

Press release June 2021

Nordic Music Days 2021 in the Faroe Islands

Røtur/Rødder/Roots

With the proceedings of vaccination programs and the world gradually reopening, we are happy to announce that Nordic Music Days will finally take place for the first time ever in the Faroe Islands 1-4 September presenting a comprehensive program of contemporary Nordic music, sound installations, film, debates, football(!), and chain dance!

The themes of the festival are:

- Roots
- Meet yourself through the other
- The local and the global

And will run like tracks through the many concerts and events taking place.

About the program

September 1st

The whole of Tórshavn will be buzzing with activity on the opening day of Nordic Music Days. Sound installations will be found in the local record store, in the Nordic House, the venue Ostahúsið, and in a container on the harbor. Beautiful carillon will be heard over the city, and the day will end with a great evening event at the Nordic House with the critically acclaimed song cycle BEINTA – or maybe you prefer watching pocket movies by young Faroese and joining conversations about minority matters and art at the venue Reinsaríðið?

September 2nd

Thursday will offer a very special event by the ruins of the old village of Kirkjubøur with a new audio-installation created for the spot, Kingo singing, and a work involving postcards! In Tórshavn the German-Icelandic Ensemble Adapter will provide established as well as new composers a chance to have their compositions tested by professional musicians. At the Music School you can hear the results of workshops with children and young people, and in the evening a documentary opera about the Danish pioneer in ethnomusicology, Evald Tang Kristensen, will take place in the Nordic House. If you are in for more, the aspiring electronic scene of Torshavn will present their music at the venue SIRKUS or you can let yourself be soaked into a requiem for melting ice at Havnar Kirkja.

September 3rd

Friday, the college Glasír invites us in to see the fruits of a collaboration between groups of students and Nordic artists, who prior to the festival, have been working with the themes of the festival in different ways. If you are into vocal music, you should not miss a concert with the local choir TARIRA performing Nordic choral music in the Nordic House. At the venue, PERLAN, you will be presented to an evening of three very different approaches to Nordic contemporary music – one of which involves an aquarium! Finish your Friday night out with a late-night electronic solo-concert at Havnar Kirkja with an icon from the Danish electronic scene...

September 4th

Inspired by the recurring festival Hoyma – a festival of concerts taking place in the livingrooms of family homes in Southern Göta (Syðrugøta) – we have arranged a very special series of concerts in private homes in different districts of Tórshavn. Locals will transform their homes into a concert venue, where the audience is offered an intimate concert experience with new Nordic music, food, and drink. The National Gallery of the Faroe Islands will house a concert with a diverse range of Nordic works played by the local ensemble, Aldubáran. And finally, Nordic Music Days will finish off with a huge joint event of Kingo singing, football (!), music and chain dance in the Nordic House.

Engaging with children and young people

For several years, Nordic Music Days has had a focus on involving children and young people in the process of creating contemporary art music. Before and during this year's festival, professional artists from the Nordic countries meet with local children, young people, and their teachers about projects with sound and music at primary schools in Tórshavn, at the educational institution Glasír, and the Music School in Tórshavn. The outcome of these meetings will be shown during the festival.

Kick-off events

Several kick-off events will take place in the days up to the official festival opening. Already on Saturday August 28th, the Faroese will get the opportunity to experience the Kirkjubøur program, being repeated Thursday during the festival. The 29th a live version of the sound installation A Faroese Tale will take place in The Nordic House, and on August 31st the Ensemble Adapter will give their first Open Mic workshop in Tórshavn. Last but not least, beautiful tones will be ringing from a carillon at 1 PM from a new spot in town every day from August 30th and until the end of the festival.

In other words, there is something for everyone,
and it is our vision to create strong and present experiences for all.

Find out more about the festival, see the whole program and book your tickets on
www.nordicmusicdays.org

FACTS

About Nordic Music Days

The festival Nordic Music Days tours annually between the Nordic countries and is organized in turn by the Nordic Composers' Associations for the Nordic Composers' Council.

The festival should originally have been held in September 2020 but has been postponed twice due to the uncertain COVID-19 situation.

Nordic Music Days in the Faroe Islands is organized by Felagið Føroysk Tónaskøld and the Danish Composers' Association in collaboration with The Nordic House House in the Faroe Islands.

The major part of the program is curated based on an open call for ideas, where professional artists with connections to the Nordic countries have been able to submit proposals. The selected artists come from the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Denmark, Iceland, Sweden, Norway, and Finland.

The curator team behind Nordic Music Days 2021 consists of the composers Tine Louise Kortermand (DK), Gunnar Karel Mátsson (IS), Sunleif Rasmussen (FO), and audience curator Anne Boukris (DK)

For further information

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