



James Tenney: In a Large Open Space

Quatuor Bozzini & Any Enemy

Saturday 24th October 2026, 5pm

St Andrew's Cathedral, Aberdeen

Quatuor Bozzini: Clemens Merkel & Alissa Cheung (violins), Stéphanie Bozzini, (viola) and Isabelle Bozzini (cello).

Any Enemy: Guera Crockett (violin), Laurie Rominger (viola), Alison MacDonald (cello), Catherine O'Rourke (flute), Fiona Gordon (oboe), Lucy Webster (bassoon), John de Simone (tuba), Brodie McCash (percussion) and Pete Stollery (electronics).

Additional performers: Heather Evans (alto flute), Cameron Clark (viola), Andrew Watson (double bass) and Emily Anderson (bass flute).

Programme notes

In a Large, Open Space was composed by James Tenney in 1994 after he visited the Minoritenkirche in Krems, Austria.

In the score, the words appearing directly after the title are "within which the audience is able to move freely, for any 12 or more sustaining instruments": a set of simple instructions rather than a fixed score, designed to be realised afresh by any number and combination of instruments in any resonant space. Performers enter at their own pace, playing long, sustained tones from an overtone scale, integrating in an everchanging texture, where performers, audience music and space become one entity, allowing an extraordinary moment of deep and relaxed listening

For this **sound**festival performance, Quatuor Bozzini is joined by Any Enemy, bringing together visiting professional musicians and local Aberdeen performers in a single, shared act of listening. The piece has no fixed hierarchy between "guest" and "community" players: every musician's contribution is equally part of the unfolding sound-world.

Performed in the resonant setting of St Andrew's Cathedral, the piece invites the audience to move around and experience the sound from different vantage points as it slowly evolves through the architecture. It is as much about the act of collective, attentive listening as it is about the notes themselves — a fitting way for Quatuor Bozzini to open its Aberdeen residency alongside musicians from the local community.

Biographies

Quatuor Bozzini has been a celebrated advocate in new, experimental and classical music since 1999, driving the intensely creative scene in Montréal and internationally. The quartet cultivates an ethos of risk-taking, experimentation and collaboration, encouraging audiences with them to venture boldly off the beaten track. Their repertoire is impressively broad, playing classics with a freshness informed by their equal love of the new. They nurture a rich and diverse repertoire with many commissions and some 500 premiered works. Their collaborative, artist-led approach has led to numerous highly-praised productions, including inter-disciplinary projects with video, theatre and dance.

Quatuor Bozzini is devoted to nurturing new generations of composers and performers through its music 'laboratories' – the Composers' Kitchen, Performers' Kitchen and Bozzini Lab. The quartet's own recording label – Collection QB – has released many critically acclaimed albums, alongside releases on Wergo-Deutscher Musikrat, Edition Wandelweiser, Another Timbre, Hubro, ATMA Classique and Centrediscs.

Quatuor Bozzini has been praised in Bandcamp Daily as *one of the most daring string quartets in the entire world*; in The Guardian as *belonging to that select group of fearless string quartets* and in The Scotsman as *quite simply a revelation*. Touring extensively worldwide, recent appearances in Scotland include at Celtic Connections, at Sound Scotland where they return in 2026; and in Europe at MärzMusik Berlin (DE); Guildhall, Barbican, Wigmore, Southbank, Aldeburgh, Huddersfield (UK); Klangspuren Schwarz (AT); Festival Présences, Festival Riverrun (FR); Angelica, SoundSCAPE (IT); Oslo Poesi (NO); Gaudeamus, Muziekgebouw, NovemberMusic (NL); Kortrijk (BE); Ostrava Days (CZ); SIPFEST (ID); Tsuda Hall (JP); TIMESPANS, Other Minds (USA).

Any Enemy is a contemporary music ensemble of local musicians in Northeast Scotland, conducted by Pete Stollery. They meet regularly throughout the year and rehearse a wide range of new music for flexible instrumentation.

Any Enemy gave their inaugural performance at **soundfestival** in 2018 which included works by Gemma McGregor and Rose Dodd. At **soundfestival** 2019 they premiered new works by three young Scottish composers, which led to an annual composer development opportunity, and also joined forces with the Red Note Ensemble for the world premiere of “Fire and Ice” by Linda Buckley. Both concerts were recorded and later broadcast by BBC Radio 3. During lockdown, Any Enemy gave several performances from their own homes via Zoom. These reached distant audiences and brought about a Trans-Atlantic Zoom concert with Brandon University New Music Ensemble. Any Enemy were joined by local musicians of all ages and Aberdeen University’s Spectrum Ensemble for CoMA's Contemporary Music for All festivals in 2022 and 2024 and they also enjoy working with community projects such as **sound**'s Get Creative contemporary music-making workshops for young musicians.

To date they have given world premieres of 26 works they have supported or commissioned.

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