

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCAFFOLDING COMES DOWN AT EDINBURGH'S LANDMARK MUSIC VENUE

195-year-old building completes vital repair work thanks to funding from the Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland



After a year of being cocooned in scaffolding to replace the roof and carry out vital repairs on the guttering, stonework, windows, railings and gates, The Queen's Hall's fine Georgian architecture is now back on full display on Clerk Street in Edinburgh's Southside.

Originally the church of Newington and St Leonard's (founded 1823), The Queen's Hall officially opened as a venue on 6 July 1979 after a three-year £850k fundraising campaign led by the Scottish Baroque Ensemble (now Scottish Ensemble), the Scottish Chamber Orchestra (SCO) and the Scottish Philharmonic Singers who were all looking for rehearsal and performance space in the city. Since then it has seen a wide range of established and up-and-comings stars grace its stage (Nina Simone, Nick Cave, Adele and Courtney Pine to name a few) and is still the current home of the SCO.

Evan Henderson, The Queen's Hall Chief Executive says, *"We're grateful for funding from the Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland which has enabled us to carry out vital repair work to our almost 200-year-old building and return its exterior to its former glory. As we approach our fortieth birthday in 2019, we're excited about the future of The Queen's Hall; we have a varied programme of music from the very best artists across all genres and our upgraded bar and new marketing have given a new lease of life to the venue."*

As well as external improvements, the venue now boasts a much-improved bar with a broad range of local craft beers, ciders and spirits and refreshed branding to take it boldly into the next forty years of its life and beyond.

For interviews, hi-res images and information on the fortieth anniversary in 2019 please contact: Emma Mortimore, Marketing Manager: 0131 622 7381 | emmam@queenshalledinburgh.org

NOTES FOR EDITORS

The Queen's Hall, established 1979 is Edinburgh's foremost mid-sized live music venue playing host to an extraordinary range of world-class artists from all musical fields: classical, jazz, folk and roots, rock and pop and Americana. Our perfectly-proportioned, intimate auditorium, flawless acoustics and adaptability make us a unique and valuable resource in Edinburgh's cultural life. We have provided facilities for the International, Fringe, Jazz, Film, Fiddle and Science Festivals and for many local amateur and professional groups, as well as being a key venue for music, comedy and spoken-word acts touring (inter)nationally. We annually welcome around 90,000 people through our doors and work with up to 3,000 artists and support staff. Additionally we partner on year-round music learning and community engagement projects with the City of Edinburgh Council, The City of Edinburgh Music School, Drake Music and other schools and education providers. These initiatives offer young performers and disabled musicians a professional development and performance platform they cannot get elsewhere. We were recently awarded a grant from the Scottish Government and Historic Environment Scotland to refurbish the external fabric of the building and have a fundraising campaign to renovate the internal layout in the coming years. www.thequeenshall.net
