

musicinverness Membership Renewal -+- Vermeer on Screen -+- Scottish Ensemble

Ness Sinfonia -+- National Theatre - Fleabag -+- The Wind Connection -+- Scottish

Chamber Orchestra -+- Cake 'n' Concert "4 on Sax" -+- Les Chanteurs de Lorraine

What with all the postponed concerts and revised dates over the past few years, musicinverness rolled over existing memberships until the end of June 2023. My thanks to all of you who have already renewed your memberships and those of you who joined towards the end of the 2022/2023 Series and enjoy membership until the end of June 2024.

With the new Membership Year fast approaching, you are all warmly invited to become members of musicinverness. You will get concert tickets at a discounted price; you will be able to share your passion for chamber music with others with a similar interest; and you will have that sense of belonging and feel that this is your society.

The Subscription for a single adult for the 2023/2024 year is £20; and for two adults living at the same address it is £30. Following a review of ticket prices, School Pupils will pay only £1 for admission to any musicinverness concert so it is not practical to offer a financial discount. However any School Pupils who would like to be Members can join for FREE. For full-length evening concerts, Members will be asked to pay £15 and non-members £18. For Friday lunchtime and Sunday afternoon concerts Members will pay £10 each and non-members £12.

Joining is easy. Just send me an email with your name(s), postal address and a contact telephone number. Payment can be made by cheque payable to "Inverness Chamber Music" or by bank transfer (please ask for our bank details when you apply). Payment by card can only be done in person so would have to wait until you attend a musicinverness event. I will prepare and send you your Membership Card(s) as soon as possible although initially there may be some delay.

Anyway, as I look forward to my Inbox being crammed, let's have a look at what is coming up between now and the end of July.

Monday 19th June at 5.30pm in the Playhouse Cinema at Eden Court. Vermeer on Screen. Currently on show at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam is the most comprehensive exhibition of the paintings of Vermeer. This is an Encore screening of a most fascinating film about one of the greatest Dutch artists with commentary by members of the team that curated the

collection. With tickets to see the exhibition in Amsterdam being rarer than hen's teeth, this is your chance to see Vermeer's enthralling works. I saw the film a week ago. Do not miss it.

Tuesday 20th June at 8.00pm in Strathpeffer Pavilion. Scottish Ensemble's Summer Nights. A musical celebration of the summer solstice. The chink of ice in your drink, the hues of a long Scottish Summer evening and the atmosphere of an array of unique, light-filled venues can only mean one thing – that the Scottish Ensemble's Concerts for a Summer's Night series is back. Premiering last season to sold-out venues, this immediately popular series returns in 2023 – a counterpart to our other seasonal treat, Concerts by Candlelight.

Expect a musical journey that takes in the well-loved and the less expected, introductions from the stage, a complimentary welcome drink on arrival and a chance to chat to musicians afterwards. A perfect way to celebrate summer.

There is an option for a free bus from Inverness to Strathpeffer - please book a free ticket when booking your concert ticket and more information will follow. It will likely leave from Eden Court at 6.30pm, allowing for some time pre show, and leaving 15 minutes after the concert finishes, with estimated arrival back in Inverness at 10.15pm.

Saturday 24th June at 3.00pm in the Crown Church. The Ness Sinfonia presents The Magic of Vienna. Join the Ness Sinfonia under the baton of Robin Versteeg for a concert of masterpieces from some of the greatest names in Austrian orchestral music, featuring Mozart's Clarinet Concerto with soloist Robert Sheach, some of Haydn's Creation and excerpts from Die Fledermaus by Johann Strauss II.

Admission by a suggested donation of £10 (Under 18s are free), raising money for the "Young Crown" at Crown Church, Inverness.

Sunday 25th June at 3.00pm in Inverness Cathedral. Cake and Concert with The Wind Connection. June's event in the Cake and Concert Series is by The Wind Connection, an ensemble of local wind musicians. Their programme features Mozart's Overture to The Marriage of Figaro, Petite Symphonie by Gounod, Kaiserwaltz by Johann Strauss and Krommer's Nonet, Op 79. Admission £10 which includes cake and tea or coffee.

Thursday 20th July at 7.30pm in Elgin Town Hall. The Scottish Chamber Orchestra perform a concert entitled "Summer in Italy".

Join the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Principal Conductor Maxim Emelyanychev and SCO soloists Maximiliano Martín and Nikita Naumov for a concert full of Italian flair and Mediterranean summer sunshine. Rossini and Bottesini bring musical drama and fizz to the

SCO's Summer in Italy programme. Rossini's Overture to *The Barber of Seville* and his operatic Introduction, Theme and Variations are full of fun and energy, and Bottesini's dazzling *Gran Duo* provides both soloists with the opportunity to showcase their outstanding virtuosity. Mendelssohn's 'Italian' Symphony was inspired by the culture, climate and countryside that the composer experienced on his 1830 trip to Italy, and the work is one of his warmest and most evocative symphonies.

For tickets go to www.sco.org.uk/events/summer-in-italy

Sunday 23rd July at 3.00pm in Inverness Cathedral. Cake and Concert event by "4 on Sax". Come along and enjoy your cake and tea or coffee, and then listen to Jennifer Pickering on soprano sax, Catharine Niven on alto, Morag Burton on tenor and Louise Dalziel on baritone as they play an hour of music from Handel to Scott Joplin and the Beatles. Admission £10.

Wednesday 26th July at 7.30pm in the Crown Church. Les Chanteurs de Lorraine. This choir from Quebec, Canada is on a short Scottish tour which includes Inverness, performing a concert entitled "Bon baisers du Quebec" (From Quebec with Love). They will be singing a collection of classic and contemporary songs from Mozart, Verdi, Bizet, The Rankin Family, Will Todd and others. This event is being sponsored by musicinverness and there will be a retiring collection in aid of future concerts.

That's all for the moment, folks! You can see much of the musicinverness 2023/2024 Season by going to www.musicinverness.uk. There are still one or two gaps to be filled in for concerts that are still being negotiated. Highlight of the season is on Sunday 19th November at 5.00pm in the Crown Church. Piano Sunday is a new venture of two solo piano recitals with a meal interval. The two brilliant young pianists playing music by Schubert and Liszt are Adam Heron, making his Inverness debut, and Nina Savicevic returning for a third visit.

Looking forward to receiving all those Membership Applications!