celebration of Edinburgh itself, one of the world's leading cultural capitals. I'm delighted to see the International Festival return with such an interesting and diverse programme of UK and international artists. After the challenging year we've all had and the disappointment of not being able to enjoy the festival in the usual way last year, it's fantastic to have a broad programme where audiences can share in the live performance experience again, with an excellent programme in outdoor venues alongside the Festival's online offering."

“Public safety will of course remain a priority, and we continue to be impressed by the resourcefulness and resilience displayed by the Festival throughout the last year and in the planning for such an exciting programme for 2021. We can all very much look forward to this year’s Festival.”

Ian Munro, CEO, Creative Scotland said:

“The breadth and depth of the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival programme is more than we could have dreamt of in the darkest days of lockdown. It is a celebration of spirit and creativity across all art forms, placing Scotland’s magnificent home-grown talent shoulder to shoulder with a truly international array of artists. With over 170 performances from world renowned orchestras to inspirational young ensembles, folk stars to alternative jazz, electronica to world music sensations, and acclaimed choreographers to leading theatre companies, there really is something for everyone.

“Edinburgh itself is the festival’s foundation, and this year’s programme reflects different aspects of this unique city and its diverse communities, from the Irish history of the Old Town to the combined Scottish and African voices of the Shona The Musical Choir. This impressive programme will reach new audiences across the city as well as breathing life back into some of the capital’s most iconic venues.”

Further programme information by genre:

Classical Music

The UK’s finest orchestras and musicians make a long-awaited return to Edinburgh with 26 concerts in the beautiful setting of Edinburgh Academy Junior School and 36 intimate recitals at The Old College Quad.

The **BBC Symphony Orchestra** conducted by **Dalia Stasevska** opens the 2021 orchestral series with the world premiere of **Anna Clyne’s PIVOT**, a new work inspired by an old Edinburgh folk music venue.

The **Royal Scottish National Orchestra** performs Mendelssohn’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* under the baton of **Thomas Søndergård** with narration from **Dame Harriet Walter**. Additional concerts by the Royal Scottish National Orchestra are conducted by **Valery Gergiev** and **Elim Chan**.

The **Chineke! Orchestra**, conducted by **William Eddins**, performs the world premiere of a new piece from **Ayanna Witter-Johnson** alongside **Judith Weir’s** song cycle *woman.life.song* with **Andrea Baker**.

The **Scottish Chamber Orchestra** under **Kazushi Ono** presents Ravel, Prokofiev and two evocative Japanese pieces inspired by the beauty of the natural world. **Joyce DiDonato** is accompanied by period instrument ensemble **Il Pomo D’oro** for a personal selection of her most cherished opera arias.

Other major UK orchestras include the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** conducted by **Vasily Petrenko** and featuring **Isata Kanneh-Mason**, the **London Symphony Orchestra** with **Sir Simon Rattle** and the **BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra** conducted by **Marin Alsop**.

Nicola Benedetti is in residence at the Festival combining her wide musical range with her passion for music education in three unique concerts. She charts the history of her instrument in her solo performance *The Story of the Violin* and is joined by the **Benedetti Baroque Orchestra** to perform the multifaceted musical creations of Vivaldi. In Stravinsky’s *The Soldier’s Tale* she performs alongside a specially selected ensemble of musicians and actors to bring this unique mix of theatre and music to life.

Thomas Quasthoff features in three performances across the Festival, appearing in ***Ariadne auf Naxos*** as the Major Domo, leading three of Germany's leading jazz performers for an intimate evening of vocal classics and hosting two public masterclasses with outstanding young singers to demonstrate everything that goes into an exceptional performance.

In ***Lonely House***, **Barrie Kosky**, Artistic Director of Berlin's Komische Oper, and singer **Katharine Mehrling** perform an evening of cabaret with little known songs by one of Germany's most distinctive musical figures, Kurt Weill.

The **Edinburgh Festival Chorus** returns as a small chamber choir under Chorus Director **Aidan Oliver** in a concert of varied music by Tallis, Britten, Holst, Errollyn Wallen and Abbie Betinis.

The Old College Quad series includes intimate recitals from **Elisabeth Leonskaja**, **Mariam Batsashvili**, **Ronald Brautigam**, **Patricia Kopatchinskaja**, **Gerald Finley**, **Renée Fleming** and 20-year-old violinist **Noa Wildschut**. Ensemble performances include the **Zehetmair Quartet**, **Goldmund Quartet**, **Gringolts Quartet** and the **Chineke! Chamber Ensemble**. Edinburgh-born pianist **Malcolm Martineau** celebrates the 250th anniversary of Sir Walter Scott's birth with soprano **Elizabeth Watts** and an ensemble of chamber musicians. The **Scottish Chamber Orchestra's** principal conductor and accomplished pianist **Maxim Emelyanychev** is joined by five of the orchestra's celebrated principals to perform Mozart and Thuille.

See www.eif.co.uk/classicalmusic for information on individual performances.

Theatre and Spoken Word

The 2021 International Festival programme features the world premiere of **Enda Walsh's** ***Medicine*** from the award-winning Landmark Productions and Galway International Arts Festival, presented in association with The Traverse. Featuring **Domhnall Gleeson** alongside **Clare Barrett**, **Sean Carpio** and **Aoife Duffin**, *Medicine* examines social responses to mental health concerns while deconstructing the fabric of theatrical performance.

The **National Theatre of Scotland** returns to the International Festival with **Hannah Lavery's** ***Lament for Sheku Bayoh***, a co-production between Edinburgh International Festival and the Royal Lyceum Theatre. First seen as a rehearsed reading during the 2019 Festival before it premiered as a digital production in 2020, *Lament for Sheku Bayoh* is performed by Scottish actors **Saskia Ashdown**, **Patricia Panther** and **Courtney Stoddart** with music composed and performed by **Beldina Odenyo**.

Alan Cumming returns to the Festival following the success of *Alan Cumming Sings Sappy Songs* in 2016 for the first and only UK performances of his new show ***Alan Cumming Is Not Acting His Age***. This evening of story and song joyfully celebrates ageing.

An exciting series of rehearsed readings at The Lyceum includes **Jaimini Jethwa's** ***Hindu Times***, presented by the Dundee Rep Theatre, Royal Lyceum Theatre Edinburgh and Pitlochry Festival Theatre in association with Stellar Quines. Winner of the inaugural Women's Prize for Playwriting 2020, ***You Bury Me*** is written by **Ahlam**, directed by **Katie Posner** and presented by Paines Plough, Ellie Keel Productions and 45North.

Combining street artwork, audio-story performance and a walk through Edinburgh, ***Niqabi Ninja*** was written by **Sara Shaarawi** in reaction to the 2012–2014 mob sexual assaults in Tahrir Square, Cairo. Presented simultaneously in five locations across Scotland, this collective experience offers the space to think about what it means to walk in public without fear.

Presented in partnership with the **Edinburgh International Book Festival**, ***A Toast to the People*** features new commissions and specially selected sets from spoken word artists **Jay Bernard**, **Jefferson**

Tshabalala, Inua Ellams, Saul Williams, Hollie McNish, Wana Udobang, Vanessa Kisuule, Safiya Sinclair, Rafeef Ziadah and Francesca Beard.

See www.eif.co.uk/theatre for information on individual productions.

Opera & Musicals

Under conductor **Sir Andrew Davis**, the **Royal Scottish National Orchestra** returns to the International Festival in Richard Strauss' sumptuous comedy *Ariadne auf Naxos*. This brand-new concert staging by **Louisa Muller** features German soprano **Dorothea Röschmann** as the opera's wronged heroine, **David Butt Philip** as Bacchus, **Thomas Quasthoff** as the house's major-domo and prize-winning Scottish singer **Catriona Morison** as The Composer.

Belize-born British composer **Errollyn Wallen** reimagines and expands the story of Dido and Aeneas in *Dido's Ghost*, accompanied by the **Dunedin Consort** under the directorship of **John Butt** and starring South African soprano **Golda Schultz** as Dido. The piece was co-commissioned by the International Festival, Dunedin Consort, Mahogany Opera, the Barbican Centre, Buxton International Festival and the Philharmonia Baroque Orchestra and Chorale.

Scottish Opera returns to the International Festival with a new production of *Falstaff* by Glasgow-born director and designer **Sir David McVicar**. This new staging, adapted from the outdoor version, gets to the bones of Falstaff, balancing laugh-out-loud moments with a poignant tale of a childlike man who has outlived his own time.

The iconic songs of classic Rodgers and Hammerstein musicals shine in *A Grand Night for Singing* – a musical revue staged by musical theatre performer **Kim Criswell** and conducted by **Wayne Marshall**. The handpicked cast features Criswell alongside **Danielle de Niese, Anna-Jane Casey, Damian Humbley** and **Richard Morrison**.

Shona the Musical Choir is a Scottish/African choir based in Edinburgh, presenting original songs from *Shona the Musical*, a cross-cultural love story that transcends racial barriers. The story and music are inspired by historical events and the socio-political turmoil of Robert Mugabe's rule of Zimbabwe.

See www.eif.co.uk/opera for information on individual performances.

Dance

The 2021 International Festival's dance co-commissions include new dance film *Chotto Xenos*, inspired by **Akram Khan's** solo show *XENOS*. Directed by **Sue Buckmaster** and **Maxime Dos**, *Chotto Xenos* visits the untold stories of colonial soldiers during the First World War. The film features a powerful performance of Khan's choreography by **Kennedy Junior Muntanga**.

Dancing in the Streets is a series of filmic postcards from the streets of cities around the world, the homes of the dancers who should have been performing in Edinburgh in August 2020. Four of the world's most acclaimed choreographers, **Alice Ripoll** from São Paulo, **Omar Rajeh** from Beirut, **Gregory Maqoma** from Soweto and **Janice Parker** from Edinburgh have created short films with their dancers, responding to the past year and reflecting on their relationship with their home cities. All four films will be screened at **Dance Base** and available to watch online.

Edinburgh-based dance theatre company **Curious Seed** makes its International Festival debut with ***Field – Something for the Future Now***. This durational outdoor dance happening takes place in the beautiful setting of Holyrood Park.

See www.eif.co.uk/dance for information on individual performances.

Contemporary Music

The International Festival's Edinburgh Park series includes concerts that span music genres.

Accompanied by a band and string section, Blur and Gorillaz frontman **Damon Albarn** presents tracks from across his songbook, including the current project *The Nearer the Fountain, More Pure the Stream Flows*, originally inspired by the landscapes of Iceland and expanded during lockdown, exploring themes of fragility, emergence and rebirth. The title is taken from a John Clare poem Love and Memory.

Anna Meredith returns to Edinburgh after the unforgettable *Five Telegrams* at the 2018 International Festival to perform her second album *FIBS*. Post-punk singer-songwriter **Nadine Shah** performs her latest album *The Kitchen Sink* and Mercury nominee **Laura Mvula** performs material from her new album *Pink Noise* in her recognisably soulful jazz style, infused with 80s new wave and dance-pop. **Kathryn Joseph**, winner of Scottish Album of the Year in 2015 for her debut album *Bones You Have Thrown Me and Blood I've Spilled*, joins the bill with her haunting, beautiful balladry.

Jazz artists include female-led music collective **Kokoroko** who bring their distinctive mix of West African highlife, jazz and afrobeat to Scotland for the first time. Producer-drummer **Moses Boyd**, one of the most exciting new voices in British jazz, is also on the line-up, along with London's **The Comet is Coming**, who return to Edinburgh with their explosive cosmic jazz rave.

Northumbrian musician **Richard Dawson** performs dark, folk-influenced tracks from his concept albums *Peasant* and *2020*, and multi-disciplinary artist and composer **Erland Cooper** performs music from his lauded Orkney trilogy: *Solan Goose*, *Sule Skerry* and *Hether Blether*. Family folk band **The Unthanks** perform their poetic mixture of folk music and storytelling and indie folk sister trio **The Staves** come to the city with songs from their new album *Good Woman*.

Genre-melting, guitar-noise four-piece **black midi** make an appearance, while fellow Londoners **Black Country, New Road** play tracks from their debut album *For The First Time*.

The programme also includes West Lothian indie heroes **The Snuts**, whose debut album became the first by a Scottish band to top the Official Album chart in 14 years. Glasgow-based four-piece **Tide Lines** perform their trademark anthemic folk rock, rooted firmly in the Highlands, and Edinburgh's **Neu! Reekie!** programme one of their signature multi-genre experiences.

Electronic artists performing include **Floating Points**, combining his classically trained background with UK garage, spiritual jazz and broken-beat influences and Canadian electronic artist Dan Snaith, AKA **Caribou**, with his latest LP *Suddenly*.

International artists include Malian singer, songwriter, guitarist and acclaimed actress **Fatoumata Diawara** with material from her Wassoulou and Mali blues influenced back catalogue. Californian art-pop duo **Tune-Yards** perform material from their latest album *sketchy*.

A full line-up and information on individual concerts be found at www.eif.co.uk/contemporarymusic.

Traditional Music

In *A Great Disordered Heart*, fiddler, composer and producer **Aidan O'Rourke** brings a personal concert series and film project to life, considering the past and present of his home in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town, also known as Little Ireland. The concert series features Scottish and Irish traditional musicians including piper **Brighde Chaimbeul**, concertina player **Cormac Begley**, Irish singer **Liam Ó Maonlaí**, Scottish singer and piper **Allan Macdonald**, celebrated trio **Sian** and Scotland's folk trio **Lau**.

The International Festival also welcomes a performance by friends and collaborators **Ballaké Sissoko & Vincent Ségal**: the Malian master of the kora and the French cellist with a background in trip-hop. Another virtuoso kora player **Sona Jobarteh**, from the West African Griot dynasties, joins the bill with her powerful mix of music and political activism.

In the Tradition is a season of traditional Scottish music and interconnected folk traditions from across the world taking place in the University of Edinburgh's Old College Quad. The programme includes performances from **Karine Polwart**, **RURA**, **Kinnaris Quintet**, **Talisk**, **Breabach**, **Siobhan Miller** and more. A special programme collaboration with the University of Edinburgh celebrates 70 years of the School of Scottish Studies with performances from local traditional Scottish music talent.

Further information about *In The Tradition* can be found at traditionalmusic.co.uk

Visual Art

The Normal, a visual art exhibition at the **Talbot Rice Gallery**, is a vivid reflection of life in 2020 during the pandemic featuring work from **Larry Achiampong**, **Amy Balkin**, **Anca Benera & Arnold Estefan**, **Boyle Family**, **Alexandra Daisy Ginsberg & Sascha Pohflepp**, **Gabrielle Goliath**, **Femke Herregraven**, **Jarsdell Solutions Ltd**, **Kahlil Joseph**, **Tonya McMullan**, **Sarah Rose** and **James Webb**.

Digital Programme

The 2021 International Festival includes a digital programme of 21 full-length productions available to watch online for free. Digital performances include *Ariadne auf Naxos*, the **Chineke! Orchestra**, *Lament for Sheku Bayoh*, the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra**, **Talisk** and the **Zehetmair Quartet**.

Visit www.eif.co.uk/at-home for full details of the 2021 digital programme.

– ENDS –

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For **media images** – see [here](#)

For the 2021 International Festival **Trailer** – see [here](#)

For **b-roll** – see [here](#)

For a digital version of the **Programme Brochure** see [here](#).

To request media tickets for any performance during the 2021 Edinburgh International Festival, please complete our online form by Wednesday 30 June. To access the form – see [here](#).

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Edinburgh International Festival

Edinburgh International Festival is the world's leading performing arts festival, featuring the finest performers from the worlds of dance, opera, music and theatre. Created in 1947 to celebrate the enduring human spirit, the International Festival normally serves as an annual cultural exchange, every August, for an international audience exceeding 400,000 per year.

The 2020 Edinburgh International Festival was cancelled for the first time in its history due to concerns around the Covid-19 pandemic but will pioneer the return to live performance in Scotland in 2021 with 170 music, theatre, opera and dance performances. For more information visit www.eif.co.uk.

2021 International Festival supporters

The core investment that the Edinburgh International Festival receives from the City of Edinburgh Council and Creative Scotland plays a critical role in ensuring our stability and success. Their ongoing support has enabled us to take risks and push ourselves to bring live performance back to Edinburgh this August.

Crucial support from other public sector bodies, charitable funds, the corporate sector, international partners and agencies, trusts and foundations and our individual benefactors, patrons and friends is also vitally important in enabling us to present a Festival of scale and quality in 2021.

A Great Disordered Heart is supported through the Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund. The various projects funded through the PLACE programme, a partnership between the Scottish Government – through Creative Scotland – the City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Festivals, reflect the commonality of experiences that audiences, artists and communities have encountered over the past year.

Full details of all 2021 supporters can be found at <https://www.eif.co.uk/support-us>.

Edinburgh International Festival's Learning and Engagement Programme

The International Festival connects annually with thousands of people through its year-round Learning and Engagement programmes.

Working across four key pillars of activity – children, young people, communities and talent development – the International Festival aims to reach as many people as possible of all ages both locally and internationally, and is committed to ensuring the annual global celebration of culture is accessed by all through a year-round bespoke programme of projects and opportunities. This summer will see the International Festival partnering with a range of companies and organisations to support this work including Akram Khan Company, Imagineate, the National Theatre of Scotland, the Royal Botanical Gardens Edinburgh, The Royal Lyceum Theatre, the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Starcatchers and Vox Luminis.

See www.eif.co.uk/learning-and-engagement for more information.