

SFU PIPE BAND

Affirmation

In Concert at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall



1. Beaches of Harris (Mark Saul) 5:03

We open the concert with this new suite by Australian piper and composer Mark Saul. P/M Terry Lee starts with an evocative slow air and the band joins him for the march, hornpipe, and reel sections. The drummers play rope-tension snare drums in addition to their regular high-tension side drums. The sections of the suite are named after spectacular white sandy beaches on the Isle of Lewis and Harris, the largest of the Outer Hebrides off the West Coast of Scotland.

2. Cosmos Cascade Medley 6:40

Cosmos Cascade (Don Bradford)
The Snuff Wife (Traditional, arr. Andrew Douglas)
The Atholl Highlanders (Traditional, arr. Andrew Douglas)
The Braes of Loch Eil (Traditional, arr. Andrew Douglas)
Munlochy Bridge
The Top of Craigenven (John Stewart)
Mrs. MacLeod of Raasay
The Braes of Loch Eil (reprise) (Traditional, arr. Andrew Douglas)
Mrs. MacLeod of Raasay (reprise)

Our winning medley from back-to-back World Championship titles in 2008 and 2009. We've always enjoyed creating new arrangements of well known traditional tunes. The opening hornpipe, Cosmos Cascade, transitions into a new hornpipe arrangement of the classic jig, The Snuff Wife. We play the well known slow air, The Braes of Loch Eil (also known as The Banks of Lochail), one note up from the usual low A version. This selection includes two of the best known pipe tunes of all time, The Atholl Highlanders and Mrs. MacLeod of Raasay.

3. Big Reels 4:50

Little Cascade (G.S. McLennan, arr. SFUPB)
The Sheepwife
Mrs. MacPherson of Inveran (G.S. McLennan, arr. SFUPB)
Little Cascade (G.S. McLennan, arr. SFUPB)

We were honoured to have Scottish folk-rock group Wolfstone join us for our concert. Fiddler Duncan Chisholm plays a slow air to open this set of three classic big competition reels, played up tempo in a round style. This set was inspired by a performance by former band member Stuart Liddell, known for his fast, dazzling interpretations of traditional tunes.

4. Tir nan Og (Mark Saul) 4:29

Mark Saul composed this suite in the key F sharp minor specifically for our band. Mark also composed and arranged the electronic backing. The Gaelic title means Land of Eternal Youth. This track features some of our younger pipers, and was led at the concert by Pipe Major Terry Lee's son, Alastair.

5. Cha Till MacCruimen 4:52

Cha Till MacCruimen
Paul's Strathspey (Jamie MacInnis)
She Put A Knee On The Old Man
Sandy Cameron
The High Drive (Gordon Duncan)

We begin this set with our own 4/4 version of the Gaelic slow air Cha Till MacCruimen, or MacCrimmon Will Never Return. Legend has it Donald Ban MacCrimmon composed the tune after he had a premonition of his own death. The second strathspey, She Put A Knee On The Old Man, is played in the classic Cape Breton style, building in tempo with a smooth transition to reel time. Sandy Cameron is played in the round style, with the middle parts in 3/2 waltz time. The set finishes with the late great Gordon Duncan's brilliant reel The High Drive.

6. Pipe Solo 3:27

Balmoral Castle
King George IV's (Traditional, arr. Alan Bevan)
Skye Dance
Harris Dance
Harris Dance
The High Road to Linton (Traditional, arr. W. Gray and J.D. Burgess and Alan Bevan)

Alan Bevan has won many of piping's top prizes, including the Gold Medal, the Silver Medal, and the A Strathspey & Reel at Inverness, the Masters, and the Donald MacLeod Memorial. In this set, he puts his own twist on traditional Highland-style strathspeys and reels.

7. The Drunken Landlady 4:20

New Eden (Chris Armstrong)
The Dragon's Lair (Chris MacAulay)
The Drunken Landlady (Traditional, parts 3 & 4 Stewart MacNeil)

Three hornpipes played in the round style. The first composed was by top Scottish piper Chris Armstrong. The second was composed by South African piper Chris MacAulay, with the drum corps emulating the sound of a drum set. The set finishes off the classic hornpipe with an intriguing title, The Drunken Landlady.

8. Pasucais de Coaña 5:46

Pasucais de Coaña (Javier Tejedor)
North American Pipe Band Jig (R.S. MacDonald)
Inspector Campbell of Ness (Peter MacLeod, Jr.)
Alex MacDonald (Norman MacDonald)
Pasucais de Coaña (Javier Tejedor)

We enjoy playing tunes from different cultures and musical traditions. The opening tune in this set was composed by Asturian piper Javier Tejedor. It is played by Jori Chisholm on the Scottish small pipes, with Rob Menzies on low whistle. The second tune is a new composition by Roddy MacDonald. Inspector Ness and Alex MacDonald are well known Scottish jigs. We finish by reprising Pasucais de Coaña with the whole pipe band.

9. Dusty Miller 4:17

Dusty Miller
Traditional Irish Waltz
Diego's Blackout (Adam Quinn)
Finbar Saunders (Michael Grey)
For Ireland I Will Not Tell Her Name (Traditional, arr. Andrew Douglas)

We first heard the opening tune, The Dusty Miller, played by the incredible Irish folk band Lúnasa. We tried to emulate their chords with multi-part chord harmonies played over the melody. For Ireland I Will Not Tell Her Name was arranged by former band member Andrew Douglas and was the finale of our competition medley at the 2007 World Pipe Band Championships.

10. Highland Wedding 5:18

Highland Wedding (Angus MacKay)
Blair Drummond
John Morrison, Assynt House (Peter MacLeod)

The March, Strathspey, and Reel is a traditional set of tunes and a required component in top-level pipe band competitions. It showcases some of the most technically difficult and rhythmically challenging tunes in our repertoire. This set showcases some of Reid Maxwell's most musical and sophisticated compositions for the drum corps.

11. The Haunting 4:59

The Haunting (Neil Dickie)
Drops of Brandy
Lewis Jig
Patrick's Annabel
Give Us a Drink of Water (Traditional, arr. Terry Tully)
Paddy Be Easy
The Foxhunter

Neil Dickie is a former member of the band and one of the piping world's most creative and humorous personalities. He has been the master of ceremonies for many of our concerts, where his quick wit and entertaining style have made him a hit with audiences. He is a well known composer, and he wrote the aptly titled slow air, The Haunting. We follow the air with six Scottish and Irish jigs in 9/8 time.

12. The Field of Gold (P/M Donald MacLeod MBE) 7:11

Piobaireachd is the classical music of the Highland bagpipe. It consists of variations on a theme and differs from the airs, marches, and dance tunes in the piping tradition. Piobaireachd is typically only played by solo pipers, but here we have arranged it with harmonies for the entire pipe corps. Pipe Sergeant Jack Lee starts the ground, and he's joined by the the entire corps for the variations that build in tempo and technical complexity. After the final variation, Jack replays the opening theme and the pipers sing the Canntaireachd — the ancient system of words used to teach and learn these tunes.

13. Salute to Willie McErlean '79 (SFUPB Drum Corps) 3:49

On August 12, 1979, Willie McErlean became the first lead drummer to win the Best Drum Corps prize at the World Pipe Band Championships with a non-Scottish band. This drum fanfare is based on the simple percussion theme in the Beaches of Harris score and was a collaborative effort by the entire drum corps. When Willie first heard the score played on rope drums, he rewarded us with enthusiastic approval. So, we named the salute in honour of the 30th anniversary of our friend's big win.

14. Do Mo Chara Maith 6:42

Do Mo Chara Maith Blair Murphy (Rosemary MacNeil)
Emancipation (Mark Saul)
Calleach An Dudain (The Old Wife of the Mill Duet)

We first recorded Do Mo Chara Maith Blair Murphy in 1993 on our studio album of the same name. Here we play it live with great accompaniment from Duncan Chisholm on fiddle. Emancipation is a modern multi-parted jig that was featured in our Worlds competition medley from past years. Wolfstone helps give a fresh sound to the classic Old Wife of the Mill Duet.

15. Blue Cloud (Adam Quinn) 2:51

Adam Quinn's catchy six-parted jig has become a new classic and is one of our favorite tunes.





Pipe Major Terry Lee
Pipe Sergeant Jack Lee
Lead Drummer J. Reid Maxwell

Pipers

Callum Beaumont
James Beaumont
Alan Bevan
Bonnie Bevan
Xavier Boderiou
Angela Burleigh
Damien Burleigh
Andrew Bonar
Jori Chisholm
Gordon Conn
Blair Cooper
Sylvia DeTar
Patrick Downing
Andrew J. Hayes
Alastair Lee
Andrew Lee
Colin Lee
Neil MacPherson
Colin McWilliams
Danielle Millar
Derek Milloy
Glen Mitchell
Will Nichols
Andrew Smith
Myles Stewart
John Sutherland

Drummers

Brittany Angeltvedt
David Bowman
Derek Cooper
Scott Fletcher
James Laughlin
Ian Lawson
Gordon Lee
Katey MacPherson
James Marshall
Grant Maxwell
Sarah McLatchy
Duncan Millar
Michael O'Neil
Jason Paguio
Blake Schmidt
Kathryn Tawse

Wolfstone

Duncan Chisholm
Alyn Cosker
Collin Cunningham
Davie Dunsmuir
Stuart Eaglesham
Stevie Saint

Featured Musicians

Jori Chisholm
Rob Menzies

Master of Ceremonies

Neil Dickie

All tunes traditional, arranged by SFUPB except where noted. All drum scores composed by J. Reid Maxwell, except where noted.

Produced by SFU Pipe Band
Recorded by Murray Blair, Kris Koren
and John Weatherby
Mixed by Murray Blair
Design by Mark LaPoint lapointdesign.com

Thank you to all of our friends, family, and supporters; President Michael Stevenson and the entire SFU community; Dougie Orr and the Phoenix Honda Glasgow Skye Pipe Band; and Heather Jolley & the Highland dancers.

Simon Fraser University Pipe Band
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Affirmation

On August 12, 2009, the world-renowned Simon Fraser University Pipe Band performed at the Glasgow Royal Concert Hall for a sold out audience of over 2,100 pipers, drummers, and supporters from around the world. Just three days later, the band won the World Pipe Band Championships for the sixth time, winning the overall and drum corps titles for the second year in a row.

Affirmation: Live in Glasgow showcases the band's depth of talent, diverse repertoire, technical brilliance, tonal clarity, and musical maturity. This recording captures one of the greatest pipe bands of all time at their very best.

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6. **Pipe Solo** 3:27
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8. **Pasucais de Coaña** 5:46
9. **Dusty Miller** 4:17
10. **Highland Wedding** 5:18
11. **The Haunting** 4:59
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