

PRESS RELEASE

The world's first ever Scottish Gaelic Christmas album is showcased in **Duan Nollaig** on **Wednesday 19th December at 11pm on STV**. (It replaces the advertised programme - It Shouldn't Happen to a Showbiz Reporter). This unique collection of carols is performed in front of a live audience. It will also be shown at 6pm on Christmas Day on Freeview Channel 8 – Tele G.

This is Gaelic music as never seen or heard before. **Fiona Mackenzie's** beautiful voice and the wonderful setting of St Andrew's in the Square in Glasgow create a festive hour of television with warmth, soul and passion.

Linda Fabiani, MSP – Minister for Europe, External Affairs & Culture was in the audience and said: "Whether or not people have Gaelic, it is an absolute joy to listen to the language, especially in song and I really think this could be the start of something big."

Musical Director **Irvin Duguid** has worked his magic and created arrangements for the album, using influences from all musical genres, not just traditional ones. Fiona Mackenzie says: "Some of the most popular tracks with the young are the rock tracks such as Leonard Cohen's 'Alleluia', which featured in the **Shrek** film". Old favourites 'Away in a Manger' and 'Silent Night' sit beautifully alongside new songs such as 'The Twelve Days of Christmas' uniquely translated into Gaelic.

There is something for all ages and musical tastes, from traditional to classical with a sprinkling of country & western and rock thrown in for good measure. An eclectic mix of old and new songs; some incorporate elements from other cultures including Manx, Latin and German. You do not need to have Gaelic to enjoy these beautiful sounds.

Accompanying Fiona Mackenzie as lead vocalist is Irvin Duguid on keyboards, John Goldie on guitar; Jim Drummond on drums; Ed McFarlane on bass; Katie Mackenzie on clarsach; Gary Innes on accordion; Ross Ainslie on bouzouki, mandolin and banjo; Hamish Napier on whistle & flute; Simone Welsh on violin and Kennedy Aitchison on second keyboard. Backing vocals from 2007 Mod Gold Medallist James Graham, opera singer Mark Thomson and Mod Silver medallist Morven Macleod.

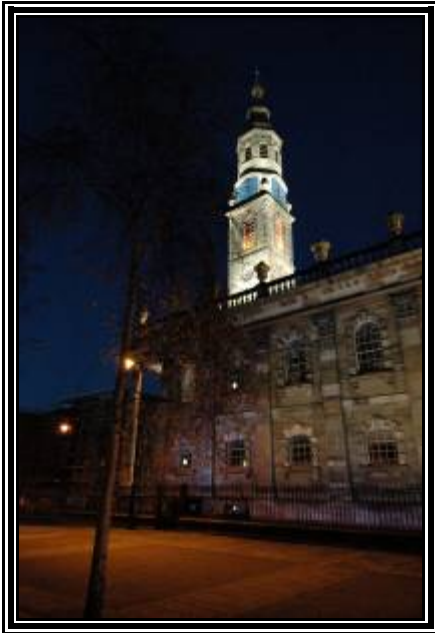
The concert was organised by Highland Council with support from Greentrax.

Duan Nollaig is a Midas Multimedia production filmed in HD and funded by GMS.

Produced by Patricia Macleod
Directed by Phil Jennings
Executive Producers: Scott Brown and Margaret Cameron



Midas Multimedia Ltd
Tel: 0845 680 0028



St Andrews in the Square



Wednesday 19th December STV 11pm