

Press release for immediate use

Scottish Ensemble and leading clarinettist Matthew Hunt explore the clarinet quintets of Mozart and Brahms in *Chamber Notes*

Scottish Ensemble and Matthew Hunt present - *Chamber Notes*

7 - 14 October 2018

Venues across Scotland

Tickets: www.scottishensemble.co.uk



Images available for download [here](#)

Musicians from the UK's leading string orchestra join forces with clarinettist Matthew Hunt to explore the nuanced beauty of two of the most cherished pieces in the clarinet repertoire: Mozart and Brahms's clarinet quintets.

Scottish Ensemble are pleased to welcome **leading clarinettist Matthew Hunt** to join them on this Scottish tour, which will visit Dumfries (7 Oct), Perth (8 Oct), Edinburgh (9 Oct), Inverness (10 Oct), Glasgow (12 Oct) and Kirkcudbright (14 Oct).

As well as holding the esteemed position of solo clarinettist with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, Matthew is also a member of the Sheffield based chamber group Ensemble 360.

Mozart and Brahms wrote just one clarinet quintet each, both in the final years of their lives. But it's their inherent quality and charm, not only their solitary status, which has always made these quintets stand out amongst each composer's repertoire.

Mozart's is now not only one of his best-known pieces, but one of the most cherished in the clarinet repertoire, and it's easy to see why: moments of understated virtuosity bloom from a soft, calm, mellow beauty. Brahms' quintet – modelled on Mozart's, as so many of his works are – is similarly autumnal in mood, with waves of contemplative major and melancholic minor moods shifting like sunlight.

SE musicians will also perform a movement from a piece by **American composer John Luther Adams** taken from his first string quartet, written at the age of 59 in tribute to his late friend. (N.B. this piece will not be performed in Perth.)

Chamber Notes was first performed this August in Plockton, and on Skye and Mull, as part of Scottish Ensemble's ongoing community and creative learning activities. The group also delivered a workshop with the young string players of the Mull Music Makers group, and two workshops for secondary school children in conjunction with Plockton High School, and SEALL at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig. On Sunday 14 October, the concert forms part of the Kirkcudbright Festival of Light.

Programme

Brahms

Clarinet Quintet in B Minor, Op. 115

John Luther Adams

The Wind in High Places (movement II)

not performed in Perth on 8 October

Mozart

Clarinet Quintet in A Major, K. 851

Listings information

[Crichton Church](#)

Sun 7 Oct 2018 at 3.30pm

Crichton Memorial Church

Dumfries

DG1 4ZZ

scottishensemble.co.uk | 01387 253 383

[Perth Concert Hall](#)

Mon 8 Oct 2018 at 1pm

Mill Street

Perth

PH1 5HZ

horsecross.co.uk | 01738 621 031

[St Cecilia's Hall, Edinburgh](#)

Tue 9 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm

Niddry Street

Edinburgh

EH1 1LG

scottishensemble.co.uk | 0131 668 2019

[Eden Court](#)

Wed 10 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm

Bishops Rd

Inverness

IV3 5SA

eden-court.co.uk | 01463 234 234

[Glasgow University Memorial Chapel](#)

Fri 12 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm

Main Building

University of Glasgow

G12 8QQ

scottishensemble.co.uk | 0141 353 8000

Kirkcudbright Festival of Light

Sun 14 Oct 2018 at 7.30pm

Kirkcudbright Parish Church

kirkcudbrightlight.com | 01557 428 008

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Scottish Ensemble

Re-defining the string orchestra, Scottish Ensemble (SE) inspires audiences in the UK and beyond with vibrant performances which are powerful, challenging and rewarding experiences. The UK's leading string orchestra is based in Glasgow and is built around a core of outstanding string players who perform together under Artistic Director Jonathan Morton.

SE is becoming increasingly known for its international collaborations with artists from other disciplines, from dance and theatre companies to visual artists. Starting in 2014, their series of annual cross-artform collaborations has so far included immersive projects with: visual artist Toby Paterson; Swedish contemporary dance company Andersson Dance; electronic-classical crossover composer Anna Meredith and visual artist Eleanor Meredith; and, most recently, Scottish theatre company Vanishing Point.

SE has also commissioned new works from composers such as John Tavener, James MacMillan, Sally Beamish, Martin Suckling and Anna Meredith in recent years, as well as working with guest artists such as trumpeter Alison Balsom, mezzo-soprano Sarah Connolly, cellist Pieter Wispelwey and violinists Patricia Kopatchinskaja and Nicola Benedetti.

Alongside performances across Scotland, SE regularly performs in London, at venues from Wigmore Hall, Kings Place and the Barbican Centre, and has appeared at BBC Proms and the Edinburgh International, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, Aldeburgh and St Magnus Festivals amongst many others. Recent invitations to tour abroad have resulted in engagements in Taiwan, China, Brazil, the USA and across Europe.

Matthew Hunt

One of Britain's leading clarinetists, Matthew Hunt is a distinctive musician, renowned for the vocal quality of his playing and his ability to communicate with audiences. He holds the position of solo clarinetist with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, and is a member of the Sheffield based chamber group Ensemble 360. A very keen chamber musician, he appears regularly with Meta4, the Chiurascuro and Elias quartets, Thomas Adès, Pekka Kuusisto, Emily Beynon, Nicholas Altstaedt, Alina Ibragimova, and La Bande de La Loingtaine. He has also appeared as a guest of the Berlin Philharmonic as a soloist in their series at the Berlin Philharmonie Kammermusik Saal.

Matthew's plans for this season include appearances at festivals including Lockenhaus (Austria), Kaposvar (Hungary), Kuhmo (Finland) and Charlottesville (United States), and concerto appearances with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie and Paavo Jarvi, and with the Georgian Chamber Orchestra, Ingolstadt. As an orchestral musician, Matt a regular guest principal with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields and has appeared as a guest principal with the Concertgebouw and BBC Symphony Orchestras and the Chamber Orchestra of Europe.

Matthew's recording for ASV of Mozart's Clarinet Quintet with the Elias quartet was met with critical acclaim, with the BBC Music Magazine hailing it with five stars as "the Benchmark recording of this much recorded work".

"The clarinetist played so beautifully it was as though he wished to make the very air of the hall melt" Tokyo Times.