



ARTISTIC EVALUATION

It should be noted the views expressed in this evaluation are intended to represent, as far as possible, an objective aesthetic judgement. Specialist advisors and officers should avoid making judgements based on their own personal tastes and preferences.

Artist/Company:	Scottish Music Centre
Venue:	City Halls, Glasgow
Title of Event:	N/A
Type of Event: (e.g. performance, exhibition, informal showing, work-in-progress, workshop, screening, lecture etc)	N/A
Date of Visit:	28 November 2007 (Telephone Enquiry)
Overall Rating:	4
<i>(Please rate the event overall, taking into account your ratings for each section. Please state the key reasons for your overall ratings – i.e. the particular strengths and weaknesses. If the management of the event affects the overall enjoyment of the event, please comment, but the overall rating should be based on the artistic merit of the event.)</i>	
The Scottish Music Centre provides a unique range of services for composers, professional musicians, young musicians, and the general public. The staff are friendly and helpful, and the quality of service is very good.	
Name: Fiona Dalgetty	Date: 05/01/2008
Specialist Advisor	Scottish Arts Council Officer <i>Please circle the relevant title</i>

This report has been commissioned by the Scottish Arts Council to evaluate the artistic quality of the production named above. It has been prepared by either a specialist Advisor, or an officer of the Scottish Arts Council, as indicated at the end of the form. The report will be circulated to the organisation which produced the work and to the management of the venue, if the venue is core funded by the Scottish Arts Council.

The report will form evidence for the Artistic Leadership and Public Engagement sections of the Quality Framework and be taken into account in assessing the work of the producing company in relation to applications for funding to the Scottish Arts Council. It may also be used by the Joint Board to report on the overall performance of its funded organisations.

Evaluators should enter their rating under each section, explaining briefly their reason for the rating with reference to their comments under each section. Ratings should be given in accordance with the following:

- 1 - Very Poor** – standard falls well below what is acceptable.
- 2 - Poor** – not attaining acceptable standards of conception or presentation.
- 3 - Competent** – routine rather than especially interesting.
- 4 - Good** – well conceived and executed
- 5 - Excellent** – conceived and executed to a high standard.

(The nature of this evaluation did not fit the format of the standard Artistic Evaluation form.)

I initially spent some time familiarising myself with the Scottish Music Centre's website which is easy to navigate, contains a great deal of information, and clearly displays the Scottish Arts Council logo.

I pulled out some information from the website and went on to make a telephone enquiry. I found the staff to be very helpful and the quality of service to be excellent.

I initially spoke with Keith Beattie who deals with the education programme and printing services. I explained that I am the freelance development worker for the Edinburgh Youth Gaitherin (EYG) and I asked him how young people in Edinburgh could get involved with the services and courses provided by the Scottish Music Centre. He was very happy to spend some time talking about the Music Centre's composition chart and how this could be used by EYG participants, particularly those who take part in regular song and tune writing workshops. He also spoke about the free Phonik courses run by the Music Centre in Glasgow and we agreed that these courses, particularly the Logic course, might appeal to EYG participants in the 16 – 25 year old category, particularly those who are now at university or college in Glasgow.

I then asked Keith about the printing service offered by the Scottish Music Centre. He gave me prices over the phone for various flyers and posters and he immediately sent me an e-mail with further details.

Keith then passed me on to Kristin who deals with score hires when I explained that I was a musician myself and I would be interested in hiring out some scores. Kristin was just as friendly and helpful as Keith and she explained that the Music Centre generally only hires out scores for quartets and larger groups such as orchestras. She explained that I could come in to the Centre to look at scores any time or I could buy a score either from her over the phone or on-line from the website. I purchased a copy of Eddie McGuire's *Prelude 21: Ninian's Chant for Solo Violin* from the on-line shop and it arrived within 48 hours.

From the Scottish Music Centre website, it is clear that there are a number of benefits available to members, e.g. a profile page on the website, discounts when purchasing scores, CDs, etc. The Centre clearly benefits composers and song writers as well as larger members, such as the RSAMD.

Perhaps, as a development of their education programme, the Scottish Music Centre could offer membership (free or at a reduced rate) to young people and music students so that they too could benefit from discounts, PRS and MCPS workshops, etc.

There is also scope for the Centre to develop partnerships with other music organisations, such as the potential partnerships discussed by myself and Keith with the Edinburgh Youth Gaitherin.

Overall, the Scottish Music Centre is a valuable resource to composers, musicians and the general public and it offers a high quality service to users.

3. Organisation's Comments (optional)

This is the organisation's opportunity to respond to points raised within this assessment. Please do not feel obliged to fill this section in. In the spirit of the Quality Framework, we would ask that any comments are self-evaluating, providing an insight as to why, if there is, a major disagreement of response between the organisation and the evaluation, in a constructive way.

This will not alter the rating given by the assessment, but will allow the organisation the opportunity to give their opinion/feedback. The Scottish Arts Council reserves the right to edit comments if they are deemed to be libellous or defamatory.

As the Scottish Arts Council implements the Quality Framework internally, we intend to publish artistic evaluations on organisations that we support regularly on our website. The final artistic evaluation, including the organisation's response will be published on a quarterly basis on our website.

Please keep your response to max 500 words. If we do not hear from you in 15 days, we will assume that you do not want to respond.