

## **Eadar an Saghal 's a' Bhiothbhuan Between the World and Eternity**

In 2006 Urras Shomhairle embarked on an ambitious project to bring the poetry of Sorley MacLean to a wider audience by:

- Commissioning the best traditional composers to set some of Sorley's poems to music or compose new music inspired by Sorley's work
- Establishing a Gaelic and a Music Residency at Sgoil Chiùil na Gaidhealtachd in Plockton to work with the students to create settings of Sorley's poems and other new works

The Trust appointed Kenneth Thomson as Project Director and he, in turn, appointed the residents, composers and performers. The result was a programme of some of the best music created in recent years.

The concerts were held in June 2007 in Plockton, Fort William, Portree, Clashmore, Inverness and Dingwall.

### **The composers were:**

Mary Ann Kennedy  
Blair Douglas  
Marie-Louise Napier  
Eilidh Mackenzie  
Allan Henderson

Allan Macdonald  
Donald Shaw  
Louis de Paor and John  
Spillane  
Kenneth Thomson

The works were performed by

### **Singers**

Jenna Cumming  
Kirsteen MacDonald

James Graham  
Alasdair Whyte

### **Instrumentalists**

Mary Ann Kennedy  
Christine Hanson  
Jack Evans

Gordon Gunn  
Brian McAlpine  
Dougie Pincock

## Choirs

Coisir Gàidhlig Inbhir Nis  
Dingwall Gaelic Choir  
Oban Gaelic Choir

Strath Gaelic Choir  
Melvich Gaelic Choir  
Lairg Gaelic Choir

Portree Primary School Choir  
Lochaber Junior Gaelic Choir

Deugairean Inbhir Nis

## Plockton Residencies

Music: James Ross

Gaelic: Myles Campbell

## The Student Musicians were

Suzanne Houston  
Lauren Weir  
Coralea McKay

Emma MacInnes  
Rachel Lincoln

The concerts were recorded for future transmission by Radio nan Gàidheal when they will be included in the Christmas / New Year schedule. The release of a CD is also planned.

## Sponsors

An ambitious event like this would not be possible without a large number of sponsors and supporters. The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the financial assistance received from

Bòrd na Gàidhlig  
Highland 2007  
Proiseact nan Ealan  
Scottish Arts Council  
Colmcille  
PRS Foundation

Comunn na Gàidhlig  
BBC Alba  
Gaelic Media Service  
Highland Council  
HIE Inverness and East Highland  
HIE Skye and Wester Ross

The award from Colmcille was in respect of the composition by John Spillane and Louis de Paor. The new music award from the PRS Foundation was for the composition by Mary Ann Kennedy.

The project brought together some of the best composers and performers in Gaeldom to celebrate the rich legacy of the poetry of the best Gaelic poet - and arguably one of the best poets in any language - of the twentieth century.

