

THE
TUNNELL
TRUST
FOR YOUNG MUSICIANS

Music Coll
2024



A Review



Morassi Quartet



Kyan Quartet



Quintessential

For 10 days all three groups rehearsed and received tuition from our four tutors for at least six hours each day. At the end of the event we hosted three public recitals at An Cridhe on Coll.

The Tutors

It is clear from the reports submitted to the Trust after Music Coll and published later in this review that our nurturing tutors are greatly appreciated by the young musicians. A huge thank you must go to them for all their hard work.

Timothy Brown *french horn*, **Ralph de Souza** *violin*, **Scott Dickinson** *viola*, **Jonathan Tunnell** *cello*

Funding

During 31 years we have attracted funding from many wonderful sources for this important event. In total, four charities supported Music Coll in 2024: **Misses Barrie Charitable Trust**, **CMS Charitable Trust**, **Albert & Eugenie Frost Music Trust**, **Headley Trust**, **PF Charitable Trust** and **the Marigold Whittome Memorial Trust** kindly donated funds to the Trust in support of these wonderful musicians.

We are extremely grateful to these charities and all the generous individuals who make our work possible.

Thank you!



Quintessential with Timothy Brown

The Venue



The staff at An Cridhe are always incredibly supportive and the venue provides us with perfect facilities for the event. Our delicious food was provided by Alison and Tasha and was quite superb. Thank you so much to them and their team! We are so lucky with all our wonderful friends on this fabulous Island who do so much to make the event very special indeed.



The Audience

Audience numbers increased by almost 25% in 2024 which was a real boost to our performers.

One Coll visitor attending our concerts from London was heard to say that our concerts were as impressive as those at the Wigmore Hall in London where he is a regular visitor!

Our Young Musicians

As always at Music Coll, all our musicians took every advantage of the time available to work extremely hard.

There was a wonderful work ethic amongst our three groups attending in 2024. Both string quartets were given wonderful insight into how best to work together from the string tutors who each bring something very different to the study table.

The wind players benefit from such a concerted time together and develop their ensemble playing at an incredibly fast rate during the 10 days which is hugely gratifying. This year was no different!



Reports from our Young Musicians on their Music Coll experience

Morassi Quartet

"Music Coll was a rare and valuable opportunity for us to have so much time in such a productive environment, and we learnt so much about what it means to play in a string quartet during our time there. Being in a beautiful and remote location really sharpened our focus and the input we received from the world class tutors brought our playing to a new level. Before we went to Coll, our rehearsals were not always as efficient as they could be! However, since the course we have felt more productive and motivated in rehearsals, and we are performing with more power in our sound and spontaneity which we didn't know we were capable of. Another highlight of the course was the folk music night at the Coll Holl pub, where locals brought their instruments and jammed together. They encouraged us to join in and we enjoyed it so much!"

When we were not playing music, we were either eating delicious food prepared by the lovely Alison and her team, playing table tennis (and taking it way too seriously) in the main hall at An Cridhe, or outside exploring the beautiful island. We enjoyed going on walks to admire the many sheep, and the brave amongst even enjoyed a few swims in the cold waters of the Hebrides...

We had a wonderful time at Music Coll, and we feel incredibly lucky to have been invited. Even the journey there was an adventure - 12 hours on multiple trains from London, an overnight stay in Oban, and finally an early morning ferry the next day to Coll!"

Natasha, Katie, Toby & Izabela

Kyan Quartet

"The Kyans had the most wonderful time on the Tunnell Trust's Music Coll course. We had just started a sizeable chunk of substantially challenging repertoire: Beethoven's second Razumovsky quartet, Bartók's third, and Haydn Op.76 No.6. The format, the environment and tutors all gave us the perfect formula to tackle this three-course feast head-on, without feeling daunted by the mountain of music.

We had agency to schedule each day as best fit us, with Jonathan, Scott and Ralph all being fantastically flexible and supportive, imparting their wisdom throughout.

We particularly appreciated the concert format. Sharing each performance with both of the other chamber groups and playing one piece in each, not only allowed the audience a broad spectrum of music and approaches but also meant we weren't overwhelmed by the repertoire, as this was the first time that we had performed each piece. It felt particularly special to connect with the (primarily) local audience - it is such a rarity to be able to bring the joy of chamber music to such a remote location as Coll.

We left Coll with hearts full, and stomachs full of Alison's delicious cooking, and would absolutely love to be back again. Coll was an incredibly enriching experience, and we cannot recommend it enough to any young chamber group."

Naomi, Sydney, Wanshu & Simon

Quintessential

"Taking part in the chamber music course on Coll was an extremely enriching experience for us as a Quintet. Surrounded by the island's breathtaking Hebridean landscape, we were able to fully immerse ourselves in intense rehearsals under the guidance of the skilled mentors.

The remote and serene setting provided the perfect environment for exploring creative ideas as a quintet as well as growing the connection across the group. We experimented with different interpretations, explored new techniques, and learned to better navigate the unique dynamics of chamber music.

Additionally, the opportunity to perform 3 concerts with new repertoire to the incredibly supportive Coll audiences was totally invaluable and we felt real progression through the concerts. Outside of the rehearsals and coaching we had a wonderful time exploring the island's stunning coastline, braving the sea and meeting the friendly locals - Coll will forever have a piece of our hearts!"

Daisy, Harvey, Louisa, Rory & Hannah



Morassi Quartet with Scott Dickinson

[The Music Coll Blog](#)

If you have not yet read our Blog from the event please click here to access some lovely messages from the Young Musicians!



In order to receive our Newsletters click below to sign up!



Our musicians swapped disciplines one evening and joined in with a local Ceilidh!



Music Coll Film

The film gives a full insight into the work of the Trust. Click on the play button in the picture below to enjoy!



We look forward to a return to Coll in 2025 from 28th June to 6th July when we feel sure that the fantastic support from the Island, our funders and our super audience will be in place once again.

Do come and join us for some more wonderful music making!



