

# RSNO

SCOTLAND'S NATIONAL  
ORCHESTRA

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RSNO Christmas  
Concert featuring  
**The  
Snowman**

Presented by **Hugh Dennis**

**Usher Hall, Edinburgh**  
Fri 22 Dec 2023 6.30pm

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# RSNO Christmas Concert featuring *The Snowman*

The RSNO's magical Christmas Concert is packed full of your favourite festive melodies, singalong carols – and the enduringly enchanting film *The Snowman*. Shown on the big screen, it is narrated by special guest star Hugh Dennis and accompanied by the Orchestra, and of course features the wonderful *Walking in the Air*. The RSNO, its Youth Choruses and Changed Voices welcome you all to this special feast of Christmas cheer!

**Neil Ferris** Conductor

**Hugh Dennis** Presenter

**RSNO Youth Chorus**

**Patrick Barrett** Director, RSNO Youth Chorus

**RSNO Changed Voices**

**Frikki Walker** Director, RSNO Changed Voices

**Royal Scottish National Orchestra**



If viewing these notes at the concert, please do so considerately and not during performances. **Please silence all mobile telephones and alerts, and refrain from taking photographs, without flash, until the end of each piece.**





Samuel Coleridge-Taylor  
**Christmas Overture Op74, No1**

Howard Blake  
**The Snowman**  
Narrator: Hugh Dennis  
RSNO Youth Chorus

INTERVAL

Paul Campbell  
**A Christmas Celebration Overture**

R Alex Anderson  
**Mele Kalikimaka**

Franz Xaver Gruber (arr. Gough)  
**Silent Night**

Leroy Anderson  
**Sleigh Ride**

James Lord Pierpont (arr. Campbell)  
**Jingle Bells**

Various (arr. Doughty)  
**Let it Snow: A Christmas Medley**

Robert Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez  
**Music from Frozen**

Keith Stannard (arr. Doughty)  
**The Penguin Song (Consider the Penguin)**

Traditional (arr. Willcocks)  
**O Come, All Ye Faithful**

Thomas Koschat  
**Schneewalzer**



# O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
Come and behold him  
Born the King of Angels:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb:  
Very God,  
Begotten, not created:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:  
Glory to God In the highest:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*

Yes, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born that happy morning,  
Jesu, to thee be glory giv'n;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:

*O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!*





# Hugh Dennis

## Presenter



Hugh Dennis is best known for being in BBC2's hit topical panel show *Mock the Week* and BBC1's hit sitcoms *Outnumbered* and *Not Going Out*.

Hugh began his performing career in 1985, as one half of the double act Punt and Dennis, which led to series such as *Carrott Confidential* for BBC1 and *The Mary Whitehouse Experience*, which won the Sony Award for Best Comedy before transferring from BBC Radio 1 to BBC2, where it achieved instant success and a cult following.

Hugh is a regular voice on the BBC's radio network, both writing and presenting Radio 4's award-winning comedy *The Now Show*.

Hugh's other recent TV credits include *Murder They Hope* (UKTV), *McDonald and Dodds* (ITV), *Scrambled Eggs* (Sky), *Fleabag* (BBC), *Midsomer Murders* (ITV) and *Ballot Monkeys* (Channel 4). His film credits include *Higher Grounds*, *No Time To Die*, *Nativity Rocks* and *All Stars*.

He has also had great success as a presenter for *The Great British Dig* and *Hugh's Huge Homes* on More4.





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# Neil Ferris

## Conductor



Neil Ferris is Chorus Director of the BBC Symphony Chorus, Artistic Director of the professional chamber choir Sonoro and Music Director of Wimbledon Choral. He made his BBC Proms conducting debut in 2019, celebrating the 90th Anniversary season of the BBC Symphony Chorus with the premiere of Jonathan Dove's specially commissioned piece *We Are One Fire*.

With Sonoro, Neil has appeared at the St Magnus International Festival, Wimbledon International Music Festival and at King's Place in London. In demand as a guest conductor at some of the finest choirs in the UK, Neil has worked with the London Symphony Chorus, Choir of the Age of Enlightenment, BBC Singers, National Youth Choir and National Youth Choir of Wales. In his role as a chorus director, he has prepared choirs for conductors including Marin Alsop, Sir Andrew Davis, Sir Mark Elder, Edward Gardner, Valery Gergiev, Bernard Haitink, Sakari Oramo and Sir Simon Rattle.

Orchestras Neil has conducted include the London Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia, RSNO, Welsh National Opera, Ulster Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, London Mozart Players and Orchestra of the Swan. He made his Royal Opera House conducting debut in a production of Will Tuckett's ballet *The Wind in the Willows*.

Formerly Director of Choral Studies at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Neil is recognised as one of the country's leading teachers of choral conducting and has led masterclasses in the UK, USA, Ireland, Denmark, China and Singapore. In the UK he has been invited to lead masterclasses at the Royal College of Music, Royal Academy of Music and Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

Recordings include an album of the choral music of Jonathan Dove (Naxos), Fauré's Requiem (Convivium) and a regular programme of recordings with Sonoro on the Resonus label. *Christmas with Sonoro* was Christmas album of choice in *BBC Music Magazine*, and followed their debut album *Passion and Polyphony* featuring works by Sir James MacMillan and Frank Martin. Further recordings include two *Choral Inspirations* projects and an album of the choral music of Martin Bussey. Signum has recently released the world premiere recording of Cecilia McDowall's *Da Vinci Requiem* with Wimbledon Choral and City of London Sinfonia.



# Royal Scottish National Orchestra



The Royal Scottish National Orchestra is one of Europe's leading symphony orchestras. Formed in 1891 as the Scottish Orchestra, the company became the Scottish National Orchestra in 1950, and was awarded Royal Patronage in 1977. The Orchestra's artistic team is led by Danish conductor Thomas Søndergård, who was appointed RSNO Music Director in 2018.

The RSNO is supported by the Scottish Government and is one of the Scottish National Performing Companies. The Orchestra performs across Scotland, including concerts in Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Perth and Inverness, and appears regularly at the Edinburgh International Festival and the BBC Proms. The RSNO has made recent tours to the USA, China and Europe.

The RSNO has a worldwide reputation for the quality of its recordings, receiving a 2020 Gramophone Classical Music Award for Chopin's Piano Concertos (soloist: Benjamin Grosvenor), conducted by Elim Chan, two Diapason d'or awards (Denève/Roussel 2007; Denève/Debussy 2012) and eight GRAMMY Award

nominations. Over 200 releases are available, including Thomas Søndergård conducting Strauss (*Ein Heldenleben*, *Der Rosenkavalier Suite*) and Prokofiev (Symphonies Nos 1 and 5); two discs of African American Voices featuring the music of George Walker; William Levi Dawson, Margaret Bonds and more, conducted by Kellen Gray; the complete symphonies of Sibelius (Gibson), Prokofiev (Järvi), Bruckner (Tintner) and Roussel (Denève); as well as further discs championing the music of William Grant Still (Eisenberg), Xiaogang Ye (Serebrier) and Thomas Wilson (Macdonald).

The RSNO's Engagement strategy, Music for Life, sees the Orchestra work with schools and community groups, connecting its music with the people of Scotland. Since March 2020, the RSNO has created multiple online Engagement programmes and Digital Seasons, ensuring the RSNO continues to bring world-class music to its audiences in Scotland and around the world on stage and on screen.



# On Stage

## FIRST VIOLIN

Emily Davis  
GUEST LEADER  
Tamás Fejes  
ASSISTANT LEADER  
Patrick Curlett  
Veronica Marziano  
Ursula Heidecker Allen  
Caroline Parry  
Lorna Rough  
Susannah Lowdon  
Liam Lynch  
Elizabeth Bamping  
Alan Manson  
Jane Reid

## SECOND VIOLIN

Marion Wilson  
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL  
Jacqueline Speirs  
Anne Bünemann  
Harriet Hunter  
Sophie Lang  
Nigel Mason  
Emily Nenniger  
Paul Medd  
John Robinson  
Liz Reeves

## VIOLA

Tom Dunn  
PRINCIPAL  
Felix Tanner  
Susan Buchan  
Claire Dunn  
Beth Woodford  
Maria Trittinger  
Lisa Rourke  
Francesca Hunt

## CELLO

Betsy Taylor  
ASSOCIATE PRINCIPAL  
Kennedy Leitch  
Rachael Lee  
Sarah Digger  
Gunda Baranuaskaitė  
Bill Paterson

## DOUBLE BASS

Nikita Naumov  
GUEST PRINCIPAL  
Moray Jones  
Alexandre dos Santos  
Ben Burnley

## FLUTE

Mark Taylor  
GUEST PRINCIPAL  
Adam Richardson  
Janet Richardson  
PRINCIPAL PICCOLO

## OBOE

Adrian Wilson  
PRINCIPAL  
Peter Dykes

## CLARINET

Timothy Orpen  
PRINCIPAL  
Duncan Swindells  
PRINCIPAL BASS CLARINET

## BASSOON

David Hubbard  
PRINCIPAL  
Paolo Dutto  
PRINCIPAL CONTRABASSOON

## HORN

Lauren Reeve-Rawlings  
GUEST PRINCIPAL  
Alison Murray  
Andrew McLean  
David McClenaghan  
Martin Murphy

## TRUMPET

Christopher Hart  
PRINCIPAL  
Ruby Orłowska  
Marcus Pope

## TROMBONE

Dávur Juul Magnussen  
PRINCIPAL  
Lance Green  
Alastair Sinclair  
PRINCIPAL BASS TROMBONE

## TUBA

John Whitener  
PRINCIPAL

## TIMPANI

Paul Philbert  
PRINCIPAL

## PERCUSSION

Simon Lowdon  
PRINCIPAL  
John Poulter  
Stuart Semple

## HARP

Pippa Tunnell

## PIANO/CELESTE

Lynda Cochrane



# RSNO Youth Chorus



The RSNO Youth Chorus is one of the leading children and youth choirs in the UK. Formed in 1978 by Jean Kidd, the Youth Chorus is currently led by Director Patrick Barrett and boasts over 400 members aged 7 to 18. It has built up a considerable reputation singing under some of the world's most distinguished conductors and appearing on radio and television.

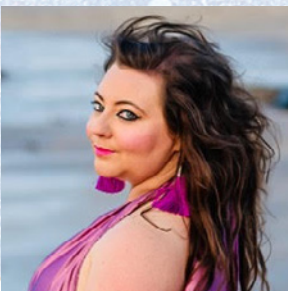
RSNO Youth Chorus members sing regularly with Scotland's National Orchestra in major

concert halls and festivals throughout the country, and in 2021 performed at COP26 in Glasgow. The Youth Chorus has also sung at BBC concerts and regularly appears at the Edinburgh International Festival.

The RSNO Youth Chorus is kindly supported by **Dunclay Charitable Trust, Meikle Foundation, W A Cargill Fund and Walton Foundation.**

## Alison McNeill

**Associate Director, RSNO Youth Choruses**



Scottish soprano, conductor and fiddle player Alison McNeill graduated with a Masters in Performance from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland and went on to study in Spain with legendary mezzo-soprano Teresa Berganza.

In a busy and varied career Alison has performed all over the UK, Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Germany, Austria, Japan, Pakistan, Kenya, USA and Mexico. Her career highlights include soprano soloist for Carl Orff's *Carmina Burana* with the RSNO, winning the Andrés Segovia Prize for Spanish Song in Spain (the only non-native speaker to win this award) and headlining international festivals with folk rock band Reely Jiggered.

Alison is highly respected as a choral conductor. She is Director of the National Youth Choir of Northern Ireland's 100-strong Junior Choir and new National Boys Choir, Director of NYCOS National Boys Choir and Training Choir, founding Director of Voices of Argyll and Associate Director of RSNO Youth Choruses.



## **RSNO YOUTH CHORUS 1**

Abigail Hughes  
Ailsa Hutchinson  
Alec Buckley  
Alicia Idessane  
Amber Emina  
Amelia Philip  
Anna Arbuckle  
Ava-Simran Dhillon-Dilleri  
Brewen Lyons  
Caitlin Cameron Laing  
Charlotte Ridland  
Cora Robertson  
Edie Dunn  
Elishka Foster  
Elizabeth Poet  
Ellie Toner  
Emilia Rathbone  
Emily Rankin  
Eve Cameron  
Gregor Townsley  
Hannah Binu  
Indii McCulloch  
Isla Black  
Jevaiy Dela Santa  
Kaia Grassl  
Katherine Moffett  
Katie Rankin  
Kimberly McFarlane  
Laura Greig  
Madeleine Rolland-Raydon  
Maia Fernandez  
McCann  
Martha Danton  
Misha Gupta

Nirvana Balideh  
Orla Gilligan  
Poppy Grafton  
Ruairidh Robertson  
Sarah Orimoloye  
Scarlett O'Sullivan  
Shreeya Pandit  
Willow Gardiner-Clark  
Yashar Pourghazi

## **RSNO YOUTH CHORUS 2**

Aariyanna Akram  
Aarush Bhat  
Advay Kadwe  
Aicha Thiam  
Aimee Morton  
Alannah Clancy  
Alice Moss  
Alma Correal-Jarrett  
Amelia Mashwani  
Amelia Wilson  
Amelie Caldwell  
Amy Sanderson  
Ana Ryburn-Thomson  
Andrew Irvine  
Andrew Ross  
Anna Phillips  
Anna Ross  
Anshi Sai Vanga  
Bea Courtial  
Calum Tamata  
Cara Mackay  
Charlotte Leathem  
Charlotte Savage  
Connie Hunter  
Diana Lizer  
Eilidh Hughes  
Eilidh McIntyre  
Ekavira Singh  
Ellen Phillips  
Ellie Digger  
Emilia Ewer  
Emily Fuge  
Emily Ogilvie  
Emma Little  
Emma McKinstry  
Evie Diamond  
Evonna Leung  
Fiona Climie  
Freya Cattanach  
Gemma Gowans  
Georgia McLaren  
Grace Currie  
Grace Ferry  
Holly Rodger  
Hope Henderson  
Izzy Hughes  
Jack Ellen  
James Andrew  
Jennifer Friels  
Jessica Ewer  
Jessica-May Payne  
Jodie Sumpter  
Joe Thunder  
Joely Gardiner-Clark  
Josie Allardyce  
Jude Tait  
Kate Mosley  
Katie Rourke  
Keir Cameron  
Kieran Penman  
Leila Osmond  
Lia McCulloch  
Lily Overton  
Louisa Greenhill

Louisa Sheridan  
Lucie McBean  
Lucy Arbuckle  
Lucy Ashley  
Martha Johnson  
Martha Maffia  
Max Biankin  
Mia Brown  
Mia Tomb  
Nellie Heinrich  
Nerea Winchester  
Nuala-Maria McKnight  
Olivia Cocozza  
Olivia Osborne  
Rachael Gow  
Rachel Cook  
Rachel Furnish  
Rebecca Greig  
Risha Chatterjee  
Rosa Caughie  
Rosie Wallbanks  
Rowie Bryce  
Ruadhan Townsley  
Sarah Campbell  
Sarah Oliver  
Sophie Hall  
Stella MacEachran  
Stella Sorenson  
Summer Wang  
Susie Wu  
Tessa Quaile  
Thea Morag Heinrich  
Valentina Campanella  
Yasmin Patel  
Yi Han Dong  
Zoe Drysdale

## **RSNO YOUTH CHORUS**

### **RSNO YOUTH CHORUS DIRECTOR**

Patrick Barrett

### **ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

Alison McNeill Youth Chorus 1

### **HEAD OF MUSICIANSHIP TRAINING**

Morag Kean

## **MUSICIANSHIP STAFF**

Heather Drysdale  
Amy Ferguson  
Phil Gault  
Mairi Leggatt  
Claire McCue  
Moilidh NicGriogair  
Laura Smith  
Frikki Walker

## **VOCAL COACHES**

Daniela Hathaway  
Alison McNeill  
Laura Smith

### **PIANISTS**

Edward Cohen  
Judith Keaney



# RSNO Changed Voices



Changed Voices is a satellite group of the RSNO Youth Chorus for boys whose voices are changing. The choir was established in 2006, with generous support from **The Gannochy Trust**, with the aim of encouraging boys to continue singing as their voices are changing. Studies have shown that careful singing through the changing process allows boys to develop and maintain a healthy singing technique. Changed Voices is coached by Frikki Walker and Phil Gault, and continues the fine RSNO Youth Chorus tradition of singing and

musicianship taught in a lively and fun way, while giving the voice time to develop before members move into adult choirs. Changed Voices has given performances at various high-profile engagements, including guest appearances on BBC Radio Scotland's *Classics Unwrapped* and at the RSNO's Gala Ball.





## RSNO CHANGED VOICES

Akash Gadale  
Alexander Crawford  
Alistair Hillis  
Andrew Makeham  
Ashwin Dykes  
Brodie Webster  
Charles Lloyd  
Daniel Cook  
Daniel Ogilvie  
Daniyal Sölić-Ansari  
David Hunt  
David Liu  
Dougie Grant-Duff  
Ellis Nairne  
Ewan Pilsworth  
Finlay Bryce  
Giovanni Ponte  
Jack Hammond

### RSNO CHANGED VOICES STAFF

**DIRECTOR**  
Frikki Walker

**VOCAL COACH**  
Phil Gault

**PIANIST**  
Tim Mills

Jamie Gibbons  
Kelvin Lin  
Kjartan Magnusson  
Logan Adam  
Luca Earle  
Lucas Crawford  
Matthew Clarkson  
Murray Graham  
Nicholas Milne  
Odunayo Orimoloye  
Oscar Clive  
Reuben Griffiths  
Sam Smith  
Samuel Sheridan  
Wilfie Porteous  
William Philip  
Yashvardhan Jain

### STAFF ASSISTANTS

Claire Bryan  
Katie Bryan  
Dylan Findlay  
Jordan Love  
Rennie MacKechnie  
Rachel Morrison  
Nicole Swindells

### CREATIVE ASSISTANTS

Lucy Ashley  
Daniel Cook  
Grace Ferry  
Hannah Ferry  
Ellis Nairne  
Kieran Penman

## Frikki Walker

Director, RSNO Changed Voices



Frikki Walker is a choral conductor with many years' experience of conducting boys' changing voices. He has conducted the RSNO Changed Voices since 2009 and for many years conducted the Changed Voices of the National Youth Choir of Scotland, and also founded and directs Glasgow Cambiata, which brings together boys' choirs from schools in the area. This choir has performed to great acclaim with the RSNO.

Frikki is Director of Music at St Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, where his choir has earned an international reputation for excellence through its regular broadcasts on radio and TV. He founded and conducts the Royal School of Church Music Scottish Voices, and is often a guest conductor and examiner at the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. As a member of staff at the High School of Glasgow, his Chamber Choir has won BBC Songs of Praise Senior School Choir of the Year and made various radio and TV appearances.

Frikki has worked with all of Scotland's most prestigious choirs and has run workshops and adjudicated at music festivals all over Scotland. He is also an accomplished organist, singer and composer.





# Patrick Barrett

## Director, RSNO Youth Choruses



Patrick Barrett is a conductor specialising in choral music and opera. He is currently Chorus Director of the RSNO Youth Choruses, Royal Opera House Youth Opera Company, Irish Youth Training Choir and the award-winning Farnham Youth Choirs.

Recent work has included conducting the RSNO Youth Chorus alongside soloists Sheku Kanneh-Mason, Benjamin Grosvenor and Nicola Benedetti in the Orchestra's All-Star Gala performances, and preparing them for the recording of Jonathan Dove's *Gaspard's Christmas*, which is available on all streaming services. Over the summer, he led FYC to success at the Hull International Choral Competition and the International Choir Competition in Provence, winning the Youth Choirs of Equal Voices and Children's Choir categories respectively, and will be competing with them in the World Choir Games 2024 in New Zealand. In the past year, he has also premiered a number of new works, including Jonathan Brigg's *The Sapling* with the ROH Youth Opera Company and pieces by Emma O'Halloran and DJ and producer R.Kitt with IYTC.

This summer, he took up the position of Guest Conductor with the National Youth Choir of Great Britain's Girls Choir and has been invited back for 2024.

Much of Patrick's work revolves around championing young people within choral music and, for the past two years, he has been invited to address the annual conference of the Post Primary Music Teachers Association in Ireland. His work in this area began as a Trainee Music Leader with Spitalfields Music in 2015/16 and he is now firmly established as a music educator, having delivered projects for organisations including the BBC Singers, Sonoro, The Sixteen, Wigmore Hall, Aldeburgh Young Musicians and Ark Schools.

In opera, Patrick works with many of the UK's major companies including the Royal Opera House, English National Opera and Garsington Opera. For the ROH, he is the Musical Director of the Youth Opera Company, preparing them for main-stage performances of Verdi's *Otello* under Sir Antonio Pappano and Humperdinck's *Hansel and Gretel* under Sebastian Weigle, and conducting them in the world premieres of specially commissioned works including Lewis Murphy's *A Different Story* in the Linbury Theatre. He is also a regular leader on their Create and Sing programme, working with secondary school teachers to stage specially devised operas in classrooms across the country. For ENO, he has prepared the children's chorus for Janáček's *The Cunning Little Vixen* under Martyn Brabbins and Bizet's *Carmen* under Kerem Hasan. For Garsington Opera, he has worked on a specially commissioned community opera called *Dalia* by Roxanna Panufnik as the Youth Chorus Director.

Patrick was previously the conductor of the University of Birmingham's Upper Voices Choir and Brockham Choral Society.



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# A Midsummer Night's Dream

**Mendelssohn-Hensel** Overture in C Major  
**James Burton** The Lost Words  
**Mendelssohn** A Midsummer Night's Dream,  
Incidental Music

**Thomas Søndergård** Conductor  
**RSNO Youth Chorus**  
**Patrick Barrett** Director, RSNO Youth  
Choruses

**DUNDEE** Thu 14 Mar 2024: 7.30pm **EDINBURGH** Fri 15 Mar: 7.30pm  
**GLASGOW** Sat 16 Mar: 7.30pm

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The prize draw will close at 11pm Sunday 23 December 2023, and  
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Music is ingrained in everything we do at Cirrus Logic, from our culture to our innovative technology. We are delighted to support the arts and give back to the Scottish community by backing the RSNO, a beloved cultural institution that exudes musical excellence in every performance.



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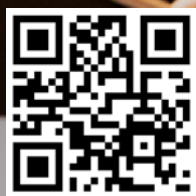
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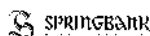
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# Royal Scottish National Orchestra

## RSNO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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CHAIR  
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John Heasley  
HONORARY TREASURER  
Kat Heathcote  
Don Macleod  
Neil McLennan  
Costa Pilavachi

David Robinson  
John Stewart  
David Strachan

### Player Directors

Katherine Bryan  
Christopher Hart  
David Hubbard  
Dávor Juul Magnussen  
Sophie Lang  
Lorna Rough

## Nominated Directors

Cllr Edward Thornley  
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL

### Company Secretary

Julia Miller

## RSNO COUNCIL

Baroness Ramsay  
of Cartvale CHAIR  
Ms Ruth Wishart

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George Hillier  
Amy McColl  
Hazel Sharp  
Ailsa Smith  
Jessica Smith  
Penny Snell  
Rachel Sunter  
Ailsa Thompson  
Danny Urquhart

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Phoebe Connolly  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT  
Nicola Kelman  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT (MATERNITY LEAVE)

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SOUND TECHNICIAN  
Katie Bryan  
STAGE AND PRODUCTION CREW  
Ken Fairbrother  
STAGE AND PRODUCTION CREW  
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STAGE MANAGER  
Emma Hunter  
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Ewen McKay  
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Jim O'Brien  
DRIVER AND ORCHESTRA TECHNICIAN  
Richard Payne  
LIBRARIAN  
Tammo Schuelke  
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