Beat: Arts

Edinburgh International Festival 2024

2–25 AUGUST 2024

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"This year the Edinburgh International Festival celebrates Rituals That Unite Us as we inaugurate new and reimagined rituals, in a programme that will bring artists and audiences closer together than ever before. We invite you to seek and gather with us this August."
– Nicola Benedetti, Festival Director

The Edinburgh International Festival is an annual arts festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, spread over the final three weeks in August. Notable figures from the international world of music (especially classical music) and the performing arts are invited to join the festival. Visual art exhibitions, talks and workshops are also hosted.

The first 'International Festival of Music and Drama' took place between 22 August and 11 September 1947. Under the first festival director, the distinguished Austrian-born impresario Rudolf Bing, it had a broadly-based programme, covering orchestral, choral and chamber music, Lieder and song, opera, ballet, drama, film, and Scottish 'piping and dancing' on the Esplanade of Edinburgh Castle, a structure that was followed in subsequent years.

The Festival has taken place every year since 1947, except for 2020 when it was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. A scaled-back version of the festival was held in 2021.

The Edinburgh International Festival is an unparalleled celebration of the performing arts and an annual meeting point for peoples of all nations. Committed to virtuosity and originality, the International Festival presents some of the finest performers and ensembles from the worlds of dance, opera, music and theatre for three weeks in August - making Scotland’s capital an unparalleled celebration of the performing arts and an annual meeting point for people of all nations.

Over the course of any given year, the Edinburgh International Festival team scour the world in search of the most exciting and creative artists working today. They then create unique collaborations, world premieres, new takes on classic works, critically acclaimed productions and more .....to captivate, thrill and entertain audiences from around the world. All in one place, right here in Scotland's historic capital city - Edinburgh.

Source: edinburghfestivalcity.com

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