

St Andrews Music Club

St Andrews Music Club

Trustees report 2020

St Andrews Music Club



The St Andrews Music Club promotes chamber music concerts in St Andrews. Our concerts feature young artists at the outset of their careers as well as more seasoned performers with wide international experience. Our concerts are mainly held in the Byre Theatre, but some are held in the more intimate setting of St Salvator's Chapel and the Younger Hall is still used for some concerts. Since 2013 the Music Club has been working in partnership with the University of St Andrews Music Centre and this has allowed the Club to continue to engage national and international performers of the highest standard. Six concerts are held each year, but the programme for 2019-20 has been disrupted by the coronavirus pandemic, and the disruption is liable to continue well into 2020-21.

The story of the Music Club

Since its first concert in October 1953, the St Andrews Music Club has been providing local people with the chance to brighten their winter evenings by attending quality chamber music concerts in St Andrews.

The Music Club was formed following the decision to wind up the St Andrews Chamber Music Society in 1952. The St Andrews Chamber Music Society was formed in 1920 and was essentially a membership club with little or no public advertising. Initially successful, it had ceased to be financially viable. However, its demise led to a number of letters to the Citizen bemoaning the loss of music in St Andrews. A group was formed with the aim of creating an organization which would continue to bring professional music to St Andrews while remaining financially viable. They proposed that the new Club would differ from the Music Society by avoiding its perceived exclusiveness and ensuring that its concerts were seen as open to all members of the public. In addition, rather than bringing performers to St Andrews from London specifically for a concert, the new Club wanted to collaborate with other Scottish music clubs by choosing artists who were touring these clubs, thus sharing the travel costs. At a public meeting in May 1953 the proposed Music Club was approved and work started immediately on arrangements for the first season's concerts.

From its first season, the Club has combined "star attractions" in the form of well-established musicians with potential stars of the future. Since the beginning the Club has aimed to produce a varied programme, perhaps illustrated by the inclusion in the second season of both Kenneth McKellar and the Végh Quartet from Hungary. The Végh Quartet was disbanded in 1980 but throughout its forty year history it was regarded as one of the foremost string quartets in Europe. The 1950s and 1960s saw concerts by Julian Bream, John Ogdon, Vladimir Ashkenazy,

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Jacqueline du Pré, Janet Baker and the Amadeus String Quartet. For the 21st birthday of the Club in 1974, Yehudi Menuhin performed in the Younger Hall.

The Music Club went into partnership with the University of St Andrews Music Centre in 2013, an arrangement which has helped to secure the Club's future and enhanced the quality of its concerts. In more recent years, the programme has continued to include some of the UK's and indeed Europe's most highly regarded musicians, including Chloë Hanslip in 2015 and both the Brodsky Quartet and Ronald Brautigam in 2016. The Fitzwilliam String Quartet have become regular performers each April as part of their participation in the University's Strings in Spring event. In principle, the Music Club will be hosting events in the Laidlaw Centre, and it should have started to do so in 2019-20, but the disruption of arrangements following the pandemic meant that this was not to be possible in the current season.

Laidlaw Music Centre University of St Andrews

The opening of the Laidlaw Music Centre in 2020 marks the start of an exciting new phase of music-making for the University and the wider community. Equipped with state-of-the-art performance, rehearsal, recording and tuition spaces, the new building provides a hub for musical creativity of all kinds.

The new Laidlaw Music Centre, opened in 2020, provides a custom-built music centre in the heart of the University of St Andrews. It offers a full range of sound-proofed, acoustically-appropriate practice, rehearsal, teaching, recording and performance spaces for everyone in the St Andrews' musical community to use. It employs the latest technologies, such as an automated floor that consists of 86 electronically controlled sections which allows it to configure any form of staging and seating required for different sized ensembles.

The new building occupies a site between the St Regulus Hall of Residence and the Bute building, linking through to St Mary's Quadrangle and in to South Street. Situated close to the Byre Theatre, the two buildings create a vibrant, cultural quarter in the town.



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President's report: The 67th season

The St Andrews Music Club is there to make it possible for people to hear live performances of the world's best music. This year, we should have had six concerts, but events overtook us. First, there was the cancellation of the October concert, because one of the principals had suffered an injury; we arranged at the time for a different concert, to be held in May. And then there was lockdown, which meant that we lost both the contribution of the Fitzwilliam quartet in April and the re-arranged concert.

We were able, then, to host only four concerts,. They included:

Thursday 19th September 2019

Clemmie Franks (voice)
Victoria Couper (voice)
Michael Solomon Williams (voice)
Arngeir Hauksson (multi-instrumentalist)



A Wanderers Way: From Scotland to Spain

Exploring nature and spirituality through music and song from mediaeval to the modern day. Including traditional songs and pieces from mediaeval manuscripts.

The concert marked the official opening of the *Fife Pilgrim Way*.

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Thursday 14th November 2019

**Stockholm Brass &
The Wallace Collection**
Sun, Swedes and Scots



- **Lully, Delalande, Charpentier arr Miller**
Music for the Sun King
- **Jean-Francois Bellon -**
Quintette no 7 'A Sea Voyage'
- **Francisco Coll -**
Quintet for Brass (*World Premiere*)
- **Andrew Powell**
Ritual (in memoriam Trevor Reginald King) (*World Premiere*)
- **Bizet arr Miller**
L' Arlesienne Suite
- **Tim Souster**
All Summer Long

A programme bringing together the eclectic tastes of two of the world's most enduring brass groups. Between a 'sun sandwich' of music from the court of the Sun King, and Tim Souster's delicious Beach Boy Fantasy from California the two groups bought us two new works by two of the most exciting composers writing for Brass today, Andrew Powell and Francisco Coll, yet more sunny music from Provence by Bizet, and Bellon's 'Sea Voyage' performed on period instruments.

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Thursday 27 February, 7.30pm

**Aisling Agnew (flute) &
Matthew McAllister (guitar)**



- **Handel**
Sonata in A Minor, op. 1, no. 4, HWV 362
- **Veronique Vella**
Bidla
- **Toru Takemitsu**
Air, for solo flute
- **Celtic Suite**
 - **Chris Stout** Hamnataing
 - **Thomas Walsh** Inisheer
 - **Traditional** Bucks of Oranmore
- **Lowell Liebermann**
Sonata for Flute and Guitar, op. 25
- **Astor Piazzolla**
Histoire du Tango:
 - Bordel, 1900
 - Café, 1930
 - Nightclub, 1960
 - Concert d'Aujourd'hui

Thursday 12 March 2017

Pierre Morabia (piano)



- **Beethoven:**
 - Sonata no. 7 in D, op.10, no.3
- **Chabrier:**
 - Habanera
 - Improvisation
 - Caprice
 - Feuillet d'album
 - Danse villageoise
- **Sibelius**
 - Barcarola op.24, no.10
 - Romance op.24, no.9
 - Valse triste op.44, no.1
 - Kylliki op.41
- **Ravel:**
 - Pavane pour une infante défunte
 - Menuet antique
 - Habanera
 - Menuet sur le nom de Haydn
 - Alborada del gracioso

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We already know for the forthcoming year that the concerts we had scheduled for September and October will have to be postponed or cancelled, and that there has to be some continuing uncertainty relating both to the type of performance which will be possible, the capacity of the venue to manage an audience, and the regulations which may apply at any time.

The St Andrews Music Club is grateful to the following organisations for grants or other financial support received to promote the 2019-20 St Andrews Concert Series:

- Chamber Music Scotland
- Cookie Matheson Charitable Trust
- Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews Town Fund
- University of St Andrews Music Centre
- Modestine Society

Our work is not financially viable in the best of times, but this support, and the partnership with the University's Music Centre, has made it possible to go on.

Professor Paul Spicker
President

St Andrews Music Club

Treasurer's report

St Andrews Music Club Annual Accounts (year ending 15 May 2020)

	2018-19 Season (6 concerts)	2019-20 Season (4 concerts)
Income		
Ticket Sales		
Season Tickets	£1,134.75	£729.60
Single Tickets	£1,797.00	£744.50
(less Ticket Commission)	(£190.28)	(£107.28)
Other Concert Income	£65.50	£0.00
Sponsorship	£390.00	£0.00
Grants		
Enterprise Music Scotland	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Cookie Matheson Charitable Trust	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews Town Fund	£1,000.00	
Donations	£409.12	£325.28
Total Income:	£7,606.09	£5,692.10

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Expenses

Artists' Fees	£4,940.00	£2,535.00
Artists' Travel	£601.91	£296.00
Advertising / Promotion	£827.00	£764.50
Concert Programmes	£351.50	£127.00
Other Concert Expenses	£205.83	£165.00
Insurance	£43.00	£43.00
Making Music	£89.00	£89.00
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Total Expenses:	£7,058.24	£4,019.50

Deficit (-) / Surplus

£547.85

£1,672.60

Simon Kidd
Treasurer

St Andrews Music Club

About the Music Club

The Committee is:

- Paul Spicker (President)
- Simon Kidd (Treasurer and Concert Manager)
- Peter Haselhurst (Committee Secretary)
- Miranda Morris
- Louise Topping
- Michael Downes and
- Chris Bragg

The Committee makes the concerts possible. We hope that more members will join us and make it possible for us to continue with our work into the future. Please get in touch with any of us if you are interested in helping.

The St Andrews Music Club is a charity registered in Scotland; its charity number is SC002436.