Young Fathers named most influential Scots

Scots band Young Fathers have been named the most influential Scots in arts and culture for 2023 in a new list.

The Mercury Prize and three time Scottish Album of the Year (SAY) award winners came top of The List's Hot 100, ahead of comedians Fern Brady and Marjolein Robertson.

The Hot 100 was announced in The List, Scotland's longest-standing arts and culture magazine's December/January issue out today [FRI].

Novelist Martin MacInnes and actor turned director Adura Onashile make up the top five.

Edinburgh Book Festival director Jenny Niven; artist Sekai Machache; singer Paolo Nutini; Two Doors Down star and comic Kieran Hodgson; and Khaleda Noon & Sara Elbashir, of the charity Intercultural Youth Scotland (IYS), complete the top ten.

The List's Hot 100 has been curated by the free arts and culture magazine's writers and editorial staff since 2003 to celebrate the one hundred cultural contributors of the past year.

Famous names featured throughout the decades include Franz Ferdinand and Ewan McGregor, with recurring names like Paolo Nutini, Brian Cox and Lewis Capaldi all featuring on the 2023 list.

Others featured include Gail Porter, singer Joesef, Kyle Falconer and Laura Wilde, and another duo, The Proclaimers, who take the final place in this year's list.

Young Fathers — the Edinburgh-based trio Kayus Bankole, Alloysious Massaquoi and Graham 'G' Hastings — recently won their third prestigious SAY Award for their album Heavy Heavy.

They are currently supporting Depeche Mode on the North American leg of their world tour.

Bankole said: "Compared with being down south where it feels like the epicentre for creativity, I feel like once you have something special that comes out of Scotland it feels really, really special.

"It feels more worthwhile because you don't have the machine behind you over here, like you may have elsewhere. Your own steam is still enough to carry your art."

Brian Donaldson, Editor at The List magazine, added: "It's been another special year for culture within Scotland and by those Scots who are plying their creative trade outside the country these days.

"Last year's high-flyers could very easily have replicated their positions at the top again, but we felt that the likes of Ncuti Gatwa and Nicola Benedetti would be fine with stepping aside and letting a new bunch of stars take their spots.

"There's nothing predictable or safe about our Top 10 and we believe it encapsulates what makes Scottish culture so unique and exciting.

"Where else would you have established players in their field such as Fern Brady and Paolo Nutini rubbing shoulders with rising stars like Martin MacInnes and Sekai Machache?" Those eligible are Scots who are creative in any part of the world and non-Scots who contribute to the cultural landscape in Scotland.

The Hot 100 is announced in The List's December/January issue out now.



The Hot 100 2023

- Young Fathers Mercury-nominated and SAY Award-winning trio
- 2. Fern Brady Comedian and bestselling author
- 3. Marjolein Robertson Five-star Shetland stand-up
- 4. Martin MacInnes Booker-longlisted Invernesian novelist
- 5. Adura Onashile Stage and screen actor turned debut film director
- 6. Jenny Niven New director of Edinburgh International Book Festival
- 7. Sekai Machache Talbot Rice artist-in-residence with immersive films at Mount Stuart
- 8. Paolo Nutini Winner of Modern Scottish Classic album at

SAY Awards

- 9. Kieran Hodgson Two Doors Down star and Edinburgh Comedy Award nominee
- 10. Khaleda Noon & Sara Elbashir of Intercultural Youth Scotland helps foster talent in the local music and arts scene.
- 11 Liam Withnail & Christopher Macarthur-Boyd
- 12 Siobhan Mackenzie
- 13 Brìghde Chaimbeul
- 14 Solène Weinachter
- 15 Paul Laverty
- 16 Rachel Maclean
- 17 Janey Godley
- 18 Duncan Dornan
- 19 Eilidh Loan
- 20 Sadiq Ali & David Banks
- 21 Johnny McKnight
- 22 Liam Shortall
- 23 Hannah Lavery
- 24 Gary McNair
- 25 Imogen Evans
- 26 Tony Curran
- 27 Hazel Johnson
- 28 Tomas Gormley & Sam Yorke
- 29 Fred Deakin
- 30 Tinashe Warikandwa
- 31 Simone Seales
- 32 Joseph Malik
- 33 Mark Cousins
- 34 Ian Stirling & Paddy Fletcher
- 35 Neil Forsyth
- 36 Marge Hendrick
- 37 Susie McCabe
- 38 Rab Florence
- 39 May Sumbwanyambe

- 40 K Patrick
- 41 Helen Nisbet
- 42 Bee Asha
- 43 Audrey Gillan
- 44 Hanna Tuulikki
- 45 Frankie Elyse
- 46 Danielle Jam
- 47 Andrew Marshall
- 48 Gail Porter
- 49 Rachel Walker & Aaron Jones
- 50 Becky Sikasa
- 51 Simon Murphy
- 52 Chef The Rapper
- 53 Jude Coward Nicoll
- 54 Katie Goh & Katie Hawthorne
- 55 Hope Dickson Leach
- 56 Jamie Byng
- 57 Lewis Capaldi
- 58 Sam Gough
- 59 Maggie 0 & Farrell
- 60 Lorne MacFadyen
- 61 Andrew Fleming-Brown
- 62 Amy Laurenson
- 63 Chris Carse Wilson
- 64 Nicole Cooper
- 65 Sarah Smith
- 66 Hifi Sean
- 67 Joesef
- 68 Lynsey May
- 69 Queen Of Harps
- 70 Stuart Ralston
- 71 Laura Aldridge/James Rigler/Nick Evans
- 72 LJ Findlay-Walsh
- 73 Izuka Hoyle
- 74 Peter Ross
- 75 Simon Erlanger

- 76 Jasleen Kaur
- 77 Susan Riddell
- 78 Douglas MacIntyre
- 79 Lesley Hart
- 80 Padruig Morrison
- 81 Anne Lyden
- 82 Brian Cox
- 83 Kyle Falconer & Laura Wilde
- 84 Josie KO
- 85 Sharon Rooney
- 86 Amy Matthews
- 87 James Yorkston
- 88 Lois Chimimba
- 89 Lucy Ireland & Jim Manganello
- 90 Conor McCarron
- 91 Michael Pellegrotti
- 92 Dr Marian Bruce
- 93 Ainsley Hamill
- 94 Lawrie Brewster
- 95 Stuart McPherson
- 96 Terra Kin
- 97 Keith Ingram
- 98 James Ferguson & Alethea Palmer
- 99 Daniel Portman
- 100 Proclaimers