

Celtic CONNECTIONS 2012

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****CELTIC CONNECTIONS PROGRAMME UPDATE****

CELTIC CONNECTIONS SCOOPS BEST LARGE FESTIVAL AT UK EVENT AWARDS!

- Change in Admiral Fallow, Dry the River and Chasing Owls Line-up
 - 1990s announced as new act to perform with Cornershop
 - Tickets Selling Fast!
 - Education Programme Update
 - Celtic Connections School Concerts

The Celtic Connections team are celebrating today after being named Best Large Festival at last night's UK Event Awards at Wembley Arena!

We beat off stiff competition from Edinburgh's Christmas celebrations to scoop the coveted award, which are widely recognised as the Oscars of the Event Industry.

Donald Shaw, Celtic Connections Artistic Director, comments: "We're really delighted to win such a coveted award, especially with such fantastic festivals on offer in the UK."

Change in Admiral Fallow, Dry the River and Chasing Owls Line-Up

As mentioned in the previous update Dry the River have had to withdraw from their concert with **Admiral Fallow and Chasing Owls** on **27 January** at the **O2 ABC** due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the festival's control.

They have been replaced by **FOUND**, who are a **Chemikal Underground** signing. **FOUND** are an arts collective/experimental pop band from Edinburgh who create an unusual mix of garage rock, melodic pop and glitchy electronica.

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The Box Office is currently contacting all patrons who have already purchased their ticket to advise them of the change in line-up.

1990s announced as new act to perform with Cornershop

Indie-rock band **1990s** are going to be performing along-side **Cornershop** on **Friday 20 January** at **Platform**. **1990s** were notably signed to Rough Trade Records after only their sixth gig – a first for Rough Trade.

Tickets Selling Fast!

Live Radio Broadcasts from Pacific Quay

All six live radio broadcasts from **Pacific Quay** during Celtic Connections 2012 were **sold out within twenty minutes** this morning. Tickets for this event were free of charge.

Transatlantic Sessions

The **Transatlantic Sessions** show in Shetland was **sold out within 24 hours**. Transatlantic Sessions is visiting Shetland on the 3 February for the first time as part of the national celebrations of the Year of Scotland's Islands.

Education Programme

Hot on the heels of Celtic Connections' award for **Best Educational Event** for our 2011 Educational Programme, we are delighted to confirm that there will be another diverse and exciting educational programme for Celtic 2012. Get in touch for more details.

Celtic Connections School Concerts

- **Manran** will be playing at the first School Concert on **Thursday 19 January**, the first day of the festival, between **11:00** and **12:20** in the **Main Auditorium** at **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**. Suggested age group: P4 – S6.

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- **The Big Breakthrough!** school concert will be on **Monday 23 January** between **11:00** and **12:20** in the **Main Auditorium** at **GRCH**. **The Big Breakthrough!** is a performance by Children and young people from The BIG Project, Broomhouse. They will lead an interactive sing-a-long show celebrating Olympic and Paralympic values. Suggested stages: P4-S6
- **Celebration of Burns** school concert will be on **Wednesday 25 January** between **11:00** and **12:10** in the **Main Auditorium** at **GRCH**. This concert is at our younger audience members and features the **Celine Donoghue Band**. Suggested stages: Nursery – P3
- **Wildings** will be playing at the school concert on **Wednesday 1 February** between **11:00** and **12:10** in the **Main Auditorium** at **GRCH**. Suggested stages: Nursery – P3
- **Laura Veirs** will be playing at the school concert on **Friday 3 February** between **11:00** and **12:10** in the **Main Auditorium** at **GRCH**. Suggested stages: P4 – S2

Teachers from schools outside Glasgow, home educators and anyone who has not received the booking information can request it from schoolinfo@glasgowconcerthalls.com

- **ENDS** -

For further information, images or to request an interview with any of the acts performing at Celtic Connections 2012, please contact:

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Celtic Connections Press Office

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- Or -

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Celtic Connections 2012 runs from Thursday 19th January – Sunday 5th February and comprises 300 concerts, ceilidhs, talks, workshops, free events and late night sessions taking place over 18 days in 20 venues across Glasgow.

The focal point of Celtic Connections is the **Glasgow Royal Concert Hall**, where every available space is utilised during the festival, from workshops in the foyers to performances by worldclass artists in the Main Auditorium.

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Elsewhere in Glasgow, venues such as **O₂ ABC, The Tron, Òran Mór, The Arches, The Mitchell Theatre, City Halls** and festival fans' favourite the **Old Fruitmarket** will all play host to Celtic Connections events, whilst the legendary **Celtic Connections Festival Club** will move to a new home of **Apollo 23** (formerly Jongleurs Comedy Club) on Renfrew Street. **Brel** will host jazz and acoustic sessions as part of the festival.

The **economic impact** of Celtic Connections remained high in the midst of the global economic downturn in 2011, a market research study carried out by **Culture Sparks** has revealed. The festival generated an economic impact of **£7.6m** for Glasgow and **£3.1m** for Scotland. Celtic Connections enjoyed an extremely successful 18th festival in 2011, with over **£1m ticket sales** and attendances topping **100,000**.

The festival boosts the local economy and tourism industry in the normally quiet postfestive period. Celtic Connections saw an increase in visitors from outwith Scotland, with **6%** of the audience visiting from the rest of the UK and **10%** coming from overseas, with **26%** of festival fans accompanying their visit to Celtic Connections with an overnight stay. An impressive **85%** of visitors stated that attending Celtic Connections was their sole or main reason for visiting Glasgow, and **83%** said that they would like to come back in 2012. Celtic Connections 2011 generated a direct economic impact of £4,655,156.85 for Glasgow and £1,240,450.76 for Scotland. When standard industry multipliers are applied, Celtic Connections generated £7,587,905.67 of new output to Glasgow and £3,117,881.15 for Scotland. This has resulted in 98.92 new jobs for one year in Glasgow and 56.06 new jobs for Scotland.

Festival fans attended an average of **3.5** events, and respondents to the survey were overwhelmingly positive about the variety and quality of both music and venues.

Tickets can be booked:

Online	www.celticconnections.com
By phone	0141 353 8000
In person	Glasgow Royal Concert Hall 2 Sauchiehall Street Glasgow, G2 3NY

City Halls and Old Fruitmarket
Candleriggs
Glasgow, G1 1NQ

To apply for Media Accreditation for Celtic Connections 2012, visit www.celticconnections.com/pressaccreditation

ScottishPower became Principal Sponsor of Celtic Connections in 2007. Through the sponsorship, the company encourages its staff and the communities it works within to experience and enjoy the arts. ScottishPower's partnerships reflect the company's belief in the importance of enabling culture to be accessible for all. For background on ScottishPower log onto www.scottishpower.com

Celtic Connections is promoted by Glasgow Life. Glasgow Life and its service brands (found at www.glasgowlife.org.uk) are operating names of Culture and Sport Glasgow (CSG). CSG is a company limited by guarantee, registered in Scotland with company number SC313851 and having its registered office at 20 Trongate Glasgow G1 5ES. CSG is registered as a charity with the office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (No SCO37844).

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exciting portfolio of sporting and cultural events EventScotland is helping to raise Scotland's international profile and boost the economy by attracting more visitors.

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