



Fiddle 2009
Edinburgh Assembly Rooms
November 13 -15

Fiddle 2009 Programme Announcement

**Scotland's Leading Fiddler Tops the Bill at
Scotland's Leading Fiddle Festival**

Fiddle 2009 Welcomes Aly Bain

Aly Bain and Ale Möller
Iain MacFarlane and the Henderson Family
Session A9
Dannsa meets Beòlach
Maggie Adamson and Brian Nicholson

The 13th annual fiddle festival will take place from 13 to 15 November 2009 at Edinburgh Assembly Rooms in George Street.

a near perfect structure of music and events (Mark Morpurgo on Fiddle 2008)

This year, the Festival presents the one and only Aly Bain, topping a bill featuring some familiar faces and many new ones. Beth Sederstrom, the new Chair of the Scots Fiddle Festival, said:

Fiddle 2009 offers an absolutely packed programme of remarkable musicians certain to appeal to everyone, whether you love toe-tapping bands or the soliloquy of a lone fiddler. It's an honour to have both Aly Bain and Aonghas Grant playing at the festival as their musical legacies are woven through the hearts of performers and listeners alike.

The Festival Headlines

- A big welcome to Aly Bain and Ale Möller
- Volunteer-run Festival in good health in its 13th year
- Two major concerts in the Music Hall
- Cape Breton / Scottish dance fusion event
- Boisterous ceilidhs under the chandeliers of the best Ballroom in town
- Recitals, workshops, cabaret, open stage, sessions, fiddle walk, talks and much more
- Performers and music from all over Scotland (Shetland, Orkney, West Highland, Speyside, Perthshire and Edinburgh), and beyond: Nova Scotia, Sweden, Ireland, the Balkans, and Norway
- The *Youth Gaitherin'* : a full programme of events for children and young people

Booking opens on September 25.

Friday 13 November in the Music Hall

“Heat the Hoose” at 8.00

Ringing Shetland strings and high-powered Orcadian ploys a hugely infectious zest that had people pogo-ing in front of the stage

(Jim Gilchrist on last year's *Heat the Hoose* - The Scotsman)

Session A9

Charlie McKerron (Fiddle), Gordon Gunn (Fiddle & Mandolin), Adam Sutherland (Fiddle), Kevin Henderson (Fiddle), Brian McAlpine (Piano), David Robertson (Percussion), Marc Clement (Guitar & Vocals)

Session A9 are the ideal “Heat the Hoose” band. Fiddle-led and cleverly arranged, mixing traditional tunes with their own compositions, combining virtuoso passages and elegiac melodies.

- *the best band to have come out of Scotland in 100 years* (Dougie Maclean)
- *brilliantly sophisticated arrangements of tunes new and old, brimming with brio and simply oozing class* (Sunday Herald)

great praise indeed for a band formed through informal sessions up and down the eponymous arterial Scottish road, culminating in their first tour in 2001. Such “informality” is now captured in two albums; and tours throughout the UK and throughout Europe.

Dannsa meets Beòlach

Dannsa: Caroline Reagh (dancer), Sandra Robertson (dancer), Fin Moore (pipes), Gabe McVarish (fiddle), Ewan MacPherson (mandolin,guitar), Gillebride Macmillan (gaelic song), John Sikorski (dancer)

Beòlach: Wendy MacIsaac (fiddle step-dancer), Mairi Rankin (fiddle / step-dancer), Mac Morin (piano / step-dancer), Patrick Gillis (guitar), Fin Moore (pipes)

One of Cape Breton's most exciting young bands, Beòlach perform an energetic mix of Cape Breton, Scottish, and Irish tunes. Their two albums feature both original compositions as well as the groups unique dynamic arrangements of their favourite traditional tunes. Beòlach have thrilled audiences with energetic performances and their versatility as step dancers.

Dannsa are one of Scotland's most innovative dance groups, from Highland to Step Dance, Ceilidh and Old Scotch Reels they always bring something fresh and perform with a great deal of enjoyment and sharing. With live music from some of Scotland's best musicians the crossover with Beòlach at the end of the set will be a coming together of two closely related traditions.

**Saturday 14 November in the Music Hall
"Grand Concert" at 7.30**

Aly Bain and Ale Möller

Scotland and Shetland's supreme traditional style fiddler, Aly Bain's playing is unique, vibrant unmistakable tone that has earned him a following throughout the world. A central figure in the folk revival and founder member of Boys of the Lough, Aly has collaborated with the very best traditional musicians from around the world (not least, Phil Cunningham). His many accolades include at least four doctorates and an MBE.

Ale Möller, from Sweden, a massively talented multi-instrumentalist (mandola, accordion, flutes, cow horn), began as a jazz trumpeter, then became fascinated by the bouzouki, which he adapted to play Swedish fiddle music. Ale brings together a diverse range of musical sources from around the world.

Aly and Ale's Nordic collaboration has produced two fine albums and many fantastic live performances; guaranteeing a memorable Grand Concert. **Early booking recommended.**

Iain MacFarlane and the Henderson Family

Iain MacFarlane , Allan Henderson, Ingrid Henderson, Ewen Henderson, Megan Henderson.

Iain MacFarlane of *Blazin' Fiddles* is steeped in the tradition and influenced by greats such as his father Charlie, Donald Riddell, Fearchar MacRae and Evan MacRae. Another *Blazin' Fiddler*, Allan Henderson's red-tassled fiddle bears witness to his years of study with the great Aonghas Grant. Iain's wife, and Allan's sister, Ingrid Henderson (clarsach and keyboards) and siblings Ewen and Megan, together are a menagerie of fiddles, pipes, Gaelic song, harp, piano and accordion create a memorable experience for all who hear them.

Maggie Adamson and Brian Nicholson

From Shetland, Maggie Adamson has won many awards for her fiddling, and Brian Nicholson (guitar), whom many reckon as *Shetland's finest guitarist* (Scots Magazine) stretching the "Peerie Willie" accompaniment style into a new dimension.

Daytime Events

Recitals All Day Saturday and Sunday

Saturday 14 November

- Fiddle Walk led by Pete Clark
- Paul Anderson (prolific North Eastern style fiddler)
- Skelpaig (Scottish trio with Breton influences)
- Ryan Young with Craig Muirhead and David Foley (young Scots talent)
- Gizzen Briggs (talented young players from Tain)
- Greg Lawson and Phil Alexander (music from Eastern Europe and beyond)

Sunday 15 November

- Aonghas (West Highland fiddling institution) and Angus Grant with Paul Connoly
- Mike Vass with Dave Wood (yet more young Scots talent)
- Boreas (Scots Norse band)
- Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh (taking Irish music into new places)
- Grand Finale featuring the Jani Lang Band (Gypsy / Balkan flavoured Scottish band)
- Final Stramash (everyone joins in)

Workshops and Tutors:-

Saturday 14 November

- Charlie McKerron (composition)
- Gavin Marwick (playing for ceilidhs)
- Adam Sutherland (Fiddles are toys)
- Gordon Gunn (arranging tunes)
- Mike Vass (Scots fiddle tunes)

Sunday 15 November

- Britt Pernille Frøholm (Norwegian Music)
- Caoimhín Ó Raghallaigh (New Perspectives on Irish Fiddle)
- Pete Clark (Tunes from the Fiddle Walk, see Saturday Recitals)
- Jani Lang (Balkan Fiddle)
- Paul Anderson (Strathspeys)
- James Ross (Mixed Instrument)

Daytime Events (continued)

Talks

Saturday 14 November

- Mike Kerr (The Violin Revealed)
- Charlie McKerron (Favourite Tunes)
- Aonghas Grant (The Highland Fiddle)
- Karen Marshalsay (Introduction to Scottish Fiddle Music)

Sunday 15 November

- Paul Anderson (The Fiddle Tradition of NE Scotland)
- Scots Music Group (Community Vitality through Music, Dance and Song)
- Derek Hoy and Stuart Eydman (Rare Tunes)
- Brian Rattray (Making, Maintenance and Repair of the Violin)

And Much More

No matter what time of day, there's always something going on:-

- Late Night Ceilidhs and Cabarets on Friday and Saturday
- Open Stage Performances / Opportunities to Play
- Spontaneous Sessions
- A Full Programme of Youth Events *The Youth Gaitherin*

And always food, drink, company, sessions, atmosphere and ambiance in the place that is the real star of the show, the Assembly Rooms at its very best.

Please visit the website for more details, pictures, etc.

Fiddle 2009 - How to Book Tickets

Booking opens September 25 2009

Phone 0131 473 2000
Open Mon-Fri 10am – 5pm

In Person before the Festival
Hub Tickets, The Hub, Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NE
Open Mon –Fri 10am – 5pm

In Person during the Festival
Tickets on sale at venue
The Assembly Rooms, 54 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2LR
Friday 13th 2-8pm
Saturday 14th 9.30am – 8pm
Sunday 15th 10am-6pm

By Post Brochure (phone or email to request copy) contains a booking form

Online Day tickets, Concert tickets, Late Event tickets may be purchased at
www.hubtickets.co.uk

Further Queries about Ticketing

Helpline 0131 555 7669
info@scotsfiddlefestival.com

Further Press Information

press@scotsfiddlefestival.com

Full details at www.scotsfiddlefestival.com