

Hopekirk 170: A Scots Virtuoso

60min programme (no interval)

Helen Hopekirk (1856-1945)

Serenade in F# Major

for solo piano

Isobel Dunlop (1901-75)

Six Songs

Texts by William Soutar

i. Evening Star

ii. The Bairn

iii. The Gowk

iv. The Tryst

v. The Keekin Glass

vi. At Tibbermuir

Thaxted Suite (1970)

for solo piano

i. Spring - "...the old windmill..."

ii. Summer - "...the secret garden..."

Helen Hopekirk (1856-1945)

Two Tone Poems (1929-30)

i. Dance to your shadow

ii. The Seal-woman's Sea-Joy

for solo piano
arr. for solo accordion

Claire Liddell (b. 1937)

An thou were my ain thing

My heart is sair

Ca the yowes

Traditional text
Traditional text
Text by Robert Burns

Marie Dare (1902-76)

The Spanish Shawl

Nocturne

arr. for accordion and piano

Helen Hopekirk (1856-1945)

70 Scottish Songs

Ay Waukin O

The Deil cam Fiddlin Through the Toun

Where sleepest thou my dearie

Balooloo my lammie

Text by Robert Burns
Text by Robert Burns
Traditional text
Traditional text

Programme Overview

In this concert, The Bubblyjock Collective celebrate Helen Hopekirk's 170 year legacy alongside the music of other female Scottish composers. The programme will feature selections of Hopekirk's piano music and some of her settings of well-known Scottish Folk Songs, as well as songs and instrumental music by Claire Liddell (b. 1937), Marie Dare (1902-76) and Isobel Dunlop (1901-75).

Hopekirk was a virtuosic pianist with an international career during her lifetime, but has drifted into obscurity as a composer through the 20th century. Classically trained in Vienna, Hopekirk combined a late-Romantic style with her Scottish roots and produced some very fine works for solo piano. Her songs are lesser-known still, and deserve re-appraisal.

All the female Scottish composers in this programme faced barriers to success during their lifetimes, and are under-researched and rarely performed. This concert presents an opportunity to reinstate their contribution to the classical canon, and discover the history of female composition in Scotland.