

The Mela Festival is launched in Edinburgh



The Mela Festival launch earlier today introduced new director, Chris Purnell, who was previously in charge of the London Mela. The Mela showcases talent from all cultures, and it will be situated on Leith Links from 31 August – 2 September 2012.

This year the festival is centred around dance, with the Mela World Dance Fest being the only platform in any Edinburgh Festival dedicated to dance alone. It will encompass classical and traditional as well as contemporary dance. Dancer Charan Pradhan gave those attending the launch a wonderful display of emotive dancing which you can see in our video below.

Councillor Steve Cardownie, who is still Festivals Champion, was pleased to talk to The Reporter about a festival he clearly enjoys:-

[listen to 'Interview with Councillor Steve Cardownie about the Edinburgh Mela' on Audioboo](#)

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Refreshments were provided by Babu Bombay Street Kitchen. For more information visit the [Edinburgh Mela official website](#).