



musicinverness

March 2023 eNewsletter

musicinverness : Tree O'Reeds +- Music Nairn : Rachel Podger

Inverurie Music : Tim Kliphuis Trio +- Scottish Ensemble : Goldberg Variations

Arts Society Highland Lecture +- Cake & Concert : Marvel of Peru

Jazz Nairn : Quattro Macjazz +- 4th Abirneithi Sinfonia for Ukrainian Refugee

Pride and Prejudice (*sort of) +- Lohengrin from The Met*

The Osprey Music Society : Sasha Savaloni +- Royal Opera : Turandot

Cromarty Arts : Apollo's Cabinet +- Classics by Candlelight : Three's Company

*Ness Bank Church : Badenoch Chorale +- Inverness Musical Theatre : The
Wedding Singer*

NT Live : Life of Pi +- musicinverness : Oxana Shevchenko

March begins with me in a positive mood after some great performances in February that showed healthy signs that audiences are returning and some very exciting events to look forward to during March. Three excellent piano recitals from Yuanfan Yang, Nina Savicevic and Duncan Honeybourne will stay in the memory, as will the four string octets performed by the Broen Ensemble. The Gould Trio with Robert Plane and Royal Opera's Barber of Seville were very enjoyable evenings, and there is still more to come before February rolls over into March. And another thing I am looking forward to during the coming month is for the daffodils to break surface and show something in my garden, as they are not doing anything yet!

Friday 3rd March at 1.00pm in St Stephen's Church, Inverness. In a joint promotion with Live Music Now Scotland, musicinverness welcomes **Tree O'Reeds**, a wind trio of Ruaridh Bakke (clarinet), Will Gold (bassoon) and Gaynor Gowman (oboe) that was formed during the Covid lockdown while they were all students at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. Their programme for this sixty minute lunchtime concert features works by Beethoven, Grieg, Ibert,

Mozart, Muto, Smalys, Verdi, Wagner and their own Suite of Celtic Airs. Admission by suggested donation of Adults £10, musicinverness members £8 and Under 16s £1. Cash or Card.

Friday 3rd March at 7.30pm in Nairn Community and Arts Centre. Music Nairn is proud to present the renowned violinist **Rachel Podger** for a solo programme of music from the baroque era by composers that will be unknown to many of you. However, I spent a very pleasant few hours searching out Rachel's choice on the internet and I can assure you that you are in for a delightful evening. A recital not to be missed. Tickets from Nairn Community and Arts Centre Box Office, or on the night.

Saturday 4th March at 8.00pm in the Acorn Centre, Inverurie. OK, I know it is a bit outside our usual territory, but I'll bend the rules for my good friends of the wonderful **Tim Kliphuis Trio**. Their programme is called "Django and the Five Elements" and features their tribute to the great guitarist of the Quintet de Hot Club de France and enthralling music that Tim composed during lockdown to express his concerns over changes to nature. Tickets from Eventbrite.

Monday 6th March at 7.30pm in the Empire Theatre, Eden Court. **Scottish Ensemble with Andersson Dance** - Goldberg Variations : ternary patterns for Insomnia. After playing to audiences around the world, Scottish Ensemble and Sweden's Andersson Dance return to Eden Court with their playful reworking of J.S. Bach's masterpiece, Goldberg Variations. Fusing music and movement to profound and joyous effect, this production brings a fresh visual dimension to this revered piece of music, allowing audiences to enjoy its humour, humanity and beauty in an entirely new way.

Tuesday 7th March at 11.00am in Nairn Community and Arts Centre. **Arts Society Highland** present an illustrated lecture on "The Art of the Cartoonist" by Harry Venning - an award winning cartoonist, comedy writer and performer based in Brighton and well known for several series including Clare in the Community as well as regular cartoons in many and varied publications. He says he cannot draw hands or horses!

Saturday 11th March at 3.00pm in St Andrew's Cathedral, Inverness. A **Cake and Concert** Event featuring **Marvel of Peru**. After a social half hour of tea or coffee, cake and chat, join the exciting Highland ensemble, Marvel of Peru as they present a golden hour of music for Baroque instruments and voice. Admission £10 which includes the cake and tea or coffee.

Saturday 11th March at 8.00pm in The Lounge at Nairn Dunbar Golf Club. **Jazz Nairn** presents **Quattro MacJazz**. Four of Scotland's greatest traditional jazz musicians. Trumpet Lennie

Herd, clarinet Hamish McGregor, banjo Alastair McDonald and double bass Roy Percy entertain with an evening of Dixieland jazz. Tickets online at www.jazznairn.org or at the door on the night. Adults £16. Students £3. Children Free.

Sunday 12th March at 6.00pm in Nethy Bridge Community Centre. **4th Abirneithi Sinfonia** present a concert of light classical music in aid of "Help Our Ukrainian Refugees" organised by the local Community Group Badenoch and Strathspey Minibus Association. Featuring Conductor Steven Meikle and violinist Barbara Downie of the BBC SSO. Entry Free. Exit by donation.

Tuesday 14th March to Saturday 18th March. Times vary. Eden Court Empire Theatre. **Pride and Prejudice * (* sort of....)** Since opening in Glasgow, **Pride and Prejudice* (*sort of)** has taken London's West End by storm winning the Olivier Award for Best Comedy. Now it's coming home to Scotland. **Pride and Prejudice* (*sort of)** is a unique and audacious retelling of Jane Austen's most iconic love story. Men, money and microphones will be fought over in this irreverent but affectionate adaptation, where the stakes couldn't be higher when it comes to romance. This "smart, laugh out loud funny" (*Daily Telegraph*) show features a string of pop classics including *Young Hearts Run Free*, *Will You Love Me Tomorrow*, and *You're So Vain*.

It's the 1800s.

It's party time.

Let the ruthless matchmaking begin.

Saturday 18th March at 4.00pm in La Scala Cinema, Eden Court. LIVE from The Met! **Wagner's Lohengrin**. Conducted by Yannick Nézet-Séguin and featuring an all star international cast with names I will not even try to pronounce, Wagner's masterpiece returns to the New York stage after a gap of seventeen years in an atmospheric production directed by François Girard.

Sunday 19th March at 7.30pm in Boat of Garten Community Centre. The Osprey Music Society presents classical guitarist **Sasha Savaloni**. Sasha is the winner of two of the most prestigious guitar competitions in Europe; the Sevilla International Guitar Competition (2018) and the New Elizabethan Award (2022). He has performed as a soloist in many of the most prestigious music halls across the world as well as with many leading orchestras. When not performing he is on the teaching staff at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland.

Wednesday 22nd March at 7.15pm in La Scala Cinema, Eden Court. Royal Opera LIVE! **Puccini's Turandot**. Puccini's score for his final opera is rich in musical marvels (featuring the

famous aria 'Nessun dorma'), while Andrei Serban's production draws on Chinese theatrical traditions to evoke a colourful fantasy tableau of ancient Peking. Antonio Pappano conducts Anna Pirozzi in the title role and Yonghoon Lee as Calaf. Encore Screening in La Scala on Sunday 26th March at 2.00pm.

Wednesday 22nd March at 7.30pm in The Stables, Cromarty. CAT presents **Apollo's Cabinet** with their semi-staged production "**A Star is Born - The Making of Kitty Clive**". This quartet of musicians, soprano, recorder, harpsichord and viola da gamba, follows her throughout her career, dramatizing events in her professional and personal life, some true to life and others with a pinch of creative freedom, as she becomes one of the most renowned theatrical entertainers of the mid eighteenth century.

Friday 24th March at 8.00pm in St John's Episcopal Church, Inverness. **Three's Company** presents Classics by Candlelight in aid of Maggie's Highlands. Liz McLardy – soprano; D James Ross – clarinet and Anna Merrouni – piano. Kindly sponsored by Bad Girls Bakery, Simpsons Builders, Home Farm Lodges Inverness, HIS Inverness and Aird Motors Beaulieu. Cake and prosecco will be served afterwards.

Book in advance with Liz at lizmclardy1@gmail.com or 07746 951151 or pay at the door on the night. £12.

Sunday 26th March at 6.30pm in Ness Bank Church. In a concert postponed from December 2020 by the Covid pandemic the **Badenoch Chorale** directed by John Crombie performs a programme which includes instrumental pieces by Chorale members as well as choral numbers which will include Handel, Parry and Verdi alongside some lighter works. Entry is by donation.

Wednesday 29th March until Saturday 1st April. Four evening performances at 7.30pm and a Saturday matinee at 2.30pm in the Empire Theatre Eden Court. **Inverness Musical Theatre** returns with another dazzling, high-energy show, the romantic comedy **The Wedding Singer**. Based on the 1998 film of the same name, with music by Matthew Sklar and lyrics by Chad Beguelin from the book by Tim Herlihy, this musical totally embraces the lively 80's vibe of the movie - the music, choreography, fashion, pop culture and humour.

Thursday 30th March at 7.00pm in La Scala Cinema, Eden Court. **National Theatre LIVE!** screens **The Life of Pi**. Puppetry, magic and storytelling combine in a unique, Olivier Award-winning stage adaptation of the best-selling novel. After a cargo ship sinks in the middle of the vast Pacific Ocean, a 16-year-old boy named Pi is stranded on a lifeboat with four other survivors – a hyena, a zebra, an orangutan and a Royal Bengal tiger. Time is against them, nature is harsh, who will survive? Filmed live in London's West End and featuring state-of-

the-art visuals, the epic journey of endurance and hope is brought to life in a breath-taking new way for cinemas screens. Encore screenings on Sunday 2nd April at 1.00pm and Tuesday 4th April at 7.00pm

AND FINALLY.....

Thursday 30th March at 7.30pm in Crown Church, Inverness. musicinverness is proud to present the world-renowned Kazakh concert pianist **Oxana Shevchenko**. Making a special trip to Scotland to play for the Inverness friends she has made on three previous visits, Winner of the 2010 Scottish International Piano Competition and the Best Accompanist Prize in the 2011 Moscow Tchaikovsky Competition as well as numerous other competition successes, Oxana has put together a special programme which includes highlights from her international career.

Mozart — Sonata No 18 in D major, K576

Schubert — Hungarian Melody in B minor, D817

Brahms — Piano Sonata No 1 in C major, Op 1

Interval

Prokofiev — Six Pieces from the Suite “Romeo and Juliet” Op 64bis :

i/. The Street Awakens, ii/. Juliet as a Young Girl, iii/. Montagues and Capulets, iv/. Mercutio, v/. Dance of the Girls with Lilies, vi/. Romeo and Juliet before Parting.

Stravinsky — Les cinq doigts

Stravinsky — Piano Rag Music

Gershwin — Three Preludes

Doors in Midmills Road open at 7.00pm. As the concert takes place in an active place of worship, admission is by a suggested donation by cash or card. Adults £16. musicinverness members £13. Under 16s £1.

That’s all for March, and some absolute crackers, especially the wonderful Oxana Shevchenko! Then in April we have the variety of musicinverness’s Springfest ’23 - full details on www.musicinverness.uk Lots to look forward to.