

**Explore  
Scotland's  
Music**



**Scotland has a vibrant music scene that encourages innovative and collaborative working across classical, experimental and improvisation practice. This guide highlights the main resources and organisations supporting classical and new music in Scotland.**

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# Resources and information

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## Chamber Music Scotland (CMS)

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Leading, developing and connecting the sector, Chamber Music Scotland (CMS) is the national body for chamber music in Scotland. CMS supports and develops the network of local volunteer-run music organisations across Scotland to provide high-quality live music, particularly to audiences in more rural areas. CMS also works in collaboration with artists to commission and create new works and projects, supporting their creativity and well-being, and helping them to develop sustainable careers within the chamber music sector. Reaching communities across the country to deliver experiences to those with limited access to the arts, CMS creatively explores Scotland and its relationship with its landscape, people and natural resources.

[chambermusicscotland.com](http://chambermusicscotland.com)

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## Creative Scotland

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Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. They enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. They distribute funding from the Scottish Government and The National Lottery.

[creativescotland.com](http://creativescotland.com)

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## **Ear to the Ground!**

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Ear to the Ground! is an award-winning podcast that keeps listeners in the loop with interviews and gig alerts from Scotland's top composers. The hosts discover more about what motivates composers and hear about the processes behind their latest compositions. Winner of the RCS 'Making It Happen' Award at the 2021 Scottish Awards for New Music, Ear to the Ground! is hosted by Aileen Sweeney and Ben Eames, in partnership with New Music Scotland. Follow and subscribe to get to know some fantastic composers creating Scotland's newest and most exciting music.

[eartotheoundscotland.com](http://eartotheoundscotland.com)

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## **Live Music Now Scotland (LMNS)**

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Live Music Now Scotland gives outstanding young artists the opportunity of performing at the start of their careers and enables high-quality live music to reach people throughout our communities, especially those who wouldn't normally have access to it. They provide professional development for emerging musicians, commission composers based in Scotland, and have led the way in creating new works for audiences and performers outwith the concert hall. LMNS offers bespoke performances for adults and older people, as well as workshops and performances for children and young people across Scotland, many of whom have a range of needs.

[livemusicnow.scot](http://livemusicnow.scot)

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## **New Music Scotland (NMS)**

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Set up to help generate a vibrant and thriving new music sector, NMS is a network for those who believe in the importance and value of creating new music in Scotland. It comprises artists, ensembles, orchestras, composers, creators, music educators, sound artists, musicians, producers, promoters and more. New Music Scotland exists to connect, enable and support makers of innovative and experimental music, aiming to increase the profile and visibility of new music in Scotland. They host the annual Scottish Awards for New Music event, and run a year-round programme of professional development and networking events, monthly bulletins and advocacy activity.

[newmusicscotland.co.uk](http://newmusicscotland.co.uk)

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## Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (RCS)

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The Royal Conservatoire of Scotland is a national and international centre of excellence for performing arts education. Established in 1847 as a national academy of music, it is now one of the world's leading multi-disciplinary conservatoires, offering teaching in dance, drama, music, production and film. RCS ranks fifth in the world in the QS World Rankings.

[rcs.ac.uk](https://www.rcs.ac.uk)

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## Scottish Classical Sustainability Group (SCSG)

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The Scottish Classical Sustainability Group was co-founded in summer 2020 by Nevis Ensemble and Scottish Ensemble. It brings together orchestras, ensemble, festivals, musicians and sector representatives from across Scotland to promote sustainability, learn from one another and share best practice in combatting the climate emergency. The group's work to date has seen it win the Environmental Sustainability Award at the Scottish Awards for New Music 2021.

[nevisensemble.org/scottish-classical-sustainability-group/](https://nevisensemble.org/scottish-classical-sustainability-group/)

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## Scottish Classical Music Green Guide

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In July 2021, the Scottish Classical Sustainability Group launched the Scottish Classical Music Green Guide. Written collaboratively with learning and contributions from the 30+ members of the SCSG, this free guide contains knowledge and guidance on how to reduce carbon emissions in all aspects of your work.

Read and download the [Scottish Classical Music Green Guide](#).

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## **Scottish Music Centre (SMC)**

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Scottish Music Centre champions Scotland's music: past, present and future. Based in Glasgow, SMC is active across all music genres and engages with creative people of all ages and abilities. From preserving Scotland's music heritage with an ever-expanding archive of scores and recordings, to representing contemporary composers and musicians, SMC supports, promotes and champions the wealth of talent in Scotland's music community. A PRS Foundation Talent Development Partner, SMC provides essential services to Scotland's music sector through its membership programmes, youth music projects, training and advice sessions. In addition, SMC acts as a catalyst and connector to those working in the sector and the public at home and abroad.

[scottishmusiccentre.com](http://scottishmusiccentre.com)

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## **Scottish Music Industry Association (SMIA)**

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SMIA is a membership organisation that works to strengthen, empower and unite Scotland's music industry and increase its value on the world stage: economically, socially and culturally. Membership of the SMIA provides access to their resources, events and community, designed to support musicians in all genres throughout their career. SMIA also works in partnerships across all music genres to host the prestigious Scottish Album of the Year (SAY) award.

[smia.org.uk](http://smia.org.uk)

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## **The Touring Network**

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The Touring Network exists to promote rural touring and live performances at the highest level, and to support people as promoters, performers and audiences to create vibrant places to live, work and visit. Their network is made up of a diverse mix of people and organisations from volunteer promoters, village hall committees and professional programmers to theatre makers and producers, dance artists, musicians, agents and performers. Their venues cover more than half the area of Scotland.

[thetouringnetwork.com](http://thetouringnetwork.com)



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