

Press release under embargo until 12noon Wednesday 19th September

EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY 19

Underbelly Announces Full Programme for Edinburgh's Hogmanay

WE LOVE YOU!

Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrates Europe and invites the world to share the love, embrace friends – old and new – and come together in the home of Hogmanay.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay, 30 December 18 to 1 January 19.

Tickets on sale now at edinburghshogmanay.com and (+44) 131 510 0395



Hogmanay's Street Party Hosts The Mac Twins share the love

On behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, Underbelly today announced the full programme for Edinburgh's Hogmanay 19 in their second year of producing the festival.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay 19 will lead with a celebration of Scotland's shared cultural, historic and social connections with Europe.

Although 1 January 2019 marks the start of the year in which Scotland may leave the EU, we remain part of Europe and so Hogmanay 19 will be a celebration of our continental ties and our shared history and culture. Every year we welcome the world to ring in the New Year in the home of Hogmanay and celebrate our cultural connections with the world. 2019 is the time for us to celebrate our ties with Europe and ask the world to say – “WE LOVE YOU”

Programme highlights include:

- The line-up for **Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker** leads with Scottish and European bands, street performers and musicians including; **Compagnie Transe Express, Meute, Snap! and Gerry Cinnamon**.
- Spend the 31st thinking you are seeing double with **Street Party Hosts, The Mac Twins**.
- **Concert in the Gardens** headlined by Scotland’s favourite indie band **Franz Ferdinand**, supported by **Metronomy** and **Free Love**
- **Scotland’s best ceilidh bands** play at the **world’s most picturesque ceilidh dance with the Ceilidh under the Castle**
- **New Hogmanay venue, McEwan Hall**, to host three major concerts - **Symphonic Ibiza** on 30th December and **Capercaillie** and **Carlos Nunez with special guests** on the 1st January, which also marks the start of a new collaboration between **Edinburgh’s Hogmanay** and Glasgow’s **Celtic Connections** festival
- **First Footers Family Ceilidh** a new, **free of charge** family Ceilidh on 1st January in McEwan Hall.
- **The iconic Torchlight Procession** comes to a blazing finale with youth engagement project **#ScotArt**: bookending last year’s spectacular visual moment this time marking the end of Scotland’s Year of Young People 2018.
- **Bairns Afore** returns giving families and young people the chance to celebrate New Year early in Princes Street Gardens with a very special family edition of **Massaoke**.
- The **iconic fireworks** will once again stun with a specially created soundtrack by German techno-marching band **Meute** from the ramparts of Edinburgh Castle at midnight on the 31st.
- Co-commissioned with the Edinburgh International Book Festival, **Message from the Skies** returns from 1 – 25 January 2019 and asks **6 of Scotland’s leading writers** from the fields of poetry, journalism, fiction, travel, history and theatre - **Billy Letford, Chitra Ramaswamy, Kapka Kassabova, Louise Welsh, Stef Smith and William Dalrymple** - to each write a love letter to Europe.
- The long-held tradition of the **Loony Dook** kicks off 2019 raising money for charity, alongside charity donations made with ticket purchases for Torchlight Procession (One City Trust) and Street Party (The Brain Tumour Charity).
- “**WE LOVE YOU**” opens with the burning heart of Scotland at the end of the **Torchlight Procession** on Holyrood Park, rounds off 30 December with **Symphonic**

Ibiza in McEwan Hall; is delighted to welcome to the 31 December celebrations **Compagnie Transe Express, Meute, Snap!** and **Compagnie Des Quidams** with more to be announced; on 1 January, ends the 3 days of celebrations with **Carlos Nunez** and special guests from the cream of the Scottish music scene; and finally, closes Edinburgh's Hogmanay with **Message from the Skies** and six love letters to Europe.

[HIGH RES IMAGES AND FILMS FOR DOWNLOAD](#)

Edinburgh's Hogmanay 19 builds on the success of last year's festival with new events, the return of much loved traditions and the continuing evolution of its centrepiece Street Party that keeps the celebration going all evening.

The three-day festival opens on 30 December 2018 with the stunning traditional **Torchlight Procession** which sees a river of light weave its way through the historic heart of the city, down the Royal Mile, around Holyrood Palace and the Scottish Parliament before culminating in a stunning visual moment in Holyrood Park.

#ScotArt - Marking the end of **Scotland's Year of Young People 2018**, puts young people at the heart of the Torchlight Procession and the opening of Edinburgh's Hogmanay. A Scotland wide engagement campaign co-designed and led by young people has already kicked off in a quest to create **#ScotArt**. Bookending **#ScotWord**, which brought together 2,633 young people last year in a debate about a word which would sum up Scotland to the world and form the fiery finale of the popular Torchlight Procession, Edinburgh's Hogmanay has recruited young Champions and young emerging artists from across Scotland to co-lead creative workshops of young people from each region to conceive of and design 14 symbols which the young people believe best encapsulate each region. The symbols will then be made in giant wicker sculptures with the help of artist **Ariel Killick**.

These incredible sculptures will be displayed on the Royal Mile from Christmas to 30 December when they will form the focal point of Edinburgh's Hogmanay Torchlight Procession. The project is supported by the Year of Young People Event Fund and is run by Underbelly in partnership with Young Scot and supported by Edinburgh Art Festival.

Marking the end of the Year of Young People 2018, young pipe and drum bands will lead **the Torchlight Procession** down the Royal Mile into Holyrood Park where the Procession will form the **distinctive outline of Scotland lit by their torches. The #ScotArt sculptures then come** together to form a heart shape at the centre of this outline of Scotland. As the heart is lit, young people are placed at the country's beating heart symbolically representing a collective national youth voice, offering symmetry to the **#ScotWord** project delivered to herald the arrival of 2018 and book-ending the Year of Young People events programme.

The magical and much-loved **Candlelit Concert in St Giles' Cathedral** returns on the 30th December capturing the splendour of the court of Versailles with Marc-Antoine Charpentier's *Te Deum*, famous for its iconic opening fanfare. The Baroque theme continues with J.S.Bach's cantata for the last Sunday of the year, *Gottlob! Nun geht das Jahr zu Ende* BWV 28, and the concert concludes with festive exuberance in Bach's *Magnificat*. The concert will be accompanied by the St Giles' Cathedral Choir, directed by Michael Harris, with the St Giles' Camerata, leader Angus Ramsay, joined by a stunning array of talented young soloists.

The spectacular **McEwan Hall** becomes a new venue for Hogmanay this year, hosting events on both the 30th December and 1st January. On the 30th December, **Symphonic Ibiza** fuses a live 15 piece orchestra with renowned club DJ Andy Joyce (*Cream, Eden, Ministry of Sound, Creamfields*) to create a stirring concert of club classics under the amazing dome of McEwan Hall. The show comes off the back of a BBC Radio 1 performance in Ibiza this summer and makes its UK premiere at Edinburgh's Hogmanay.

Kids love fireworks just as much as adults. So, on 31 December, the celebrations kick off early for local and visiting families to have the opportunity to celebrate New Year together in West Princes Street Gardens at **Bairns Afore**. **Massaoke**, the live band and singalong sensation that is sweeping the UK from Glastonbury Festival to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe will have everyone dancing and singing their hearts out before a stunning 'midnight' fireworks moment at 6pm that gives the young their midnight moment and sets the scene for a spectacular night.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay renews its partnership with **One City Trust**, donating 50 pence from every ticket sold for the Torchlight Procession to the Trust as the Torchlight Procession Charity Partner. **Edinburgh's Hogmanay will also make 300 free tickets for Bairns Afore available to the Trust** to maximize the opportunity for young people around Edinburgh to get involved and celebrate Hogmanay. One City Trust is dedicated to fighting inequality and exclusion in Edinburgh.

Which brings us to **the night of the 31st** and a wealth of options for everyone looking to enjoy the world's most famous Hogmanay.

The **Concert in the Gardens at the foot of Castle Rock** is at the heart of all the celebrations that night. Scotland's favourite indie band **Franz Ferdinand** headlines Edinburgh's Hogmanay, the biggest New Year celebration in the UK, for the first time, topping off a fantastic year which kicked off with their new album *Always Ascending*. With some of the most danceable, chantable indie anthems of the last two decades, Alex Kapranos and co. have built a reputation for truly electrifying live shows.

One of the most idiosyncratic British acts of recent decades, **Metronomy** - impossible to pin down and equally as hard not to fall in love with - supports alongside **Free Love**, the latest manifestation of Scottish duo Suzanne Rodden and Lewis Cook (FKA Happy Meals), and a continuation and progression of their utopian dance pop experiments.

The **Street Party** in a brand-new partnership will be hosted by **Johnnie Walker** as we walk together into 2019. Scotland is very much the home of Hogmanay and its capital city will once again set the New Year celebration benchmark, showing the world how to party with style, spirit and a warm welcome as the carnival atmosphere takes over Edinburgh's picturesque city centre from 7:30pm in the best, biggest, longest, and friendliest street party in the world. Johnnie Walker will provide all revelers with a free dram to ring in the New Year and toast 2019 in style, holding true the Scottish tradition of seeing out the old year and in with the new with a wee dram of Scotland's national drink.

From the moment the doors open at 7:30pm, till long after the midnight bells have fallen silent, bands and DJs, street performers and dancers, acrobats, disco divas and fire eaters from Scotland and mainland Europe will all combine to make it the party of a lifetime.

Returning to their home city, this year's Street Party Hosts are **Love Island's Aftersun DJs** **The Mac Twins**. Their task is to keep the party up all night long as the stars of Hogmanay's own arena TV show, as well as taking a turn on the Castle Street DJ stage.

Music is at the heart of the Street Party and Edinburgh's Hogmanay 19 brings some of the hottest acts of 2018 to new year revelers across 3 stages. From the home-grown headline phenomenon that is **Gerry Cinnamon** to the classic Ibiza sounds of **Judge Jules** and **Snap!**, there's a whole continent of good times happening out on the street.

Headlining the Waverley Stage is **Gerry Cinnamon** topping off a whirlwind year of festival appearances, sell-out tours when he blasted onto the scene as one of the best live acts in the UK. Also playing the Waverley Stage are the Edinburgh band with an indie-infused electro-pop sound currently making waves, **Vistas** and **Snap!** the German Eurodance outfit whose hits *The Power* and *Rhythm is a Dancer* regularly fill dancefloors.

Taking to the stage in South St David's Street is **Elephant Sessions**, the indie folk foursome from the Highlands who lifted BBC Scotland's Trad Music Album of the Year in 2017. Acclaimed Edinburgh band **Miracle Glass Company** brings its vibrant, psychedelic rock 'n' roll and Hamburg based **Meute** will wow the party-goers with its one-of-a-kind, live drum and brass arrangements of well-known techno and house numbers.

Headlining the DJ stage in Castle Street is the superstar DJ **Judge Jules** making his Edinburgh's Hogmanay debut, taking the audiences up to the midnight moment. Local

powerhouse **Trendy Wendy** kicks off proceedings with her trademark 21 Century disco and the Mac Twins are set to make sure the party turns up a notch after midnight, taking dancers through to 1am.

Whether your taste is indie or Europop, **Silent Disco** has a playlist for you. Don your headphones on Market Street, choose your channel and get ready to learn some groovy new moves this Hogmanay.

Last year, the festival asked up-and-coming Scottish band *Niteworks* to compose the soundtrack for the Midnight Moment fireworks. Continuing this theme and in keeping with this year's celebration of Europe, Edinburgh's Hogmanay has commissioned a soundtrack to the fireworks from German band, **Meute**, who will also perform on the stage on South St. David Street. Meute are working with award-winning composer and sound designer **Dan Jones**, who will also sound design the Street Party arena.

Underbelly has reassembled last year's fantastic creative team of sound, light, audio visual and production designers to build on the Street Party celebrations on the 31st December. The team is once again led by **Martin Green**, one of the UK's leading live event producers.

Following on last year's beefing up of the event, this year's Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker sees **Compagnie Transe Express**, a troupe of French performance artistes who will bring their own unique form of anarchic and hugely entertaining street theatre. French company **Compagnie Des Quidams** will lead a herd of beautiful larger than life glowing white horses to wind their way along the Princes Street. **Louise Marshall** returns with her all female **Diva and Districts Pipes and Drums**, aerialists **All or Nothing Aerial Dance Theatre** animate the skies and after their big hit at last year's Street Party the **Got Soul! Choir** return appearing throughout the night to lead the party-goers in song all whilst **PyroCeltica** dazzle with spectacular show of fire theatre portraying Celtic myths and folklore.

Street Party ticket holders will be given the option of making a donation when purchasing a ticket to raise money for Brain Tumour Charity, an organisation Underbelly raises money for year-round, and for which it raised over £30,000 this summer. **Brain tumours are the biggest cancer killer for children and adults under 40 and increased funding for research is desperately needed.** Around 500 children and young people in the UK are diagnosed each year but diagnosis times of childhood brain tumours are longer in the UK than in many other countries. The Brain Tumour Charity's **HeadSmart** campaign aims to reduce brain tumour and brain cancer diagnosis times to four weeks or less.

Hogmanay HQ returns offering a VIP experience, this year at The Hub on Castlehill. Fizz, dinner and music combined with a prime spot to view the midnight fireworks from make this a hot ticket.

For those who enjoy Scotland's favourite dance, there is the opportunity to dance the night away in the best spot in the country at the **Ceilidh under the Castle**. Whirl or jig, fling or be flung, join hands with old friends and new to dance in the New Year with Scotland's top ceilidh bands – **The Jimmy Shandrix Experience, Hugh MacDairmid's Haircut and Ceilidhdonian** - and plenty of local food and drink to keep you spinning all night.

Special FREE trams (til 5am) running after midnight on New Year's Day will take people home safely after the event thanks to Official Transport Providers Edinburgh Trams, in association with City of Edinburgh Council.

There is no better way to wake yourself up on New Year's Day after a late night and make a fresh start than plunging into the chilly Firth of Forth. Over 1,000 people will arrive in crazy and innovative fancy dress to raise money for their own chosen charities and the RNLI to take part in this fabulous community event, the **Loony Dook** in South Queensferry on the 1st January 2019.

New Year's Day will see McEwan Hall transformed by Celtic sounds and celebration throughout the day, kicking off in the morning with a **free to attend First Footers Family Ceilidh**. In an exciting new collaboration between Edinburgh's Hogmanay and the **Celtic Connections** festival in Glasgow, two fantastic concerts take place in the afternoon and evening. **Capercaillie with Special Guests at 4pm** brings a traditional Scottish knees up to McEwan Hall. Capercaillie is inviting guest musicians to join them to bring the sounds of the European family of nations together in an afternoon of shared cultural celebration. Then at 8pm, international Galician folk star **Carlos Nunez** joins special guests from the cream of the Scottish music scene for a very special evening of musical exchange.

Message from the Skies returns to Edinburgh's Hogmanay on 1 January with a celebration of Scotland's literature, in a co-commission with **Edinburgh International Book Festival**. Six love letters to Europe will be projected onto iconic buildings and landmarks, marking Scotland's shared cultural, historic and social connections with this family of nations. The six Scottish writers, **Billy Letford, Chitra Ramaswamy, Kapka Kassabova, Louise Welsh, Stef Smith and William Dalrymple** come together from the worlds of poetry, journalism, fiction, travel, history and theatre to write their love letters to Europe with a range of different composers and projection artists from Scotland.

Message from the Skies runs until **25 January 2018** and is developed in partnership with Edinburgh UNESCO City of Literature and supported by Creative Scotland through the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals EXPO fund.

As producers of Edinburgh's Hogmanay 19, Underbelly continues its commitment to create meaningful opportunities for volunteers, and has developed the scheme, piloted in 2018, based on feedback from last year's ambassadors and in collaboration with City of Edinburgh Council, Festivals Edinburgh, Volunteer Scotland and Volunteer Edinburgh.

The **Hogmanay Ambassador programme** enhances the event and encourages people from all backgrounds to get involved and be part of a community of volunteers making a unique contribution to this iconic festival.

Alongside the event's delivery team, the Ambassadors will help visitors from around the world experience the best possible New Year celebrations. For the volunteers, this is an opportunity to get behind-the-scenes and take part in an inclusive experience which makes them a part of a community of ambassadors for the festival.

Last year 55 people volunteered, 40% for the first time. 92% said they would volunteer at Edinburgh's Hogmanay again with feedback like; "Being a part of it all and meeting the other amazing ambassadors and the team were amazing." and "The live event was like nothing I have ever experienced before, was great to see it first-hand unfold."

Edinburgh is the **world's festival city** with internationally renowned festivals year-round and Edinburgh's Hogmanay kicks them off at the beginning of every year.

Underbelly was awarded the contract by City of Edinburgh Council to produce Edinburgh's Hogmanay in 2017 and this is the second event under its direction. Underbelly was born out of Edinburgh, at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2000, and is well-known in Edinburgh already for its purple cow shaped Fringe presence and a successful 5 years of Edinburgh's Christmas. Underbelly produces major outdoor events across the world including West End Live in London.

Edinburgh's Hogmanay 2019 is supported by City of Edinburgh Council, EventScotland's International Events Programme, Scotland's Winter Festivals Fund and the Year of Young People 2018 Events Fund and Creative Scotland through the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals EXPO fund, all working together to create a bold new Hogmanay for Scotland.

Charlie Wood and Ed Bartlam, directors of Edinburgh's Hogmanay, said: "Edinburgh's Hogmanay is all about inviting the world to come on in and celebrate the end of one year and the start of a new and as we move from 2018 to 2019, there's no better time to celebrate Scotland's cultural ties with Europe.

"And it's going to be quite the celebration. Scottish artists from Franz Ferdinand and Gerry Cinnamon on 31 December, Capercaillie on 1 January to writers sending love letters to

Europe in Message from the Skies will celebrate alongside European artists including Meute, Snap!, Carlos Nunez, Transe Express and Compagnie des Quidams.

“We’re once again putting young people at the heart of the Torchlight Procession following the nationwide engagement programme #ScotArt, and with Bairns Afore returning on 30 December and our free family ceilidh First Footers on 1 January, we’re confident that Edinburgh’s Hogmanay offers something for everyone.

“Thank you to all our partners who have come together with us to create such an exciting and diverse Edinburgh’s Hogmanay 19 including our principal funder, City of Edinburgh Council, the Scottish Government, EventScotland and Creative Scotland, Young Scot, Edinburgh International Book Festival and a welcome and thanks to Johnnie Walker who join us to present the Street Party.”

Councillor Donald Wilson, Culture and Communities Convener for the City of Edinburgh Council, said: “Edinburgh’s Hogmanay is THE place to be to bring in the bells and with a strong Scottish line-up, it’s going to be one of our best celebrations yet.

“Kicking off the festivities, the Torchlight Procession will this year create a spectacular outline of Scotland using hundreds of flaming torches - symbolising Edinburgh and the nation’s place in the world as we blaze a trail towards 2019.

“On New Year’s Eve, Franz Ferdinand will headline the world-famous Concert in the Gardens, while a packed programme of live pop, rock, and ceilidh will entertain the Street Party as acrobats liven up the skies above.

“Meanwhile, we’ll welcome the return of the popular Bairns Afore concert and Message from the Skies, and of course the much-loved Loony Dook in the Firth of Forth – the iciest dip you’ll ever have but the best way to blow away the cobwebs! Don’t miss it.”

Paul Bush OBE, VisitScotland’s Director of Events, said: “Edinburgh’s Hogmanay is the premier New Year celebration and is the perfect way to herald in 2019. The programme builds on the success of last year’s event, ensuring there is something for everyone while maintaining the uniquely authentic cultural experience for both visitors and locals.

“It is great to see that Scotland’s young people will once again play a key role in the design and delivery of the Torchlight Processions. Bookending #Scotword, #ScotArt will be a wonderful culmination of Scotland’s Year of Young People 2018 celebrations, which has truly showcased the depth of skills and talents amongst our country’s young people.”

Martin Green, Edinburgh's Hogmanay Executive Producer said: "It's an honour to have another opportunity to lead the creative team on the world's greatest street party. Like last year we've got surprises in store and tons to see and do from the moment the doors open. It's appropriate that this year we have chosen to say loudly and proudly to our European friends – we love you!"

Struan Leslie, Street Party Director said: "Last year was just the beginning and I am delighted to be building on the unique atmosphere of last year's stunning Street Party."

Alex Kapranos from Franz Ferdinand, said "Hogmanay is the greatest party of the year and there is nowhere in the world like Scotland to celebrate it. Just thinking about bringing in the bells in Edinburgh gets me excited. It's going to be some night!"

Street Party Hosts, The Mac Twins said; "Someone has literally written out the perfect job for us... It's in our home town, it's the biggest street party in the world and we actually get to do all three things that we love, hosting, DJing and meeting loads of people - And our mum can come!

"2018 has been an absolutely brilliant year for us, having kicked it all off by headlining the DJ Stage, now having the chance to end the year by keeping the party going all night and meeting folks from across the world, wow! Hosting Edinburgh's Hogmanay Street Party is actually just too perfect. We couldn't be more excited to welcome in 2019 as Street Party Hosts!"

Sarah Lindsell, CEO of The Brain Tumour Charity said: "Over the past two years, we've seen our partnership with Underbelly galvanise awareness of the devastating impact of brain tumours, and raise huge amounts of funds that will be used for research into finding a cure. We've no doubt that the Hogmanay celebrations will strengthen the success of their support.

"Everyone in our community is immensely humbled and inspired by their continued commitment to our cause. As a charity, we are committed to fighting for all those people whose lives are turned upside down by this devastating disease and we couldn't do this without Underbelly behind us. Thank you to Ed, Charlie and the whole Underbelly team for their incredible support"

David Cutter, Chairman of Diageo in Scotland, said: "Johnnie Walker and Hogmanay go hand in hand – whisky has always been synonymous with New Year, so what better way to party at the world's favourite New Year celebrations, by raising a dram of the world's favourite Scotch, surrounded by family and friends to toast the year ahead."

Donald Shaw, Artistic Director of Celtic Connections, said: “For the first time Celtic Connections is delighted to partner Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrations by bringing unique concerts to the incredible surroundings of McEwan Hall on New Year's day. These performances will celebrate an exciting mix of the very best in Scotland's roots music scene with seminal band Capercaillie along with the extraordinary European folk traditions of Galician piper Carlos Nunez”

Nick Barley, Director of the Edinburgh International Book Festival said: “Hot on the heels of Val McDermid's swashbuckling story for the city, this year we've opened up the Edinburgh's Hogmanay commission and invited a handful of the most exciting writers from Scotland's next generation. This year's Message from the Skies comes in six very different stories – but together they shine a bright light on the impressive range of Scotland's literary talent.”

Paul Wilson, Chief Officer, Volunteer Edinburgh said: “Underbelly has developed their Hogmanay Ambassador programme on from the pilot scheme last year taking on board feedback from those who took part and other stakeholders and experts in volunteer involvement; Volunteer Edinburgh reviewed and provided input into this year's programme and the volunteer opportunities available. It is a well-designed programme that offers great volunteering opportunities the chance to contribute to and be part of to a world renowned event right here in Edinburgh.”

Councillor Donald Wilson, Culture and Communities Convener, added: “Volunteer initiatives provide people with the chance to be part of the beating heart of Edinburgh's festivals. They can provide extremely positive opportunities for participants to increase self-confidence, gain new skills and open up career opportunities.

“To help our festivals ensure such schemes are always as successful as possible - and beneficial to all involved - the Council created new guidelines for volunteering.

“I am pleased to see Underbelly embrace this new code of conduct as it enhances its Hogmanay Ambassador scheme this winter. Those who took part last year spoke warmly and enthusiastically about their experience and I'm sure many people will be keen to sign up to take part again.”

Lea Harrison, Edinburgh Trams Managing Director said: "we're delighted to be once again supporting Edinburgh's Hogmanay - the best new year's celebration in the world - with a free tram service, making sure thousands who attend the event can get home safely."

Tickets on sale now at edinburghshogmanay.com and (+44) 131 510 0395

edinburghshogmanay.com
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/ENDS

For further information, interviews, media passes and any other media enquiries please contact

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[IMAGE AND VIDEO LIBRARY](#)

Event Listings

30 DECEMBER

BABY LOVES DISCO HOGMANAY BASH, 1 – 3pm
£9 (+ £1 booking fee)

0-6 years

20% discount for EH postcode holders

Tickets are per person, babes in arms go free

Bring your tiny dancers and get kilted and booted for 2 hours of Hogmanay dayclubbing! Take a celebratory look back over the music of 2018 and with nostalgic pop floor-fillers from the days before parenthood struck, for all the generations to enjoy together.

Expect a Hogmanay twist with a short family ceilidh and Auld Lang Syne practice run with supplied 'toddler torches'.

Includes facepainting, dress-up, bubbles, balloons, dancefloor games and giveaways, chill-out play area and crafts zone. With a licensed bar for parents, it won't just be the little ones going gaga!

TORCHLIGHT PROCESSION, 7pm
£12 with torch, + £1 booking fee / £3 without torch

Born of the Viking tradition, Edinburgh's Torchlight Procession has become famous around the world as one of the first images of the impending change to a new year and the beginning of Edinburgh's Hogmanay celebrations.

The Procession returns to its new route down the Royal Mile, starting from three different points, High Street, South Bridge and North Bridge, winding between Holyrood Palace and the Scottish Parliament to reach Holyrood Park.

In Holyrood Park, torchbearers will form the distinctive outline of Scotland and at its heart, and marking the end of Scotland's Year of Young People 2018, 14 wicker sculptures created as part of the #ScotArt youth engagement project, will come together to form a heart-shape symbolically representing a collective national youth voice.

50p from every ticket bought goes to One City Trust, fighting inequality and exclusion in the City of Edinburgh.

**SYMPHONIC IBIZA, 8pm (doors at 7pm)
£50 / £40 /£30 (+ £3 booking fee)**

Symphonic Ibiza fuses a live 15 piece orchestra with renowned club DJ Andy Joyce (*Cream, Eden, Ministry of Sound, Creamfields*) to create stirring concert of club classics under the amazing dome of McEwan Hall.

The show comes off the back of a BBC Radio 1 performance in Ibiza this summer and makes its UK premiere at Edinburgh's Hogmanay.

31 DECEMBER

**BABY LOVES DISCO HOGMANAY BASH, 1 – 3pm
£9 (+ £1 booking fee)**

0-6 years

20% discount for EH postcode holders

Tickets are per person, babes in arms go free

Bring your tiny dancers and get kilted and booted for 2 hours of Hogmanay dayclubbing! Take a celebratory look back over the music of 2018 and with nostalgic pop floor-fillers from the days before parenthood struck, for all the generations to enjoy together.

Expect a Hogmanay twist with a short family ceilidh and celebrate 'the bells' with the Australians as we countdown to actual midnight in Queensland!

Includes facepainting, dress-up, bubbles, balloons, dancefloor games and giveaways, chill-out play area and crafts zone. With a licensed bar for parents, it won't just be the little ones going gaga!

**BAIRNS AFORE, 5pm (doors at 4pm)
£20 / £12 /£9 /£7.50 (+ £1 booking fee)**

On 31st December, families and young people can celebrate their Hogmanay well before the bells in Princes Street Gardens at Bairns Afore.

Massaoke, the live band and singalong sensation that is sweeping the UK from Glastonbury to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe present a family friendly version which will have everyone dancing and singing their hearts out before a stunning 'midnight' fireworks moment at 6pm giving the Bairns their midnight moment with plenty of time to get them home for bed!

**CANDLELIT CONCERT, 6pm (doors at 5pm)
£18.50 (+ £1 booking fee)**

This year's concert captures the splendour of the court of Versailles with Marc-Antoine Charpentier's Te Deum, famous for its iconic opening fanfare. The Baroque theme continues with J.S.Bach's cantata for the last Sunday of the year, Gottlob! Nun geht das Jahr zu Ende BWV 28, and the concert concludes with festive exuberance in Bach's Magnificat.

St Giles' Cathedral Choir, directed by Michael Harris, with the St Giles' Camerata, leader Angus Ramsay, are joined by a stunning array of talented young soloists.

**STREET PARTY HOSTED BY JOHNNIE WALKER, 7:30pm – 1:00am
£30 (10,000 at £20 for Edinburgh residents) (+ £1 booking fee)**

The world's best New Year street party.

From 7:30pm, Edinburgh will throw open its doors to the world. Join us as live bands, DJs, street performers, acrobats, choirs and more all combine across multiple stages and on the streets to make it the party of a lifetime, hosted by Love Island's Aftersun DJs The Mac Twins.

The music line-up includes appearances from home-grown phenomenon Gerry Cinnamon and superstar DJ Judge Jules, as well as Meute, Vistas, Elephant Sessions, Miracle Glass Company, Trendy Wendy and hosts The Mac Twins.

At midnight, German sensation Meute will be providing the soundtrack to the ultimate fireworks display from Edinburgh Castle.

MUSIC STAGE LINE UP

Waverly Stage

Vistas
Gerry Cinnamon
Snap!

Castle Street Stage

Trendy Wendy
Judge Jules
The Mac Twins

South St David Street Stage

Miracle Glass Company

Meute

Elephant Sessions

Street Activation Artists include:

Compagnie Transe Express

Compagnie Des Quidams

All Or Nothing Aerial Dance Theatre

An Act Above

Diva and Districts Pipes and Drums

Got Soul! Choir

PyroCeltica

Edinburgh's Hogmanay is proud to be fundraising for Brain Tumour Charity. At checkout, a donation can be added to and help us raise money to fund vital research.

SILENT DISCO AT THE STREET PARTY, 7:30pm – 1:00am

£5 (+ 50p booking fee) in advance or £10 (cash only) on the door

New for this year, visit the Silent Disco arena in the Street Party and have a silent adventure of your own. Whether your taste is indie or Europop, **Silent Disco** has a playlist for you. Don your headphones on Market Street, choose your channel and get ready to learn some groovy new moves this Hogmanay.

Advance purchase can only be made when purchasing either a Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker or a Concert in the Gardens ticket.

HOGMANAY HQ, 7.30pm – 1:00am

£200 (+ £5 booking fee) Hog HQ /

£220 (+ £5 booking fee) Hog HQ + Street Party

Enjoy Edinburgh's Hogmanay from the comfort and splendor of Hogmanay HQ at The Hub on Castlehill. Fizz, dinner and music combined with a prime spot to view the midnight fireworks from make this a hot ticket.

Hogmanay HQ + Street Party ticket gives full access to the Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker.

CEILIDH UNDER THE CASTLE 8:30pm (doors at 7:30pm)

£140 /£55.00 (+ £5 booking fee)

Experience the best of Scotland at the Ceilidh under the Castle. Whirl or jig, fling or be flung under Edinburgh Castle. Join hands with old friends and new to dance in the New Year with Scotland's top ceilidh bands – The Jimmy Shandrix Experience, Hugh MacDairmid's Haircut

and Ceilidhdonia - and plenty of local food and drink to keep you spinning all night.

At midnight, welcome in 2019 with a breath-taking fireworks display, amidst the historic setting of the majestic Edinburgh Castle.

**CONCERT IN THE GARDENS, 9:00pm (doors at 8:00pm)
£160 / £70 / £60 (+ £5 booking fee)**

Celebrate Hogmanay in spectacular style at the Concert in the Gardens. This year Franz Ferdinand headlines Edinburgh's Hogmanay with support from Metronomy and Free Love supporting.

At midnight, say goodbye to 2018 and welcome in 2019 with the best views of the fireworks over Edinburgh Castle.

A ticket for Concert in the Gardens will include a wristband for access to the Street Party.

1 JANUARY

**LOONY DOOK, 12:30pm, registration from 10:30am
£10 (+ £2 booking fee)**

The Loony Dook continues its New Year's Day tradition at South Queensferry. In the shadow of the Forth Bridges, the dippers in fancy dress, scantily clad or even fully clothed from the night before will brave the chill to raise money for charities while shaking off their Hogmanay hangover.

Ticket includes £1.00 donation to RNLI.

**FIRST FOOTERS FAMILY CEILIDH, 12:30pm (doors open 12:00pm)
Free ticketed**

Welcome, first footers, to the first ceilidh of 2019! A family-friendly affair that's free to attend (with a ticket booked in advance) in the magnificent McEwan Hall, blow away the Hogmanay cobwebs with your nearest and dearest, old and young and start the year off the right way with a wee dance.

**EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY IN ASSOCIATION WITH CELTIC CONNECTIONS PRESENTS:
Capercaillie and Special Guests, 4:30pm (doors open 4pm)
£35 / £30 / £25 (+ £3 booking fee)**

In an exciting new collaboration between Edinburgh's Hogmanay and Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival, Capercaillie brings a traditional Scottish knees-up to McEwan Hall. Capercaillie is inviting guest musicians to join them to bring the sounds of the European family of nations together in an afternoon of shared cultural celebration.

**EDINBURGH'S HOGMANAY IN ASSOCIATION WITH CELTIC CONNECTIONS PRESENTS:
Carlos Nunez and Special Guests, 8pm (doors open 7:30pm)
£35 / £30 / £25 (+ £3 booking fee)**

In an exciting new collaboration between Edinburgh's Hogmanay and Glasgow's Celtic Connections festival, international Galician folk star Carlos Nunez joins special guests from the cream of the Scottish music scene for a very special evening of musical exchange.

MESSAGE FROM THE SKIES (dusk to 10.00pm, unticketed, no fixed capacity)

Message from the Skies returns to Edinburgh's Hogmanay on Tuesday 1 January with a celebration of Scotland's literature and asks six Scottish writers to each write a love letter to Europe marking Scotland's shared cultural, historic and social connections with this family of nations. The letters will be projected onto iconic buildings and landmarks around Edinburgh animated by a range of different composers and projection artists.

The writers are Billy Letford, Chitra Ramaswamy, Kapka Kassabova, Louise Welsh, Stef Smith and William Dalrymple from the worlds of poetry, journalism, fiction, travel, history and theatre.

Message from the Skies runs until Friday 25 January 2018 and is developed in partnership with Edinburgh City of Literature and supported by Creative Scotland through the Scottish Government's Edinburgh Festivals EXPO fund.

Notes to Editors

About Underbelly

Underbelly is a UK based live entertainment company the beginnings of which are rooted in the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in 2000. Its events and festivals division now operates one of the largest operations at the Fringe, selling over 460,000 tickets for over 200 shows in 22 venues over 25 days in 2018.

2019 will be the seventh Edinburgh's Christmas that Underbelly has produced for City of Edinburgh Council (2017/18 saw a record breaking 781,520 tickets issued to visitors from 47 different countries), and the second Edinburgh's Hogmanay also on behalf of City of Edinburgh Council, which in 2018 welcomed 160,000 over 3 days.

Elsewhere Underbelly also produces Underbelly Festival on the Southbank in London, this year in its 10th year and one of the biggest multi-arts offerings in London, Christmas in Leicester Square, Udderbelly Festival in Hong Kong, West End Live in Trafalgar Square for Westminster City Council and the Society of London Theatre.

Through its Underbelly Productions arm it produces and promotes live shows in London's West End at the Edinburgh Fringe, and throughout the UK and on tour internationally.

In 2017 Underbelly sold over 1.4 million tickets to its various events.
www.underbelly.co.uk

The City of Edinburgh Council

The City of Edinburgh Council has been involved with Edinburgh's Hogmanay since its inception in 1998. The Council is also a core supporter of Edinburgh's 11 Festivals which, alongside major events, enhance residents' quality of life and cultural opportunities, and attracts significant numbers of national and international visitors to the city, along with the world's print, broadcast and online media. Edinburgh Festivals 2015 Impact Study confirms the huge contribution that Edinburgh's Festivals make to the quality of life, international reputation and economic vitality of Edinburgh and Scotland, including attracting audiences of more than 4.5 million and generating an impact of £280m in Edinburgh and £313m in Scotland.

Scottish Government – Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund

The Edinburgh Festivals Expo Fund assessment process and funding is administered by Creative Scotland, with input from Event Scotland, Scottish Enterprise, Festivals Edinburgh and City of Edinburgh Council.

The 2017/18 EXPO Fund has a budget of £2.1m for Edinburgh's Festivals and £200,000 is provided to Festivals Edinburgh to promote and position Edinburgh as the world's leading festival city.

EventScotland

EventScotland is working to make Scotland the perfect stage for events. By developing an exciting portfolio of sporting and cultural events EventScotland is helping to raise Scotland's international profile and boost the economy by attracting more visitors. For further information about EventScotland, its funding programmes and latest event news visit www.EventScotland.org. Follow EventScotland on Twitter [@EventScotNews](https://twitter.com/EventScotNews).

EventScotland is a team within VisitScotland's Events Directorate, the national tourism organisation which markets Scotland as a tourism destination across the world, gives support to the tourism industry and brings sustainable tourism growth to Scotland. For more information about VisitScotland see www.visitscotland.org or for consumer information on Scotland as a visitor destination see www.visitscotland.com.

Year of Young People

A global first, YoYP 2018 is a part of the Scottish Government's themed-year programme which focuses on celebrating Scotland's greatest assets. A year-long programme of events and festivals are taking place across the whole of the country for all ages to enjoy, led by EventScotland part of VisitScotland's Events Directorate. More information at www.visitscotland.com/yoyp2018 Edinburgh's Hogmanay is supported by the Year of Young People 2018 Event Fund, managed by EventScotland, part of the VisitScotland Events Directorate. EventScotland is working with the events and festivals sector to develop an exciting portfolio of Year of Young People 2018 public-facing events which provide opportunities for young people to express themselves through a wide range of activity.

Local authorities, schools, youth groups and organisations are running their own YoYP 2018 activity. Search #YOYP2018 on Twitter for the latest news. Young people co-designed the Year. A group of young leaders, Communic18, lead on all key decision making. More than 380 Ambassadors are championing activity. The Year is delivered in partnership between the Scottish Government, VisitScotland and EventScotland - part of the VisitScotland Events Directorate, Young Scot, Scottish Youth Parliament, Children in Scotland, YouthLink Scotland and Creative Scotland. More information can be found at yoyp2018.scot, searching @YOYP2018 #YOYP2018 on Twitter or by emailing yoyp2018@gov.scot

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com. Follow us @creativescots and www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland