



GRIEG SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND

GRIEGFORENINGEN I SKOTTLAND

HONORARY PRESIDENT – JOHANNE GRIEG KIPPENBROECK

WWW.GRIEGSOCIETYSCOTLAND.ORG

Report of the Grieg Society of Scotland presented at the Council Meeting of the International Edvard Grieg Society (Bergen 27 October 2019)

- Thank you, it is a pleasure to report on this, almost to the day, the anniversary of our founding. We are now officially 2 years old.

Conservation and Physical Heritage – Project *Monumentally Grieg!*

- The Society, though still in development, has already achieved success with completion of project *Monumentally Grieg!* to conserve and interpret the Edvard Grieg ancestral gravestone at Rathen, near Fraserburgh in North East Scotland.
- This physical conservation work (completed August 2018), together with our 2 special supporting *Monumentally Grieg!* interpretation resources – a 10-minute film, and an interactive 3D model, both available online – achieves scholarly as well as community education and heritage goals:



- As a contribution to Grieg scholarship, the project addresses common misconceptions about Grieg's Scottish ancestors, their physical and cultural place within the Scottish landscape, and the social history of the North Sea region, which is characterised by extensive trade and migration between Norway and Scotland over many centuries.
- As a contribution to community life, in Scotland, the project provides a new way to engage a new generation in the story of our Scottish-Norwegian connexions and cultural friendships. Already we have worked with local schoolchildren and welcomed special visitors from Norway.
- The project has also engaged our national heritage institutions and local government, raising awareness of the Grieg legacy across Scotland as a whole.

Musical and Linguistic Heritage – Audience Building

- In other work, the Society is engaging with a lively and growing language movement in Scotland, which has seen a grassroots revival of writing in our two minority languages (Scots and Gaelic) and in which circumstance we share strong similarities with the development and official support of Landsmaal, now Nynorsk, in Norway. By encouraging understanding of Edvard Grieg's cultural contribution and moderate
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political position in matters linguistic, we aim to draw a wider audience both to the music of Grieg and to the cultural heritage of minority language itself. The Society was pleased, in this regard, to contribute a special Grieg article to the newsletter of the veteran Royal Celtic Society (founded, amongst others, by Sir Walter Scott).

Scottish-Norwegian Concert Collaborations

- Finally, we look forward to welcoming Norwegian pianist Rune Alver, who will, together with our Honorary Director, give a concert in Aberdeen in April 2020. This will build on the Society's Scottish-Norwegian collaborative concert work, which begins this autumn with a unique 'skotsk-norsk feiring av Ninadagen' (Scottish-Norwegian Nina Grieg birthday concert) in the Villa, Troidhaugen, accompanied by Norwegian pianist and former Troidhaugen Director, Audun Kayser.

Future plans

- Looking ahead, we plan to celebrate the 175th anniversary of singer Nina Grieg's birth, in 2020, with a major North Sea collaboration in written form. Details of this exciting project will be announced in spring or summer next year.

Dr Sally LK Garden

Honorary Director

27 October 2019



Monumentally Grieg! Project
3D Model

Monumentally Grieg! in 3D – the Society's interactive model with music by Grieg, hosted on Sketchfab [here](#)

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Advancing understanding of the lives, artistic legacies and Scottish connections of composer Edvard Grieg and his wife, singer Nina Grieg. Our mission is to inform and inspire.