

**TRADITION IN MOTION:  
Celebrating 30 Years of Traditional Music  
at Scotland's National Conservatoire**

**Tuesday 31 March - Thursday 2 April 2026**  
**Royal Conservatoire of Scotland, 100 Renfrew Street, Glasgow, G2 3DB**

**PROGRAMME**

Please note this is a provisional programme and some session topics and times may be subject to change.

**TUESDAY 31 MARCH: TRAD IN RCS**

- 12.00 - 12.45 **Delegate Registration and Welcome Lunch**  
Jack Bruce Space
- 12.45 **Welcome**  
Ledger Recital Room
- Prof Jeffrey Sharkey**  
Principal, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- Keynote: Reflecting on the journey, Part 1**  
**Dr Jo Miller**  
Co-founder of the BA (Scottish Music), Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- Chaired by Prof Joshua Dickson**  
Head of Traditional Music, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland
- 13.45 - 14.10 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**  
Jack Bruce Space
- 14.10 **Presentations and Papers Session**
- 15.40 - 16.00 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**  
Jack Bruce Space
- 16.00 **Keynote reprise: Reflecting on the journey, Part 2**  
Ledger Recital Room
- Alastair Anderson**, Founder of the BA Folk & Traditional Music, Newcastle University  
**Dr Jo Miller**, Co-founder of the BA (Scottish Music), Royal Conservatoire of Scotland  
**Dr Mark Sheridan**, Founder of the BA Applied Music at the University of Strathclyde (1991) and the University of the Highlands and Islands (2011)
- Chaired by Prof Simon McKerrell**  
Professor of Media and Music, Glasgow Caledonian University
- 16.45 - 17.00 **Summing up**  
Prof Joshua Dickson

17.00 - 18.00 **Free Time for Delegates**

18.00 **Delegate Dinner**

Maldron Hotel, 50 Renfrew St, Glasgow, G2 3BW

The Maldron is a one-minute walk from RCS. Included in the delegate rate is a 3-course dinner with tea/coffee and a half bottle of wine per person.

20.00 - 23.00 **Delegate Ceilidh**

National Piping Centre, 30-34 McPhater Street, Glasgow, G4 0HW.

The venue is a two-minute walk from the Royal Conservatoire of Scotland. The National Piping Centre is a national and international centre of excellence for the instrument and its music. They offer world class bagpipe education, as well as a large event space ideal for celebrations and sharing music, and the Museum of Piping which features treasures of the piping world.

The ceilidh will be punctuated with musical performances by RCS student pipers and Scots and Gaelic singers. A cash bar will be available for the evening.

## WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL: TRAD IN EUROPE

09.15 - 10.00 **Delegate Registration and Welcome Tea/Coffee**

Jack Bruce Space

10.00 **Leaders' Panel: Exploring the relationship between music education, intangible cultural heritage, and the trad/folk scene in Nordic and Celtic Europe**

Ledger Recital Room

**Dr Róisín Ní Ghallóglagh**, Course Director, BA Irish Music & Certificate in Music and Dance, Irish World Academy of Music and Dance, University of Limerick

**Dr Vilma Timonen**, Lecturer in Folk Music, Sibelius Academy, University of the Arts Helsinki

**Anna Wikenius**, Folk Department, Royal College of Music (KMH)  
Additional Speakers and Chair TBC

10.45 - 11.15 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**

Jack Bruce Space

11.15 **Traditional, Folk, and Global Music Working Group: 2025-26 survey results presentation and discussion**

Ledger Recital Room

Presented by **AEC Traditional, Folk, and Global Music Working Group members**

12.00 - 13.00 **Networking Lunch**

Jack Bruce Space

13.00 **Presentations and Papers Session**

14.00 - 14.15 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**

Jack Bruce Space

14.15 **Presentations and Papers Session**

16.10 **Sum-up of the day's sessions**

Ledger Recital Room

16.30 - 20.00 **Free Time for Delegates**

There are a wide variety of restaurants close to RCS and the Events Team will be able to provide delegates with a list.

20.00 - 21.30 **Delegate Concert**

National Piping Centre Auditorium

Included in the delegate rate is a welcome drink, served with sweet canapes and Scottish cheese boards. A cash bar will be available for the evening.

**Call for Participation in the Concert**

We warmly invite delegates with an interest in taking part in the Delegate Concert to contact Josh Dickson at [j.dickson@rcs.ac.uk](mailto:j.dickson@rcs.ac.uk)

**THURSDAY 2 APRIL: TRAD IN MOTION**

09.15 - 10.00 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**

Jack Bruce Space

10.00 **Leaders' Panel: Future Challenges to Traditional, Folk, and World Music programmes in Higher Music Education**

Ledger Recital Room

**Dr Decker Forrest**, BA Gaelic and Traditional Music, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig

**Jan Kuhr**, Head of Global Musics, Codarts Rotterdam

**Caterina Plana Cerda**, Traditional Music, Escola Superior de Musica de Catalunya

**Rachael Sutcliffe**, Academic Manager, BA Music (Folk, Roots, and Blues), Leeds Conservatoire

**Chaired by Prof Dr David-Emil Wickström**

Popular and Global Music Studies, Pop Akademie Baden-Württemberg

11.00 - 11.30 **Tea/Coffee and Networking**

Jack Bruce Space

11.30 **LOERIC x Limerick**

Ledger Room

LOERIC is a probabilistic rule-based music performance system developed through practice-led research that models an expressive and interactive performance of Irish traditional dance music. Initially developed by Marco Amerotti, Steve Benford, Bob Strum and their teams at the University of Nottingham and the KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, the project has been realised amongst traditional musicians at the Irish World Academy, University of Limerick over the past year.

In this closing performance of the conference, LOERIC will perform with a group of undergraduate musicians from the BA Irish Music in UL, pointing towards some ways AI can be utilised by traditional musicians to add new dimensions to their performance practice.

12.10

**Closing Address**

**Prof Joshua Dickson**

Head of Traditional Music, Royal Conservatoire of Scotland

**Please contact the RCS Events Team on [events@rcs.ac.uk](mailto:events@rcs.ac.uk) if you have any questions.**