

1. Artistic Assessment

Please evaluate the artistic quality of the event, taking account of the following:

Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
Quality of production – was the event successful overall in relation to any stated aims (e.g. in the programme or other printed material)	5	Pairing Scotland and England's premier small chamber ensembles proved inspirational. The programme content juxtaposed contemporary string writing (Rorem's String Symphony/1986), with Copland's clarinet concerto, written for Benny Goodman in 1948 with Wolf's Italian Serenade. It worked brilliantly.
Vision and imagination	5	The programme content (see above) and presentation of performance, particularly by the Scottish Ensemble, was of the highest quality.
Performers – where performers are not trained, please reflect this in your comments	5	Again, as already stated, these players represent the highest quality of artistic performance supported by exemplary technique.
Quality of Presentation – was the professionally presented from a technical point of view	5	The performers stand, as is the norm with the SE and their engagement with the audience is worthy of comment as it mixes more formal performance technique with a more informal and engaging presentation in introducing the repertoire to be performed.
Audience – assess the appropriateness of the production for the audience, estimate the size and reaction	5	A packed St Magnus Cathedral showed the performers the level of their appreciation for what was a fine performance throughout the concert.
Educational Value – comment where appropriate	5	Great performances and performers always have an educational factor and this was no exception.

2. Management of Event

Please evaluate the way the event was presented/organised by the organisation and the venue, with reference to the checklist below, including additional comments/observations.

Criteria	Rating	Comment and key reasons for rating
Suitability of the venue for the event	4	Orkney needs and deserves a dedicated acoustic performance venue, but until that happens, the Cathedral remains their major venue.
Information/ interpretive material at venue ¹	4	Appropriate and informative.
Publicity/ pre-publicity ²	5	Excellent, including the web site.
Ease of booking and payment	4	
Location of venue	5	In the centre of Kirkwall.
External signage and signposting	5	Transport is provided to all venues outside Kirkwall and this seems to be a feature for regular attendees.
Internal directional signage	4	
Access and provision for disabled people	4	
Timing of the event	4	Despite the 1pm slot the audience was extremely supportive.
Customer service - quality and efficiency of staff (e.g., box office, front of house and bar/catering)	5	Festivals such as St Magnus would simply not operate without a huge number of volunteers. This enhances the community aspect of the event, which already exceeds all reasonable expectations in this regard.
Acknowledgement of Scottish Arts Council funding ³	4	

¹ These include programmes, displays etc., including the range, quality and clarity.

² Publicity/pre-publicity (leaflets, posters, etc), including the range, content, and when and where available. Be alert to the publicity available prior to your visit to the event. Also view and comment on the company's website where one is advertised, commenting on the ease of use, and quality of content and presentation, and currency of information

³ The following is an extract from the Scottish Arts Council's conditions of grant for funded organisations:

"The company should acknowledge Scottish Arts Council funding in press releases, at launches, on all published materials (including leaflets, brochures, programmes, posters, notices display, exhibition materials, websites and advertising). Acknowledgement of the Scottish Arts Council grant must also be made in any secondary or indirect products arising from the revenue funding such as recordings, publications, video, broadcasts, computer programmes etc."

Please comment on whether these conditions of grant were met, including use and prominence of the Scottish Arts Council logo on the company's website.