



BAFA Scottish Festivals Forum: Monday 5 October 2020 11am – 12.30pm

Re-mapping the future

Please join us for British Arts Festivals Association's *Scottish Festivals Forum* event, bringing together Scottish festivals to share experiences of presenting events in new ways, discuss what the future may hold and ways in which we can work together to better navigate the future. The session will be chaired by Dr Jane Ali-Knight of Edinburgh Napier University, and speakers include Alan Morrison of Creative Scotland, Ben Torrie of Aberdeen Performing Arts, Adrian Turpin of Wigtown Book Festival and James Waters of Lammermuir Festival.

Register in advance for this meeting [here](#)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.



Speaker Biographies

Dr. Jane Ali-Knight (Chair)

Professor in Festival and Event Management, Edinburgh Napier University

Jane is currently leading and developing the festival and event subject group as well as lecturing at Universities internationally and facilitating training and development in the field. She is Course Director of the 'Executive Certificate in Festival and Event Management' delivered in Scotland and the UAE and the highly successful 'Destination Leaders Programme' delivered with



Scottish Enterprise. Her core activities fall into three main areas: event and festival related programmes; research and publications and conferences and professional events. She is currently a board member of BAFA (British Arts and Festivals Association); Without Walls; Women in Tourism and is a Fellow of the HEA and Royal Society of the Arts.

A recognised academic she has presented at major international and national conferences and has published widely in a range of international academic journals in the areas of wine tourism, tourism, festival and event marketing and management. She is also on the Editorial Boards of the Journal of Vacation Marketing, International Journal of Event and Festival Management and is a regular reviewer for Tourism Management. She has also co-edited seminal text books in the area of Festival and Event Management. Jane has extensive experience in designing and delivering undergraduate, postgraduate and professional courses in tourism and festival and event management both in the UK and overseas.

She is a Visiting Research Fellow at Curtin University, Perth, Australia.

Her recent event related experience extends to CakeFest Edinburgh 2015, a Year of Food and Drink Funded Project; Special Events Management and Publicity Co-ordination for the Abu Dhabi Film Festival (ADFF), 2007 - 2012, and extensive Professional and Academic Conference Organisation.

Alan Morrison

Head of Music, Creative Scotland

After studying English Language and Literature at the University of Edinburgh, Alan spent more than 25 years in arts journalism. With an initial specialisation in film, he has held the positions of Editor of The List, Associate Editor of Total Film, Reviews Editor of Empire and film critic of The Daily Record. He was also the Artistic Director of the Kirkcaldy Film Festival from its inception until 2016.



As Group Arts Editor across all titles in the Herald & Times Group, he spent the better part of a decade championing the Scottish arts scene in print, particularly music in the Sunday Herald and The National. He instigated the Sunday Herald's cross-genre Top 50 Scottish Albums of the Year list and spent many years on the jury selecting unsigned bands for the T Break at T in the Park. In his early days, Alan played violin with the Central Region Youth Orchestra and Scottish Schools Fiddle Orchestra, sang regularly in end-of-term stage musicals and spent a couple of happy but unproductive years in a teenage rock band after teaching himself guitar.

Ben Torrie

Director of Programming and Creative Projects, Aberdeen Performing Arts

Aberdeen Performing Arts is one of Scotland's largest cultural organisations and a hub for the performing arts in the North-east of Scotland. He is responsible for the artistic programmes at His Majesty's Theatre, the Music Hall and The Lemon Tree, the delivery of the organisation's three festivals – True North Music Festival, Granite Noir Crime Fiction Festival, and Light the Blue Youth Arts Festival - as well as the company's ever-expanding produced work and creative learning activity. Over the past decade, he has progressed from two previous roles with the company as Acting Artistic Director at The Lemon Tree and as Sales Manager. Prior to joining APA, he was the first full-time administrator for Puppet Animation Scotland (running the annual Puppet Animation Festival and helping found Manipulate Visual Theatre Festival) and worked for the Aberdeen International Youth Festival for five years. In addition to a range of diverse experience in arts management, Ben is an accomplished pianist and musical director.



From 25-27 September 2020, True North was staged virtually with five online performances by musicians from the North-east of Scotland including a special performance by Kathryn Joseph filmed in the Music Hall.

Adrian Turpin

Artistic Director, Wigtown Book Festival

A journalist by training who has formerly worked as an editor and writer for The Independent, The Scotsman and The Sunday Times, he has been involved with Wigtown Book Festival since 2006, working first on the project as a volunteer.

As a programmer, over the past decade Adrian has helped expand the festival to include more than 250 individual events and activities. During this period, the event has won the Creative Places Award, Thistle Award, Arts & Business Scotland Award, Scottish Power Foundation award and, in 2016, the Dumfries & Galloway Life cultural champion Award.



Wigtown Book Festival is now the largest annual event in Dumfries & Galloway and delivers more than £2m for the regional economy. In addition to the autumn book festival, Wigtown Festival Company runs a year-round programme of activities. This includes support for regional writers and for children and young people.

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James Waters

Festival Director, Lammermuir Festival

James studied languages and music as a choral scholar King's College Cambridge and on the opera course at RSAMD in Glasgow. He was concerts director of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra from 1986 to 1992 and Associate Director of the Edinburgh International Festival from 1992 to 2006.

He founded the Lammermuir Festival in 2010. In a normal year the festival presents around 30 concerts each year in venues across East Lothian and has now grown to be one of the UK's most significant classical music festivals bringing substantial economic benefit to East Lothian. It won the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for Festivals and Concert Series in 2017. Its 2020 online festival of 12 events streamed from Holy Trinity Church in Haddington with one from Theatre Royal in Glasgow in partnership with Scottish Opera was described by Seen and Heard International as "a model of how to run an online festival in the least festive of times."

James is also Creative Director, Classical Music at Perth Concert Hall, and Classical Programmer at the Brunton in Musselburgh and at the Bath Festival.

