

Scottish Music Centre and New Music Scotland



ISCM World Music Days 2024, Faroe Islands Call for Works

Scottish Music Centre and New Music Scotland/ISCM Scottish Section

Submissions open: Friday September 8th

Deadline: Sunday September 24th

Summary

The ISCM World Music Days festival is an annual international showcase of new music from around the world, attended by many international delegates as well as attending composers, producers and programmers.

The Scottish Music Centre (SMC) and New Music Scotland (NMS), as Associate members of the ISCM (International Society for Contemporary Music) are entitled to select and submit 6 works that meet the specified categories and criteria, for consideration by an international jury. One of these works is guaranteed a performance during the festival. The SMC and NMS will publicise the 6 successfully submitted composers and works via our websites and communication channels, as well as the final selected work(s) in due course. The Scottish Section will also work with the selected composer(s) with the aim of securing funding to attend the ISCM World Music Days in Faroe Islands.

Scottish Music Centre Executive Director Gill Maxwell said:

“Scotland’s membership of the ISCM came about after New Music Scotland and I held a series of meetings with ISCM executives at expo events in Rotterdam and Paris in 2019. We’re proud to partner with New Music Scotland to represent our sector internationally in this important development for Scotland’s contemporary music scene. Today we announce the Call for Entries for World New Music WNMD 2024 in the Faroe Islands, a brand new opportunity for our composers to step onto the global stage.”

This year there are 18 categories for different ensembles with specified forces (see below). You can submit works by sending a PDF version of the score plus an audio or video recording of the work (if available), or audio/video documentation if the work does not have a written score. Please see below for further information on the categories and what you need to include with your submission.

By submitting works to this Call, composers are agreeing that if their work is selected for performance/presentation that they grant automatic permission for the ISCM performance/presentation of their work to be recorded, broadcast, and streamed from the website without additional financial liability to the ISCM or the Festival Organizers.

The ISCM, SMC and NMS shortlisting and selection process is run in line with Sound and Music’s Fair Access Principles, which NMS has committed to.

SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

1. **LARGE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE:** 15–19 instruments drawn from the following: 1 flute (incl. piccolo, alto flute), 1 oboe (incl. cor anglais), 1 clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), 1 bassoon, 1 horn, 1 piano, 4 x 1st violins, 3 x 2nd violins, 3 viola, 2 cello, 1 contrabass. Live electronics is not an option for this category.
2. **CHAMBER ENSEMBLE:** 11–14 instruments drawn from the following: 1 flute (incl. piccolo, alto flute), 1 oboe (incl. cor anglais), 1 clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), 1 bassoon, 1 horn, 1 trumpet, 1 trombone, piano, 2 violins, 1 viola, 1 cello, 1 contrabass, percussion (instruments as in category 6). Live electronics is not an option for this category.
3. **CHAMBER ENSEMBLE 10–13 instruments** drawn from the following: 1 flute (incl. piccolo, alto flute) 1 clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), 1 saxophone (incl. soprano, alto, tenor and baritone.), 1 bassoon, 1 horn, 2 trumpets, 2 violins, 1 viola, 1 cello, 1 piano, 1 guitar (acoustic or electric). Live electronics is not an option for this category.

4. STRING CHAMBER ENSEMBLE: 10–13 instruments drawn from the following: 4 x 1st violins, 3 x 2nd violins, 3 viola, 2 cello, 1 contrabass. Live electronics is not an option for this category.
5. STRING QUARTET (2 violins, viola, cello)
6. PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE: Up to 4 musicians. The following instruments are available: marimba 5 8ve (C), marimba 4.3 8ve (A), vibraphone, xylophone, glockenspiel, tubular bells, crotales, timpani (set of 5), suspended cymbals, clash cymbals, tamtam, thundersheet, snare drums (10), bass drums (2), skin tambourine (6), concert toms (8), octobans (8), rototoms (5), congas, bongos, triangles, castanets, waterphone. Live electronics is not an option for this category.
7. TRIOS OR QUARTETS drawn from the following instruments (one of each): voice (soprano), flute, clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), bassoon, horn, saxophone (soprano, alto, tenor or baritone), trumpet, trombone, violin, viola, cello, contrabass, piano, accordion, guitar, percussion (instruments: see category 6). Live electronics is not an option for this category.
8. DUOS drawn from the following instruments (one of each): voice (soprano), flute, clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), bassoon, horn, saxophone (soprano, alto, tenor or baritone.), trumpet, trombone, violin, viola, cello, contrabass, piano, accordion, guitar, percussion (instruments: see category 6), live electronics (up to 4 channels). N.B. no fixed-media electronics as these should be proposed in category 12.
9. SOLOS for one of the following instruments: voice (soprano), clarinet (incl. bass clarinet), bassoon, saxophone (soprano, alto, tenor or baritone), trumpet, trombone, violin, viola, cello, piano, accordion, guitar, live electronics (up to 4 channels). N.B. no fixed-media electronics as these should be proposed in category 12.
10. CHOIR: SATB, SMzATBarB, SA, SMzA, TB, TBarB, a cappella. The choir consists of 12 singers; divisi possible (2 per voice); sub-groupings (such as female voices only, etc.) are possible.
11. ORGAN SOLO: Organ: Marcussen & Søn, 1989. 3 manuals, 27 stops. Mechanical action and mechanical stop action.

12. ELECTRONIC MUSIC WITH FIXED MEDIA: Acousmatic works, fixed media alone, or fixed media plus up to 2 performers of any instrument listed in categories 7 or 8, or supplied by composer. Up to 10 channels (8 speakers and 2 subs).
13. COMPOSER-PERFORMER on any instrument supplied or brought by the performer, or on an instrument provided by the venue. For electronic composer-performers, a P.A. system with 10 channels (8 speakers and 2 subs) will be provided.
14. JAZZ ENSEMBLE 6–7 players, chosen from: voice, saxophone, piano, guitar, bass, drums (additional instruments can be added). Different combinations are encouraged: 2 voices; 2 drums, 2 basses etc. If selected composer is also a performer she/he is encouraged to participate in performing the composition as a part of the ensemble. In collaboration with Havnar Jazzfelag www.jazz.fo
15. ECLECTIC MUSIC ENSEMBLE: Invitation to composers to provide material (anything from a single line to a four-part score – can include chord symbols) for performing musicians to complete with some elements of improvisation. The material can be based on, or inspired by, folk or art music from any culture or tradition, and/or inspired by historical musics/recordings. Instruments: clarinet/bass clarinet, accordion, double bass, drums/percussion.
16. SOUND INSTALLATIONS to be shown in gallery spaces or other environments, or outside. Up to 6 channels available.
17. POETRY & MUSIC in SMALL LANGUAGES: Our definition of small languages: a regional or minority language with less than 500.000 speakers. Works can be fully notated (for up to 4 instruments drawn from category 7), electroacoustic or with improvisational ideas. The works can be performed by a singer (soprano) and up to 4 instruments drawn from category 7, or with an audio recording of the text, spoken or sung. Before performance of each composition an actor will recite the text in Faroese and English (two actors will participate). Submission to this Category should include:
 - * An English translation of the text, and
 - * EITHER an audio recording of the text for reference to singer, if singer is included
 - * OR an audio recording of the text to be integrated in musical performance as play back.
18. NATURE AND MUSIC: Solo or duo music to be played in nature. Ocean sounds will be audible at all times. Instruments can be drawn from this list: 2 trumpets, 1 trombone, 1 horn, 1 saxophone.

Guidelines for making an official submission to the ISCM Scottish Section

- Applications via the official ISCM Scottish Section's call must be made by the composer directly, as opposed to via their publisher/agent or another third party
- Composers of any age or point in their career may apply, whether or not they have a publisher or have had international performances previously
- Only one work per composer may be submitted
- Our aim is to submit a balanced and representative shortlist of six high quality works to the ISCM. We particularly welcome submissions from composers from under-represented backgrounds, including composers who are women, LGBTQI+ composers, composers who are ethnically and culturally diverse, disabled composers and composers from lower socio-economic backgrounds. We recognise the many barriers that can prevent composers from accessing opportunities and are working hard to address them.
- Works must fall into one of the 18 category requirements above. The relevant category (and subcategory if applicable) for the work must be stipulated on the application for the application to be eligible.
- Preference is given by the International Jury to shorter compositions (except where specifically noted in a category description) and to pieces composed after 2014 with highest priority given to works composed after 2019.
- Composers of works selected for performance during the previous ISCM World Music Days Festival are not eligible to apply (except works selected but not performed)
- To submit a work to the ISCM Scottish Section (as opposed to directly to the ISCM International Jury) you must be a Scottish composer: that is a composer born in Scotland, or whose main residence has been Scotland for a minimum of 12 months at the time of application
- Composers from Scotland are eligible to apply to either the Scottish Associate Section or the British Section, bearing in mind the stipulation that composers may only submit one work in total. Anyone living and working in Scotland is encouraged to apply via the Scottish Associate section
- Works submitted to the British Panel for the previous three years' ISCM World Music Days festivals are not eligible.

How to make an official submission via the ISCM Scottish Section:

To apply, go to <https://www.scottishmusiccentre.com/iscm> to access the application form. If you require the documents in another format, please let us know.

If you have access needs which would mean additional financial support is needed in order for you to undertake work as part of this award, please let us know in your application. If you require access support in order to fill out the application form, please get in touch at info@scottishmusiccentre.com with “ISCM application” in the subject box.

The application form requires the following information:

Personal and contact information:

- Given names
- Family name
- Name as it should appear in the programme
- Date of birth
- Full Mailing address
- Gender you identify as
- Phone number
- Email address
- Website (if applicable).

Work information:

- Title
- Submission Category
- Accurate duration
- Year of composition
- Statement of whether the work has been previously performed
- The score (.pdf document preferred), or audio/video documentation if the work does not have a written score – as described in the Work Categories
- An audio or video recording of the work (if available)
- Programme notes for the submitted work (maximum 100 words)
- Technical rider specifying all equipment necessary to perform the work
- Short biography of the composer (maximum 100 words)
- High-resolution digital photograph of the composer

For categories 1-11, please submit a pdf of the score and a recording or MIDI realisation.

For categories 12-18, please submit a project proposal, score, or lead sheet, sound files, and/or other material that will allow the selection panel to gain a clear understanding of the musical, and technical aspects and requirements of the work. (Especially in category 12, it would be ideal to submit a recording of the finished work.)

This data will only be used for the purposes of this submission, in accordance with SMC and NMS Privacy Policy.

Selection of works

Members of the ISCM Scottish Section will review submitted pieces and select six works for submission to the International Jury. Our submissions need to cover at least four of the listed categories. Provided SMC and NMS meet these requirements, it is guaranteed that at least one work submitted by ISCM Scottish Section will be included in the World Music Days Festival. For more information about previous works selected for World Music Days Festival, see the British Section on Sound and Music's website [here](#)

Deadline for applications

24th September 2023

Late applications cannot be considered.

We will let you know no later than **5th October 2023** whether your work has been shortlisted for submission. Applicants can request feedback if not shortlisted.

Other information

Applying as an individual

Composers (or publishers or agents working on their behalf) may apply directly to the ISCM international jury. Individual submissions must be submitted by an independent composer or a composer's authorised representative. Submissions will be accepted at www.iscm.org. An entry fee applies to Individual Submissions, payable at the time of submission by PayPal through the ISCM website.

Individual Submissions are not guaranteed a performance. Space for Individual Submissions is limited, but all submissions will be considered.

More information on how to apply via this route can be found [here](#).

Notes to Editors

ISCM Scottish Section

The ISCM Scottish Section, administered by SMC and NMS, exists to promote the aims of the ISCM (International Society for Contemporary Music), both within Scotland and in co-operation with other Sections.

The ISCM aims to promote contemporary music and raise its public profile, through effective global networking, communication and facilitation of multilateral activities between the members.

The ISCM's published mission is to:

- Raise the profile of contemporary music through the collective strength of the Society's global network and membership makeup.
- Pursue exposure, research and performance of contemporary music through initiatives by its membership, as well as collaboration with affiliated bodies.
- Showcase the diversity of contemporary music worldwide through the World New Music Days Festival.

World New Music Days

The World New Music Days Festival is an annual meeting of the ISCM, organised and funded by different sections each year, as a platform for musical exchange and a showcase of world contemporary music, without prejudice or bias on differences in musical expressions, styles, genres or media. It aims to be a meeting place for organisations, performers and composers around the world. World New Music Days takes place over consecutive days in the host country and can be organised in any format which suits the artistic and practical preferences of the organiser in accordance with ISCM Statutes, reflecting the diversity of contemporary music. The festival strives to represent all legitimate members of the ISCM in one way or another through the activities of its programs, such as performances, seminars, exhibitions, etc.