



# Bute Arts Society

Promoting the Arts for All on Bute

## Welcome from the Trustees

**Thank you to everyone on Bute** for your support of the 2024/25 Season of Concerts. You packed out the Gala performances and continued to support the nine season concerts with a variety of artists throughout Autumn & Winter 2024/25.

All this was only possible due to the additional support of the island charity 'For Bute'. Their sponsorship along with advertising from 18 island businesses made the concerts possible.

We believe music and the arts are for everyone. concert tickets are now £14 for Season Concerts and £15 Gala events. Season Tickets available. Free to school pupils.

For the 2025/26 Season we have 4 Summer Galas followed by 9 Season concerts. Already launched by Opera Bohemia, then followed by the new Piano Launch, to the illyria Theatre Gala and a Jazz Weekend of 5 Jazz Sessions in the Glenburn Hotel. We have a wide variety of artists in our nine Season concerts in our new venue, Isle of Bute Church of Scotland.

We thank our statutory funders, Chamber Music Scotland, our various concert sponsors, including Bute BID & Visit Bute, local Bute trusts, island business advertisers, plus our Patrons, Friends and Season ticket holders and many private supporters who have made the 2025/26 season possible.

We believe we have something for everyone to enjoy and look forward to welcoming you to our many and varied concerts. It is only with your support we can all make Bute a better place live.

**The Trustees:** Chair Fiona Shaw BEM,  
Treasurer Douglas Lindsay Secretary John Blue,  
Peter Lingard, JohnAngus MacDonald,  
Shona Prosser, Colin Sharp.



# Bute Arts Society

from May 2025 to May 2026

## Information & Acknowledgements

### Financial Assistance is acknowledged from:

Advertising from Eighteen local Businesses  
Bute BID  
Bute Island Charity 'For Bute'  
Chamber Music Scotland  
D'Oyly Carte Trust  
Dr J N Marshall (Island of Bute) Memorial Trust  
Patrons & Friends of Bute Arts Society  
Rothesay Common Good Fund  
Syson Foundation  
Visit Bute

**Chamber Music Scotland:** works to support Scottish based Promoters and performers of Chamber Music. Bute Arts Society is subsidised by CMS with funds provided by Creative Scotland.



**Sponsorship** - thank you to our Sponsors: for their support which is listed against individual events and in all our Programmes.

**Tickets: £14** at the door for Season concerts: Purchase online at [www.wegotickets.com](http://www.wegotickets.com) use the search facility inserting the Venue, Rothesay or Bute. School Children attend all our performances Free of Charge thanks to the support of the D'Oyly Carte Trust and the charity 'For Bute'.

**Contact Bute Arts Society at:**  
[www.buteartssociety.co.uk](http://www.buteartssociety.co.uk)  
or see us on Facebook

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**Bute Arts Society** is a Scottish Charity SC020555



# Bute Arts Society

Performance Season 2025/26

Season extended to 16 Performances

## Summer Galas

### Piano Launch Gala

Popular Piano Recital

### HMS Pinafore

Gilbert & Sullivan, illyria Theatre

### Jazz Weekend

Five Varied Jazz Sessions

## Season Concerts

### Nine Performances

from varied Artists and Ensembles

## Venues

Isle of Bute Parish Church

Rothesay Joint Campus

Glenburn Hotel

**ALL WELCOME**

## Sponsors

assist in making the Arts happen



We acknowledge the support of the generous Bute Island businesses below which allows Bute Arts Society to replace funding from Trusts which previously supported the winter concert season.

We are especially indebted from 2024 - 26 to 'For Bute' for their continuing performance support and in particular for establishing our now complete Piano Appeal for £35,000. To the support of Bute Bid & Visit Bute and our 18 Bute **Business Advertisers**. We thank our **Patrons, Friends and Season Ticket Holders** for their continuing financial support and the Ardyne, St Ebba and Glenburn Hotels for artist Accommodation.

## Advertisers

and Print Point for Printing



We acknowledge the financial support of the local businesses listed below which allows the Arts Society to provide informative programmes at all concerts and events. Some eighteen Bute businesses support our concert programmes. Our thanks go to the following for their continuing support:

Brechin's Restaurant, Bussey's Carpets & Beds, Butterflies of Bute, the Dressing Room, W & J Duncan Garage, Flowers by Janine, Island Treasures - Afro Celtic Art, Carol Nunan - Artist John Murray Plumbing & Heating, Just Menswear, MacQueens of Rothesay Butchers, Gerry McGuigan Joiners Glaziers & Builders, Print Point, Rothesay Motor Services, Ruth Slater - Artist.

## Patrons

promoting the Arts for All on Bute



**Patrons** are a group of private individuals supporting the Arts on Bute. A new initiative in the 2022 Season we now have around forty Bute Arts Society supporters who have raised circa £2,000 to bring more performances to the island in 2025/26. Patrons are automatically included as Friends.

**Membership** is open to all and is £50 minimum annually. Benefits include invitations to season receptions, and other special events. Members are listed in the concert Programmes. Funds support special Gala performances and larger events. Contact the Secretary at [john.blue1@bopenworld.com](mailto:john.blue1@bopenworld.com)

## Friends

join to show their support



**Friends** are supporters of the Society with Membership open to all and is £10 Annually. We now have 45 Friends.

Joining as a Friend allows us to show that we have support when making funding applications. Members are listed in the concert Programmes. Contact the Secretary at [john.blue1@bopenworld.com](mailto:john.blue1@bopenworld.com)

**Many Friends** want to assist more but not hold a formal Trustee role. They assist with event administration and at concerts, receptions and with artists hospitality. Contact the Secretary or other Trustees either at concerts in person or by email advising how you would like to assist.

## Season Tickets - 9 Concerts

available to Friday 07 November 2025



**Season Tickets** were first available in the 2022/23 Winter Season. Now in the 2025/26 Season around 50 plus concert goers have purchased Seasons. Enjoy the **nine** 2025/26 season concerts for £105 saving £21 on individual ticket prices - single tickets for all Season concerts are now £14. **Note** the three Summer Galas are separate from the Season.

If you are unable to attend your ticket can be transferred to family and friends. Purchasing a Season Ticket allows the Society to plan for future years concerts. Apply on line to the Secretary at [john.blue1@bopenworld.com](mailto:john.blue1@bopenworld.com) We will reply with payment details and confirm your Season Ticket. We have been publishing your support in the Programme unless you advise us otherwise.

## Single Tickets

online, at ticket outlets, at the door



**Tickets** for All Performances for the 2024/25 Season can be bought using the online WeGotTickets site.

Enter the Venue name, Rothesay or Bute in the search box. Payment is by Credit /Debit Card.

For in person purchases go to Print Point for all concerts & Fraser Gillies (Summer Galas only) They will need payment in cash for tickets.

There will normally be tickets available at the door. We can now take cash or card payments at all concerts. Of course this is all subject to the vagaries of island mobile telephone signals.

**Single tickets for Season concerts: £14**

**Single tickets for Galas & Summer concerts: £15**

**School Children attend for Free at all performances**

**Thanks to support from the D'Oyly Carte Trust & 'For Bute'**

**PIANO LAUNCH (1) Isle of Bute Church**  
Saturday 04 October 2025 - 14:00

**Nikita Lukinov, Solo Piano  
& Pianist Friends**



To celebrate the completion of our new Piano Appeal and acknowledge the support of our many Donors, who were lead by our island charity 'For Bute', you are invited to join us for a popular one hour Piano Recital with supporters Reception.

Come and hear: Solo Piano, Piano Duet, a 2 Piano Duet and 8 Hands on 2 Yamaha Grand Pianos. Invitations to follow to Donors, Bute Arts Society Patrons, Friends & Season Ticket Holders. All welcome - apply for tickets online or at Print Point.

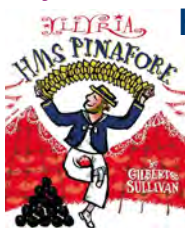
Tickets Free of Charge by Invitation, on line or from Print Point



Performance made possible by  
Bute Bid & Visit Bute

**SUMMER GALA (2) Rothesay Joint Campus**  
Saturday 16 August 2025 - 19:00

**illyria Outdoor Theatre Company (Indoors)**



**HMS Pinafore** Gilbert & Sullivan

Set on board the warship HMS Pinafore, the opera cheerfully mocks Great British institutions such as Class, Patriotism and the Royal Navy. Josephine, the captain's daughter, is in love with Ralph a common sailor; but her father wants her to marry Sir Joseph Porter, First Lord of the Admiralty. The couple are caught as they elope from the ship and Ralph is locked in the ship's dungeon. Only when certain revelations are made by Buttercup, a dockside vendor, can everyone end up freely marrying their true hearts' loves. This wonderful comic opera gets the complete illyria treatment, faithfully performed by a reduced cast on a beautiful nautical set (indoors).

Tickets: £15 Children Free with D'Oyly Carte Trust support  
Performance supported by 'Rothesay Common Good Fund'

**SUMMER GALA (3) Glenburn Hotel**  
Fri 5 - Sun 7 September 2025 - 19.30 / 14:00



**Jazz Weekend**  
**5 Jazz Sessions**

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Session (1)<br>05/09 19:30 | <b>Seonaid Aitken - The Rose Room</b><br>15th Anniversary of Hot Club Swing        |
| Session (2)<br>06/09 14:00 | <b>Marianne McGregor Quintet</b><br>'Make Believe' Album Tour                      |
| Session (3)<br>06/09 19:30 | <b>Brian Molley Quartet</b><br>Espirito do Brasil                                  |
| Session (4)<br>07/09 14:00 | <b>Matthew McIlree Jazz Trio</b><br>Jazz Piano with Stride & Swing                 |
| Session (5)<br>07/09 19:30 | <b>Angela Duncan &amp; Tim Saul Quintet</b><br>Angela Sings the American Song Book |



Single Tickets: £15 / Season Ticket: £50 - save £25  
Children Free with D'Oyly Carte Trust support.  
In association with Bute Jazz and financially supported by  
Bute Bid, Bute Jazz Concerts, Rothesay  
Common Good Fund and Visit Bute.

**SEASON CONCERT (1) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 17 October 2025 - 19:30

**International Recital (Norway)**  
**Oda Voltersvik, Solo Piano**



Oda Voltersvik's programme will include parts of her new CD "Nordic Unrest" which focuses on piano works by Nordic Composers, capturing elements within the dramatic

nordic nature or reflecting tales or characters from folklore. Her release tour Autumn 2025 has gained project support from the Fund For Performing Artists Norway. She is an extraordinary Scandinavian artist and Oda has performed at important venues internationally including Carnegie Hall, New York and Wigmore Hall and St Martin's in the Field, London.

Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (2) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 07 November 2025 - 19:30

**Traditional Gaelic Music (Scotland)**  
**Joy Dunlop, Ron Jappy & Mhairi Marwick**



Esteemed Gaelic Scottish singer, broadcaster and language advocate Joy Dunlop returns to Bute with Ron Jappy (guitar) & Mhairi Marwick (fiddle) and explores Scotland's cultural links through exhilarating music collaborations and beautifully

arranged Scottish Gàidhlig songs. The result is music deeply grounded in authenticity and tradition, yet infused with the energy of a new generation; all lit up with the passion and power of Joy's shimmering voice. Their music is both uplifting and mesmerising.

Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (3) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 21 November 2025 - 19:30

**RCS Governor's Prize Winner**  
**Robert Creirmerman, Solo Piano**



Born in Bucharest, Romania, Robert Creirmerman attended the "George Enescu" National Music School, and in 2020, studied in Glasgow, at the Royal Conservatoire of

Scotland where he won the Recital Prize. Currently, Robert is a master's student at the Brussels Royal Conservatoire, where he continues to develop as a pianist. **Programme:** Beethoven - 32 variations in C minor; Brahms - 6 Klavierstücke, Op. 118; Prokofiev - Piano sonata no. 3, Op. 28; Debussy - Prelude "Feux d'artifices"; Liszt - Piano sonata in B minor, S.178.

Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (4) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 05 December 2025 - 19:30

**Three Little Maids from Sorelle  
in a 'Christmas Entertainment'**



Our young Opera singers joined us at short notice in June 2024 and charmed our audience with both their 'drama' and opera highlights. They return to Bute with a

special seasonal entertainment. Sorelle are proud to be bringing opera straight to the heart of communities that are not regularly treated to the art form and are particularly passionate about bringing opera to first-time concert goers and children. They perform a wide range music from the Mikado to Rogers & Hammerstein.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (5) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 16 January 2026 - 19:30

**Tunnell Trust award winners 2024  
the international Chloé Piano Trio**



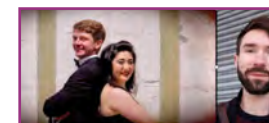
The Chloé Piano Trio are the winners of various chamber music prizes. Maria Gîlicel, Violin, Romania; Jobine Siekman, Cello, Holland; George Todică, Piano, Romania were formed in 2017

by talented emerging musicians at the Royal College of Music, London. With an ever growing following they are known for their sensitive performances. We promise you will enjoy their special and ethereal **Programme:** Esmail - Piano Trio 1; Haydn - Piano Trio in F sharp minor; Beach - Piano Trio in A minor, op. 150; Dvorak - "Dumky" Piano Trio, No. 4 in E minor.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (6) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 06 February 2026 - 19:30

**Vocal Duo with Piano  
celebrating George Gershwin**



Classical Musicians Scotland artists return to Bute following on from the success of the Celebrating Irving Berlin concert, we now hear the music and the

tragically short-lived story of George Gershwin (1898 - 1937), American composer and pianist. His compositions spanned popular, jazz and classical genres. Featuring mezzo Jane Monari, tenor Christian Schneeberger and pianist Michal Gajzler, some of Gershwin's well-loved melodies include, I Got Rhythm, Embraceable You, Bidin' My time, and many more.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'

**SEASON CONCERT (7) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 06 March 2026 - 19:30

**International Duo: Violin & Piano  
Benjamin Baker & Daniel Lehardt**



Returning to Bute is New Zealand born violinist Benjamin Baker, who since winning the 2016 Young Concert Artists auditions in New York, has established a strong presence across the globe, with

solo, chamber and concerto appearances on five continents. Partnered by Daniel Lehardt from Hungary and now resident in London, who has previously performed as a solo artist on Bute. **Programme :** Schubert - Rondo in b minor D.895. Brahms - Violin Sonata no.2 in a major op.10. Boulanger - Un matin de printemps. Respighi - Violin Sonata in b minor.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
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**SEASON CONCERT (8) Isle of Bute Church**  
Friday 10 April 2026 - 19:30

**International Ensemble  
the Asaka String Quartet**



The Asaka String Quartet is a prizewinning string quartet formed in 2021 at the Royal Academy of Music in London. They are the Quartet in Residence for 2023 - 2026

at Oxford's Wolfson College and are Britten Pears Young Artists for 2024/25. Coming from China, Hong Kong and Scotland, the Asaka's each bring with them unique own identities. **Programme:** Schubert - Quartet no.12, ; Mendelssohn - Quartet no.2; Regin Smidur - Faroese Trad Quartet ; Captain O'Kane - Turlough O'Carolan arr. Danish Quartet; Brahms - Quartet no.1.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
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**SEASON CONCERT (9) Isle of Bute Church**  
Saturday 09 May 2026 - 14:30

**a Choral Celebration  
Glasgow Phoenix & Ballianlay Choirs**



Back by popular demand the Glasgow Phoenix Choir bring a choral celebration to Bute joined in song with their friends the local Ballianlay Choir.

We are again promised a special concert with the massed choirs. Since their first concert together in May 2022 the Ballianlay choir have been to the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall as Phoenix guests to sing at their April 2023 & 25 concerts. Photo above of the joint choirs at the June 2024 concert in Trinity Church.

**Tickets £14 School ~ Children Free thanks to 'For Bute'**  
All Season concerts supported by 'For Bute'