

News Release

2011 sound Festival launches with New Music Network showcase



Red Note Ensemble - 1000 Airplanes on the Roof

- **2011 sound Festival runs from 21 October – 13 November**
- **Music ranges from classical to jazz, electro-acoustic and indie.**
- **40 Premières, 70 concerts in 28 venues across North East Scotland**
- **sound launches with New Music Scotland Showcase & Conference**
- **First event in on-going collaboration between Aberdeen, Bergen and St Petersburg**
- **A Nordic strand running through the Festival**
- **2011 University of Aberdeen Music Prize**
- **Focus on vocal music for final weekend**
- **Sea of Souls (Salute to Lifeboat men of Fraserburgh), DanceLive!**
- **first sound@Peacock and screening of Murnau's silent movie *Sunrise* with live music.**

The 2011 **sound** Festival will open with a showcase for the newly created New Music Scotland network. The network, which brings together Scottish composers, ensembles, soloists, venues and festivals was created to give a platform to Scotland's remarkable musical innovation. The showcase features no fewer than 17 live performances over 3 days (21- 23 October 2011) and a keynote lecture by one the UK's most highly respected musicologists, Dr Jonathan Cross. Amongst the ensembles performers and composers to be featured are **Red Note Ensemble** with soprano **Judith Howarth**, **Jonathan Morton** and the **Scottish Ensemble** with pianist **Alasdair Beatson**, **Scottish Flute Trio**, **Scottish Clarinet Quartet**, **NYOS Futures**, **The Glasgow Improvisers Orchestra** and **James Clapperton** with music ranging from contemporary classical to electro-acoustic and jazz.

"Scotland has a rich a vibrant new music scene," says Fiona Robertson, Programme Coordinator for the **sound Festival** and a founder member of New Music Scotland. *"The idea for the network came out of a gathering of performers, composers and promoters last year and aims to both support the creation and*

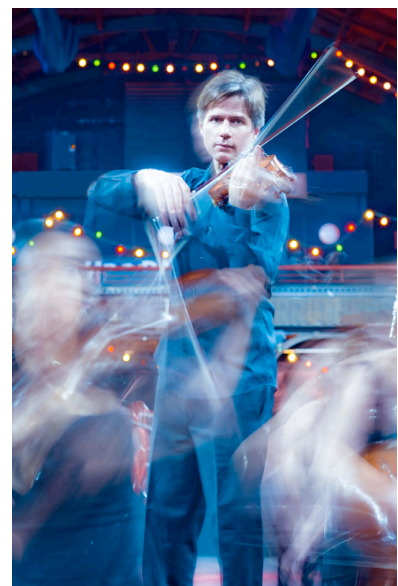
performance of new music as well as raise the profile of this important part of Scotland's cultural life. We are grateful to Creative Scotland for the support they have given us in the establishment of the network and enabling us to present this first showcase."

Running over three weeks from 21 October – 13 November, the 2011 **sound** Festival offers more than 70 performances and events in around 30 venues across North East Scotland. The programme showcases the broad mix of new music for which **sound** has become recognised from instrumental to choral, jazz and electro-acoustic, and includes over 40 World, UK and Scottish premières. **sound** "regulars" including **Red Note Ensemble, Scottish Flute Trio, Hoot, Ross Whyte, Pete Stollery and Bill Thompson**, are joined in 2011 by an array of "newcomers" including the **Scottish National Jazz Orchestra with Bobby Wellins, Curious Chamber Players, Stavanger Vocalensemble, EXAUDI Vocal Ensemble and Endymion, Auriga Wind Quintet of the Lapland Chamber Orchestra** and more. This year's **sound** Festival also includes the biennial **University of Aberdeen Music Prize** competition, and to celebrate the beginning of the 3-way partnership with Bergen and St Petersburg will feature Nordic composers with a Scandinavian thread running throughout the Festival. Other highlights include a collaboration with DanceLive! *Sea of Souls – A Salute to the Lifeboat Men of Fraserburgh*, **sound's** first micro event at Peacock Visual Arts and a screening of Murnau's 1927 silent movie, *Sunrise*, with live music composed and performed by Graeme Stephen.

"Among the many exciting events programmed for this year's Festival are a series of special weekends," adds Robertson. "Following the opening New Music Scotland Showcase and Conference, the second weekend of the Festival will see the first performances in the Three Cities Project, a partnership between **sound**, the Music Factory in Bergen and Sounds Ways in St Petersburg. The next weekend features the biennial University of Aberdeen Music Prize, which brings young composers from across the globe to Scotland, and for our final weekend this year we focus on vocal music with a day of workshops for local choirs and performances by the acclaimed EXAUDI Vocal Ensemble with Endymion, the Stavanger Vocalensemble, Juice Vocal Ensemble and more.

New Music Scotland Network weekend

Strings, wind, percussion, electro-acoustics and 20 cassette recorders - the New Music Scotland Showcase has it all. Opening at Woodend Barn in Banchory with **Red Note Ensemble's** performance of Philip Glass's hypnotic *1,000 Airplanes on the Roof* (with acclaimed Scottish soprano, **Judith Howarth**) the weekend features some fascinating combinations. **James Clapperton's** *Passing Places*, which explores the life of Roald Amundsen, brings together piano, sound recordings and live electro-acoustics; in *Socks and Ammo* **Mustek** investigate novel methods of communication between percussion and laptop and then there are the 20 cassette recorders in **Buffalo buffalo buffolo Buffalo buffalo**. The weekend sees the guitarist **Sean Shibe** join forces with the **Scottish Flute Trio** performing a new work by Nigel Osborne, **NYOS Futures** showcase a new generation of musical talent in a programme that includes two World premières; and **Ensemble Thing** perform *Hoketus* by the great minimalist, **Louis Andriessen**.



Jonathan Morton

Jazz, electro-acoustic, indie



Scottish National Jazz Orchestra

Jazz makes a welcome return to sound this year as maestro **Tommy Smith** leads the celebrated **Scottish National Jazz Orchestra** in two World premières by **Bobby Wellins**, and on 23 October jazz drummer **Thomas Stronen**, who uses electronic loops to elaborate his solo percussion performances, appears with **Mr McFall's Chamber**.

No **sound** Festival would be complete without an offering of electro-acoustic music and this year does not

disappoint. **Pete Stollery**, **Ross Whyte** and **Bill Thompson** return with a variety of performances across the three weeks, alongside performances by **Edit Point** and **Graeme Truslove**. Also making a welcome return to **sound**, **King Creosote**, recently nominated for a Mercury Music Prize, gives a performance on 4 November supported by indie band **Kid Canaveral**.

A taste of Scandinavia

sound 2011 offers a Nordic smorgasbord. *The Three Cities Project*, a partnership between Aberdeen, Bergen and St Petersburg launches on 29 October with a workshop and performance led by **Pete Stollery** and **Ross Whyte**. Using soundscapes recorded in Bergen and Aberdeen, participants will create new works. Sweden's **Curious Chamber Players** will showcase brand new works by Scandinavian composers in four concerts as well as leading a Masterclass at the University of Aberdeen on 28 October. On 8 November the **Auriga Wind Quintet of the Lapland Chamber Orchestra** perform works by Neilsson, Aho and Vasks



Curious Chamber Players

and the following day join with **Geoff Palmer** for a composition Masterclass. **Stavanger Vocalensemble** present two concerts on 11 and 12 November with repertoire including Scottish premières of works by **Sally Beamish** and **Orlando Gough** along with a selection of Scandinavian pieces.

Sing a new song



The closing weekend on the 2011 **sound** Festival explores the glories of vocal music. Under the direction of **James Weeks** the acclaimed **EXAUDI Vocal Ensemble** will give a performance with **Endymion** and will also lead a participatory workshop exploring works by **Judith Weir** and **Howard Skempton**. The workshop will culminate in an informal performance. **Paul Mealor** directs the **Con Anima Chamber Choir** in a contrasting programme of Renaissance music with contemporary settings of the

same texts. Mealor's *Now Sleeps the Crimson Petal* is performed in this concert as well as in the annual JAM performance earlier in the Festival. The earlier concert also includes Mealor's *Ubi Caritas* which was written for the Royal Wedding earlier this year.

Tickets for all sound Festival events available from Aberdeen Box Office.

In person at the Music Hall or His Majesty's Theatre: 9.30am – 6pm Mon- Sat or at The Lemon Tree 11.30am – 2.30pm Fri – Sun.

By telephone on 01224 641122, 9.30am – 6pm Mon – Sat and online at www.aberdeenboxoffice.com

**For full details of the 2011 sound www.sound-scotland.co.uk
and join sound on Facebook**

Notes for Editors

sound

sound is the North East of Scotland's contemporary music festival. Following a pilot event, "Upbeat" in 2004, the first festival was launched in November 2005. **sound** is now an annual event, which aims to make contemporary music more accessible to audiences of all ages and backgrounds by presenting an eclectic but very broad range of contemporary music - classical, traditional, popular, jazz, experimental - through a wide array of events including concerts, talks, electroacoustic installations, and workshops. As well as programming its own events, **sound** operates as an umbrella for a range of concerts, workshops, masterclasses and performances programmed by other organisations in the North East*. **Dame Evelyn Glennie, James MacMillan** and **Rohan de Saram** are current Patrons of the Festival.

sound, an initiative of Woodend Barn in collaboration with the University of Aberdeen, operates as a network of local and some national organisations. The 2011 network also includes Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums, Aberdeen Chamber Music Concerts, Aberdeen Performing Arts, Aberdeen Sinfonietta, Aden Country Park, Blairs Museum, BBC Radio 3, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, Citymoves, Con Anima Chamber Choir, Cults Parish Church, DanceLive, Duff House, empreintes DIGITALes, London's John Armitage Memorial Concert (JAM), Haddo User Group, Interesting Music Promotions, Inverurie Music, Left Bank, The Lemon Tree, Lunchbreaks at Cowdray Hall, Museum of Scottish Lighthouses, music central, Music Hall, National Trust for Scotland, New Music Scotland, Newton Dee Community, North East of Scotland Music School, Peacock Visual Arts, Portsoy Salmon Bothy, Red Note Ensemble, Scottish Ensemble, Scottish National Jazz Orchestra, Sonsie Music, Sound and Music, Stonehaven and District Choral Society, Strathdee Music Club, University of Aberdeen Music Prize and Woodend Music Society.

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Sound 2011 Premières

- 22 October World Première **Rory Boyle** - *Tallis's Light*
Scottish Première **Stuart MacRae** - *Two Cairns*
St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen
- 23 October World Première **Ian Anderson** - *Scenes from the Afterlives*
World Première **Peter Longworth** - *Blueprint*
Woodend Barn, Banchory
- 27 October World Première **Rei Munakata** - *New Work*
World Première **Ørjan Matre** - *New Work*
World Première **Tomi Räisänen** - *New Work*
Aden Country Park, Mintlaw
- 27 October World Première **Terese Birkelund Ulvo** - *Bubbles* for clarinet
World Première **Axel Rudebeck** - *New work*
King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen
- 27 October World Première **Bobby Wellins** - *The Culloden Moor Suite*
World Première **Bobby Wellins** - *Caledonian Suite*
Music Hall, Aberdeen
- 29 October World Première **Malin Bång** - *New Work* for bass flute and sound objects
UK Première **Henrik Strindberg** - *The 5th String* for violin
World Première **Ørjan Matre** - *New Work*
Aberdeen Art Gallery
- 29 October World Première New pieces by Pete Stollery, Ross Whyte and Suk-Jim Kim
MacRobert Building, University of Aberdeen
- 1 November World Première **Tim Raymond** - *Alleluia on the Pipes*
World Première **Claire Singer** - *Layers and Levels*
King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen
- 3 November Scottish Première **Paul Mealor** - *Of Night and the Stars*
Scottish Première **Mark Bowden** - *The Soul Candle*
Scottish Première **Michael Berkeley** - *Hollow Fires*
World Première **Immanuel Voigt** - *Im Sturm*
World Première **Monica Webster** - *Go Tell It*
World Première **Joan Cumming** - *On a Fine Morning*
World Première **Paul Murray** - *Misty Mountain*
World Première **Ed Jones** - *The Dying Christian to his Soul*
Scottish Première **Cecilia McDowall** - *Christmas Eve at Sea*
Scottish Première **John Metcalf** - *In Time of Daffodils*
King's College Chapel, Aberdeen
- 4 November World Première **Mira Linda Håkanson** - *New Work*
Kemnay Church Centre
- 7 November Scottish Première **Sally Beamish** - *New work for string quartet*
Cowdray Hall, Aberdeen
- 8 November UK Première **Geoff Palmer** - *Auriga puhallinkvintetille*
King's College Chapel, University of Aberdeen

- 11 November World Première **Margaret Preston** - *Tam o' shanter*
Institute of Medical Sciences, University of Aberdeen
- 11 November Scottish Première **Arne Nordheim** - *Jeg spiller The Return of the Snark*
for solo trombone and electronics
Scottish Première **Sally Beamish** - *Highland Haiku*
St Mary's Cathedral, Aberdeen
- 12 November Scottish Première **Magnar Åm** - *"Verdsmedvitet"*
Scottish Première **Bjørn Kruse** - *Ro, ro Lavring*
Scottish Première **Orlando Gough** - *Vogel*
Aberdeen Art Gallery
- 12 November Scottish Première **James Weeks** - *New Work*
Scottish Première **Andrew Hamilton** - *Tuning New Work*
Scottish Première **Philip Venables** - *New Work*
St Machar's Cathedral, Aberdeen