

# Bòrd na Gàidhlig

Brath Naidheachd  
*Press Release*



**\*Please scroll down for English Version\***

## HIORT AIG FÈIS EADAR-NÀISEANTA DHÙN ÈIDEANN

26 Am Màrt 2009

'S e Opara Hiort aon de na prìomh nithean a bhios aig Fèis Eadar-nàiseanta 2009 Dhùn Èideann. Chaidh innse a-raoir, aig foillseachadh Prògram na Fèise, gun tèid an dreach Bheilgeach den opara a thaisbeanadh airson a' chiad uair ann an Alba, ann an Gàidhlig is Fraingis, ann an Taigh-cluiche Fèis Dhùn Èideann air 15, 16 agus 17 Lùnastal.

Chaidh an co-thaisbeanadh Beilgeach/Albannach duaiseil seo - L'île des Hommes-Oiseaux – a shealltainn an toiseach ann an 2007 mar aon de na còig taisbeanaidhean a chaidh fhoillseachadh aig an aon àm anns an Fhraing, a' Ghearmailt, an Ostaire agus ann an Alba a thuilleadh air sa Bheilg agus anns an robh ceangalan beò ri Hiort. B' e Pròiseact nan Ealan a bha os cionn na pròiseict agus fhuair i duais Scottish Event of the Year.

Thuirt Ministear a' Chultair, Mìcheal Russell: “Tha mi gu math toilichte Hiort: Opara Eòrpach fhaicinn air a' phrògram airson Fèis Eadar-nàiseanta Dhùn Èideann na bliadhna-sa. Bha a' chiad fhoillseachadh den Opara na choileanadh soirbheachail, a' cur Gàidhlig aig meadhan stèidse ann an còig dùthchannan. A-nise thèid pàirt na Beilge den phròiseict fhaicinn ann am prìomh bhaile na h-Alba aig aon de phrìomh fhèisean ealain an t-saoghail. “Tha a' Ghàidhlig na pàirt riatanach de ar beatha is ar dualchas nàiseanta agus gu dearbh de ar soirbheachadh mar dhùthaich. Tha i na pàirt de chultar na h-Eòrpa cuideachd. Mar sin tha e deatamach gum bi pàirt aig a' Ghàidhlig ann an cùisean àbhaisteach agus tha a gabhail a-steach air prìomh phrògram Fèis Eadar-nàiseanta Dhùn Èideann na dhearbhadh làidir de chudromachd na Gàidhlig dhuinn uile ann an Alba. 'S i a' Ghàidhlig am meadhan as fheàrr a dh'innseas sgeulachd shònraichte Eilein Hiort agus a daoine agus tha mi a' coimhead air adhart ri bhith an làthair nuair a thèid an taisbeanadh air an àrd-ùrlar.”

Bha na còig taisbeanaidhean uile ag obair bhon aon scriobt, libretto, sgrìob chiùil agus stuthan lèir-chlaisteach ach bha iad uile gu tur sònraichte a rèir an àite agus an taisbeanaidh lèirsinnich is dràmadaich. Bha dràma-ciùil beò anns gach tachartas le dannsairean-creige, cleasaichean, luchd-ciùil, còisirean is seinneadairean Gàidhlig anns gach àite agus bha iad uile ceangailte tro shaideal bheò ri Hiort. Chaidh an taisbeanadh Albannach a chraoladh cuideachd tro webcast beò a' BhBC.

Tha an taisbeanadh Beilgeach a chaidh a stiùireadh le Thierry Poquet agus a sgrìobhadh leis an sgrìobhadair Gàidhlig, Iain Fionnlagh MacLeòid, a' toirt a mhìneachadh shònraichte fhèin air sgeulachd Hiort. Bho 2007 tha e air a bhith air àrd-ùrlar a-rithist sa Bheilg agus san

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Fhraing far an d' fhuair e moladh mòr ach 's e seo a' chiad uair a thèid an taisbeanadh iongantach seo fhaicinn ann an Alba.

Tha an seinneadair is a' bhana-chleasaiche Ghàidhlig, Alyth NicCarraig a' seinn ann. Thuir Alyth, a tha air a bhith an lùib na pròiseict bho 2007 air leth toilichte a bhith ann na dùthaich fhèin.

Thuir i: "'S e taisbeanadh mìorbhaileach, drùidteach a th' anns an Opara. 'S fìor thoigh leam a bhith an sàs ann agus tha e air a bhith fìor mhath ag obair is a' dol air chuairt le cleachdaichean eadar-nàiseanta dràma – Tha mi cho toilichte gum bi an taisbeanadh Beilgeach mu dheireadh thall air fhoillseachadh ann an Alba."

Thuir Calum Mac Ill Eain, Stiùiriche Pròiseact nan Ealan: "'S i Fèis Eadar-nàiseanta Dhùn Èideann an fhèis ealain as cliùitiche air an t-saoghal agus tha urram aice airson a bhith a' foillseachadh nan taisbeanaidhean ealain as fheàrr air an t-saoghal. Mar sin, tha sinn air leth toilichte gun deach Opara Hiort a thaghadh mar aon de phrìomh thaisbeanaidhean fèis na bliadhna seo. Thairis air na bliadhnaichean mu dheireadh tha na h-ealain Ghàidhlig air a bhith a' leasachadh luchd-amais ùr agus bha na còig taisbeanaidhean mar-aon de Opara Hiort ann an 2007 nan soirbheachadh mòr air feadh na Roinn Eòrpa. Tha an taisbeanadh Beilgeach iongantach dha-rìribh agus na riochdachadh cho cumhachdach de sgeulachd Hiort is gum bi e na bhrosnachadh dha luchd-èisteachd na fèise."

Gheibhear tiogaidean bho Oifis Fèis Eadar-nàiseanta Dhùn Èideann bhon 4<sup>mh</sup> latha den Ghiblean aig 10m. Rachaibh gu [www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk) no fònaibh gu 0131 473 2000.

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## ST KILDA AT THE EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL

26 March 2009

The St Kilda Opera will be a highlight of the Edinburgh International Festival 2009. It was announced last night, at the launch of the Festival Programme, that the Belgian production of the opera will be performed for the first time in Scotland, in Gaelic and French, at the Edinburgh Festival Theatre on 15<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> August.

This award winning Belgian / Scottish co-production - *L'île des Hommes-Oiseaux* – was premiered in 2007 as one of five shows performed simultaneously in France Germany, Austria, and Scotland as well as Belgium and featured live links to St Kilda. The 2007 project was led by Pròiseact nan Ealan (The Gaelic Arts Agency) and won a Scottish Event of the Year Award.

Culture Minister Michael Russell said: “I am very pleased to see The St Kilda Opera on the programme for this year’s Edinburgh International Festival. The premiere of the opera was a remarkable achievement, putting Gaelic centre stage in five countries. Now the Belgian part of the project will be seen in the capital of Scotland during one of the world’s greatest arts festivals.

“Gaelic is an integral part of our national life and heritage, and of course, of our future as a country. It is also part of Europe's culture so it is vital that Gaelic has a place in the mainstream. Its inclusion in the main programme of the Edinburgh International Festival is a strong and positive affirmation of Gaelic’s importance to all of us in Scotland. Gaelic is the medium best able to convey the unique story of Eilean Hiort and her people and I look forward to being present when the work is staged.”

All five productions worked from the same script, libretto, musical score and audio-visual material but all were profoundly different in the nature of their venue and their visual and dramatic presentation. Each event featured live music-theatre with cliff dancers, actors, musicians, choirs and Gaelic singers in each venue, and all were linked by live satellite connection to St Kilda. The Scottish performance was also webcast live on the BBC.

The Belgian production, directed by Thierry Poquet and written by Gaelic writer Iain Finlay Macleod, presents its own distinct interpretation of the St Kildan story. Since 2007 it has been restaged in Belgium and in France to critical and popular acclaim, but this is the first time that this remarkable production will be shown in Scotland.

The production stars Gaelic singer and actor, Alyth McCormack, who also performed at the Festival launch last night. Alyth, who has been involved in the project since 2007, is thrilled

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to be at last performing the opera on home soil. She said: ""The St Kilda Opera is a stunning and moving production. I love performing it and have had a wonderful time working and touring with international theatre practitioners - I'm delighted the Belgian production will finally be performed in Scotland".

Malcolm Maclean, Director of Proiseact nan Ealan, said: "The Edinburgh International Festival is the world's most prestigious arts festival and prides itself in showcasing the world's best arts productions. We are obviously delighted to see the St Kilda Opera selected as one of the highlights of this year's festival. Over recent years the Gaelic arts have been developing new audiences and the five simultaneous St Kilda Opera productions in 2007 enjoyed huge success across Europe. The Belgian production is outstanding and a powerful staging of the St Kilda story that will be an inspiration for festival audiences."

Tickets will be available from the Edinburgh International Festival Box Office from the 4<sup>th</sup> April at 10am. Go to [www.eif.co.uk](http://www.eif.co.uk) or phone 0131 473 2000.