



Nordic Music Days Iceland

Nordic Music Days in Iceland 5–14 October 2006

Nordic Music Days (NMD)

118th anniversary in 2006
Vital focus in Nordic music life since 1888
Major forum for new Nordic music
NMD is the festival of the Nordic Council of Composers
The Society of Icelandic Composers is Iceland's representative on the Council.
Other participating countries: Faroes, Baltic nations – guest country
Festival takes place in Reykjavík 5–14 October 2006

Icelandic performers

Iceland Symphony Orchestra: premiere of EDDA by Jón Leifs
CAPUT chamber ensemble
Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra
Reykjavík Wind Ensemble
Motet Choir, conducted by Hörður Áskelsson
ATÓN, youth chamber ensemble
Hamrahlíð Choir, conducted by Þorgerður Ingólfssdóttir
Reykjavík Flute Choir
... and other ensembles and soloists

Performers from abroad

Quatuor Bozzini, Canada
POING!, Norway
Cikada sting quartet, Norway
Stockholm Saxophone Quartet, Sweden
Jan Söderblom, Finland
David Curtis, England
Helen Bledsoe, Germany
François Laporte, France
Stefan Östersjö, Sweden
Cristina Præstholt, Denmark
Mikko Luoma, Finland
... and more

Nordic composers – Nordic links

Works by most of the leading Nordic composers
New works commissioned for Nordic performers through NOMUS

Ballett

Iceland Dance Company
Dance Theatre

Guest country – “Nordic” country in the New World – Canada

Quatuor Bozzini – concert, Master Classes
Laporte – Sokolov

Foreign visitors

Participants
Critics
Other media

Radio broadcasts from Iceland – RÚV (Icelandic National Broadcasting)

Broadcast of NMD in Iceland
European broadcasts
Nordic broadcasts
Internet broadcasts - global



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Nordic Music Days in Iceland 2006

Nordic Music Days (NMD)

The music festival Nordic Music Days marks its 118th anniversary this year. The festival has been a focus of musical life in the Nordic countries, and also an important forum for new Nordic music. NMD is the festival of the Nordic Council of Composers, to which five composers' associations in the Nordic countries are affiliated. The Society of Icelandic Composers is Iceland's representative on the Council.

In addition to these member countries, however, over the years the Faroes – and in more recent times the Baltic countries – have also played an active role in the festival. Nordic Music Days will be held in Reykjavík, Iceland, 5-14 October 2006. This will be the largest festival of contemporary music ever held in Iceland's history.

Icelandic performers

Icelandic performers include many of Iceland's leading musicians. The festival will commence with a programme of Nordic orchestral works performed by the Iceland Symphony Orchestra. Concerts will be given by chamber ensembles CAPUT and the Reykjavík Chamber Orchestra, the Reykjavík Wind Ensemble, the Motet Choir conducted by Hörður Áskelsson, ATÓN, the Reykjavík Flute Choir and other ensembles and soloists. Nordic Music Days in Iceland 2006 will culminate in the Iceland Symphony Orchestra's premiere of EDDA by Jón Leifs, one of the largest-scale works in Icelandic music.

Nordic composers – Nordic links

Works by most of the leading Nordic composers will be performed at Nordic Music Days in Iceland 2006. In addition new works for Nordic performers will be commissioned through NOMUS (the Nordic Music Committee) and the RÚV (Icelandic National Broadcasting) Composers' Fund, Many Nordic musicians are to appear at the festival, including the Cikada String Quartet from Norway, which won the Nordic Council Music Award last year, and the Stockholm Saxophone Quartet; both groups were nominated for the Nordic Music Prize. The POING! chamber orchestra from Norway is also on the programme: this group of young musicians take an innovative approach to composition and performance.

Guest country – “Nordic” country in the New World

In recent years “guest” countries have been invited to participate in the festival. On this occasion Canada, with its strong Nordic roots, is the guest of the festival. Chamber ensembles such as the Quatuor Bozzini will perform, and Canadian composers will provide insight into Canadian music, while also familiarising themselves with contemporary Nordic music.

Ballet

The programme includes two ballets commissioned from Icelandic ballet companies – the Iceland Dance Company and the Dance Theatre, which specialises in modern dance.

Visitors from abroad

Many others will visit from abroad to participate in the festival, and to cover the events for the foreign media. Nordic Music Days have a well-established international reputation, and Nordic composers and musicians are working in every part of the world, having gained well-deserved recognition for their contribution to music.

Radio broadcasts from Iceland

In collaboration with RÚV (Icelandic National Broadcasting) the festival will be recorded and broadcast both in Iceland and in all the Nordic countries. Broadcasts from NMD are also in preparation in Europe as a whole – both live and recorded broadcasts.

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