

ST MAGNUS COMPOSER COMPETITION

50th Anniversary Festival



St MAGNUS
INTERNATIONAL
FESTIVAL

ST MAGNUS INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL AND THE COMPETITION

In 2026 St Magnus International Festival celebrates its 50th edition and to celebrate we are holding a competition to find a new work to be included in the programme. The winning work will be premiered by the eminent and renowned Hebrides Ensemble as part of their residency at the 2026 Festival.

The theme of this year's festival is AIR – the air we breathe, the wind, the oxygen of life.

INSTRUMENTATION

Clarinet Violin Cello Piano

Composers should write for the entire quartet rather than any smaller combinations of these instruments. The winning composer will be asked to provide instrumental parts.

DEADLINE

Submissions must be received by 5pm on April 24th 2026

Winner announced week of 4th May

ELIGIBILITY

The Competition is open to all age groups

WHAT TO SUBMIT

A 5 minute work for the above quartet of instruments that reflects the themes of the Festival. The work should be newly written and not have been performed previously. The copyright for any winning work remains with the composer.

Please submit:

- A pdf digital copy of the score
- A sound file if possible (not essential)
- A short programme note about the work
- Name and contact details (email, address, telephone) and a short biography

SEND TO

info@stmagnusfestival.com

JURY

The judges will include the Festival Director/Composer Alasdair Nicolson, and Artistic Director/Cellist of the Hebrides Ensemble, Will Conway.