

Edinburgh International Festival 2016 programme online now



Arts writers and critics in Edinburgh had today in their diaries for a long time, as the Edinburgh International Festival programme launch took place earlier.

Festival Director Fergus Linehan unveiled his second programme which runs from Friday 5 to Monday 29 August, and will welcome 2,442 artists from 36 nations to perform in Scotland's capital city. He admitted it was a bit like bringing out a second album after a successful debut, but we think there is a lot in the programme for people of all ages and tastes.

From Barry Humphries to Alan Cumming, Legendary Senegalese singer Youssou N'Dour to Young Fathers this is an eclectic mix. Read the full programme [here](#).

Linehan said: 'The International Festival is an invitation from the people of Scotland to people from all over the world to join us in an unparalleled celebration of creativity, virtuosity and originality. The calibre, ambition and passion of the artists and ensembles in this year's programme combined with Edinburgh's electric Festival atmosphere, will make for an unforgettable experience for newcomers and International Festival veterans alike.'

Some of the world's greatest artists and ensembles perform at the International Festival in 2016

Artists making their first appearance at the International Festival include Cecilia Bartoli, Youssou N'Dour, James Thierrée, Barry Humphries and Mogwai

Major productions from two of the world's leading opera festivals, Salzburg Festspiele (Norma) and Festival d'Aix en Provence (Cosi fan tutte)

An epic celebration of the start of the festival season, Deep Time is an animated artwork which will transform Castle Rock and Edinburgh Castle

Major classical music artists include Sir András Schiff, Maxim Vengerov, Daniil Trifonov, Mikhail Pletnev, Anja Kampe, Karen Cargill and Sir John Eliot Gardner

Celebrated director John Tiffany returns to Scotland with the European premiere of his Broadway production of Tennessee Williams's The Glass Menagerie

The 400th anniversary of the death of William Shakespeare is celebrated with events across the programme and international re-imaginings of three key plays

Visits from world leading orchestras including the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, the Rotterdam Philharmonic Orchestra and the Russian National Orchestra

Scottish artists take centre stage in a series of concerts celebrating contemporary Scottish music

The Hub plays host to a nightly house show hosted by Scottish stage and screen star Alan Cumming

Events for families and young people, including two contrasting dance theatre works.

