

2019 SCOTLAND GOES BASQUE

PRESS KIT

JANUARY - OCTOBER

SCOTLAND GOES BASQUE

Scotland is key for sharing Basque culture. Much like the Basque Country, it is a land with a strong sense of cultural identity, a place with proud roots and a passion for projecting its identity to the rest of the world. Scotland's rich and effervescent cultural life is also reflected in its many long-established international festivals of music, film, dance and literature, making it an indispensable nation for cultural exchange and conversation.

#ScotlandGoesBasque was created to forge bonds between Scotland and the Basque Country by promoting collaborative efforts by Basque and Scottish creators. The main objective is to build bridges between artists, cultural agents and events in the two regions. Developed by the Etxepare Basque Institute with support from Basque institutions, the project seeks to create bonds through culture, art and language.

Scotland holds a prominent place in the Euskadi-Basque Country 2020 Internationalisation Strategy, an overall strategy that encompasses the multidisciplinary #ScotlandGoesBasque

programme.

From literature to the performing arts to music and film, the Basque cultural cycle in Scotland, #ScotlandGoesBasque, kicked off on January 24th at the international Celtic Connections world music festival and will continue over the coming months with Basque artists and artistic events at the Edinburgh International Book Festival, the Edinburgh International Film Festival and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, as well as academic events at the universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh. The Scottish public and professionals from the creative, cultural and academic sectors will have the chance to discover the variety and wealth of contemporary Basque culture and creation through forums, performances, gatherings and films, and create a space to exchange ideas with artists and industry professionals.

The Etxepare Basque Institute is a public institution whose main objective is to raise the international profile of Basque culture, art and language. In other words, Etxepare is the global ambassador of Basque culture, promoting the language and Basque artists across all cultural disciplines and expressions. The Institute also seeks to establish dialogue, generate new conversation and bolster exchange with other cultures, promoting cultural diplomacy as a tool for collaboration between nations.

More info: www.etxepare.eus



CELTIC CONNECTIONS

Celtic Connections is a folk, roots and world music festival held in Glasgow every winter. Its main objective is to establish connections between Celtic music and popular music from different corners of the world. Celtic Connections is known for its strong spirit of fusion between a broad range of musical styles, showcasing unique intercultural performances by musicians from different backgrounds. This year the festival will welcome over 2000 musicians from around the world in venues throughout Glasgow, filling the city with concerts, talks, exhibitions, workshops and a variety of cultural activities over the course of 18 days. This year Celtic Connections will also celebrate music from the Basque Country, with the presence of several outstanding folk, roots and world music bands.

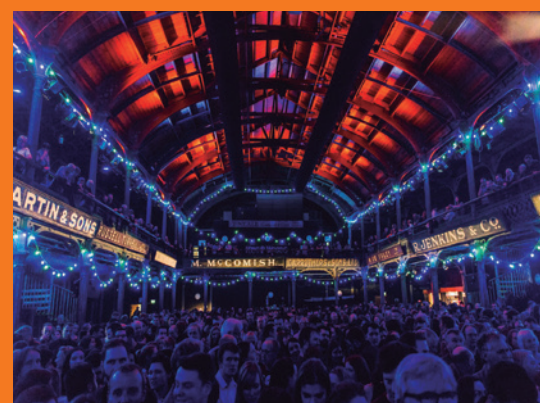


Photo: Celtic Connections

Glasgow /
17 January – 3 February

KORRONTZI



Photo: Korrontzi

The folk music band Korrontzi was formed by the interpreter of trikitixa (Basque diatonic accordion) Agus Barandiaran. His objective, when forming the band, was to give to the Basque popular music, and also to the ancestral and traditional sounds of his land, a more modern and contemporary look, but always from the perspective of a music based on the trikitixa and other traditional instruments such as the txalaparta or the alboka, without ever forgetting the absolute respect to all the tradition that had received from his first teacher, the old trikitixa player Rufino Arrola (1909 - 1996). To achieve this new sonority, he surrounded himself with more modern musical styles and had the help and union of instruments such as mandolin, electric bass, double bass or percussion. During these years, Korrontzi has taken his culture, language, dance and music all over the world, playing in great festivals and visiting many countries, such as: Belgium, USA,

Romania, Cape Verde, Ireland, Brazil, Malaysia, Scotland, Holland, Greece, Italy, Canada, Hungary, Portugal, England, Cyprus, Morocco, Germany, Croatia, Slovenia, Austria, Czech Republic... and has been awarded prizes and mentions such as "World Music Charts" in 2014, 2015 and 2016, "Top100 Roots Music Report (2015)", "Womex Official Selection (2014)", as well as "Best European Band, Eurofolk (2009)" and "Best Band of the Peninsula, Navelgas (2007)". Korrontzi is a Basque music group that leaves no one indifferent, it's a showcase from an entire culture, which with the strength and energy of its lives, transmit sounds and dances rooted in antiquity, as well as the new trends of folk. Korrontzi is a traditional fiesta of Basque music and dance with an avant-garde vision.

Old Fruitmarket /

**24 January /
8:00 PM**

KALAKAN

From the first notes, the atmosphere is clear. The light, the simple scenery and all the attention is focused on the trio and its music. On a refined staging, Kalakan brings together auditors and musicians around music and the feelings that it provides. Proud and respectful of the past, resolutely turned towards the future, these three Basque artists are involved into inscribing in the present the modernity of their millenary culture. They perform a repertoire of songs from the 15th century to the present day, as well as their own compositions. To put all this in "vibration", in "emotion" and in "energy", they use their voices and their drums but also all these

traditional instruments with the esoteric consonances, and "contemporaries" for centuries, like: txalaparta, txirula, tobera, pandero, xilintx ... and even a harmonium from India. The trio of Xan Errotabehere, Jamixel Bereau and Pierre Sangla has travelled much of the world. This mix of primarily vocals and percussion toured with Madonna in 2012, which helped thrust them into the international spotlight. At the 2018 Musika Bulegoa awards, Kalakan received the Etxepare Euskal Institutua Musika Saria award in recognition of the group's role in disseminating Basque music and culture around the world.

Glasgow Royal Concert Hall, Strathclyde Suite /

**24 January /
8:00 PM**



Photo: Kalakan

CELTIC CONNEC- TIONS

HUNTZA



Photo: Huntza

Queen Margaret Union /

25 January /
7:30 PM

Huntza is a music band that was created in 2014 in the streets of Bilbao. It is formed by five youngsters who met at university, and their goal was to open up their music to the whole Basque Country and the world. They met at the Thursday evening trikitixa-playing-outings (Basque diatonic accordion) and in the electro-brass-band Eguenero. Then, they started meeting again to have fun together. As they were shaping the band, they started writing their songs by sharing what they had gained from their personal experience. The band first appeared on 8th March 2016 when they released the song *Harro gaude*. This song pays tribute to all those women who first performed on stage. This was just the beginning of all the concerts and performances that would come afterwards.

Huntza is among some of the most successful musical phenomena of recent years in the Basque Country. They became widely known for their song *Aldapan Gora*. The music video received over one million views on YouTube in a very short time, and today is the most widely viewed Basque song in YouTube history. Since then, Huntza has given dozens of concerts around the world, travelling to places like Japan, Argentina and Uruguay. Their style mixes pop-rock with trikitixa, accompanied by violin to lend a folky feel. The six-member band's concerts are festive and cheerful, earning them a spot in festivals around the world. In Glasgow, Huntza will be performing songs off their recently released second album, *Xilema*.

TOSTA BANDA

Both the make-up and musical style of this band are exceptional. Tosta Banda saw the light of day at the Donostia / San Sebastián European Cultural Capital 2016. The group brings together members from seven minority language regions of the Atlantic coast: Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Friesland, Galicia, Cornwall and the Basque Country. Txalaparta player Igor Otxoa, former Oreka Tx band member, and musician Mixel Ducau head this particular project. "Tosta" is a word used in many of these minority languages to refer to the seats in rowboats,

and just as they share this term, the members of Tosta Banda want to share the traditional music and songs of each of their regions. Using instruments and sounds from each culture, they create songs with an intriguing multicultural flavour. The originality of this idea garnered them a Musika Bulegoa award in 2018. The band has performed at venues around the globe, especially in their native lands. Glasgow is their next destination, where they will delight audiences with a rich and varied repertoire.



Glasgow Royal
Concert Hall /

25 January /
7:30 PM

Photo: Tosta Banda

OREKA TX

Oreka TX was founded by Harkaitz Martinez de San Vicente and Igor Otxoa txalaparta players in 1997. The last ten years, although, Harkaitz has Mikel Ugarte as a txalaparta partner. They have had 20 exciting years playing all around the world with great musicians such as Kepa Junkera, Alasdair Fraser, Motoko Hirayama, Aziza Brahim, Ara Malikian, Manu Dibango, Labeque sisters... and producing and taking part in many multidisciplinary projects. Oreka TX became a worldwide reference of txalaparta and Basque culture due to their concerts in all continents and their energetic and impressive way of playing. The txalaparta duo is usually accompanied by experienced musicians in world music such as Mixel Ducau (saxophone, alboka...), Iñigo Egia (bodhran, indian tabla, hang...) and Juanjo Otxandorena (bouzuki). The voice of Thierry is also included in some shows. The txalaparta is a percussion

instrument strongly linked to the Basque cultural identity. It is most often seen in the form of one or more planks of wood, mounted on insulating stands, played by two musicians who improvise simultaneously. This is the only known instrument whose rhythm and melody are played by two people at the same time. One player marks the rhythm, the other one breaks it, fractures it, neither mechanically nor precisely, but rather by creating something new, organic, and alive. For OREKA TX txalaparta is not only an instrument, it is an attitude, a way of connecting and creating energy. The essential component of txalaparta is wood but Oreka Tx have experimented with using metal, marble and even ice versions. The txalaparta is order and chaos, a balance between tradition and modernity, between erudite and primary blows, finesse and power.

Glasgow Royal
Concert Hall,
New Auditorium /

**26 January /
7:30 PM**



Photo: Oreka Tx

PROFESSIONAL MEETINGS

24 - 25 January

In addition to concerts, the Celtic Connections festival will provide a space for sharing ideas and forging business relationships. On January 24th and 25th there will be a meeting with Basque music industry professionals, festival organizers and other professionals from the Scottish music sector to promote a closer working relationship and disseminate the cultural industries of the two regions. Some 15 professionals and representatives of the Basque music industry, as well as public entities active in the sector will attend the event.

BASQUE SPRING: FOCUS ON BASQUE COUNTRY

BASQUE CINEMA

Basque cinema is experiencing a renaissance. It is now more common to film in the Basque language, more Basque productions are taking part in international co-productions, and the number of new filmmakers has increased exponentially. The paradigms have changed, bringing about a revolution in Basque cinema. Far from clinging to traditional filmmaking and storylines, directors have embarked on new projects in which artists work together, rethinking tradition and cinema, and creating new, more contemporary models.

There are already acclaimed names in Basque cinema, directors such as Imanol Uribe, Montxo Armendariz, Julio Medem, Alex de la Iglesia, Enrique Urbizu and Koldo Almandoz. It is a type of cinema that reflects the identity of a territory and which is on the verge of become consolidated as a kind of cinema in its own right.

CinemaAttic.

**Edinburgh and Glasgow,
25th April to 8th May.**

The retrospective **Basque Spring: Focus on Basque Country** will screen films ranging from all-time classics to recent releases in historic cinemas and art centres including the Glasgow Film Theatre, Lauriston Hall in Edinburgh and the Centre for Contemporary Arts in Glasgow. The retrospective will also travel to London, Manchester and Leeds.

The retrospective, organized by the cultural platform CinemaAttic with support from the Etxepare Basque Institute, features over a dozen films from the 1970s to today, ranging from documentaries to experimental animations. Together they provide a multi-dimensional portrait of Basque culture, with its own language, tradition and customs.

It is not the first time that Basque cinema has been exhibited on this platform. CinemaAttic is a platform for Iberian and Latin-American cinema in Scotland and the UK whose purpose is to introduce emerging filmmakers to the general public and to British cultural organizers.

In 2018 several films were shown in venues across Scotland. This edition will screen nine feature films: **Tasio**, directed by Montxo Armendariz; **Mudar la piel (The Spy Within)** by Anna Schulz and Cristóbal Fernández; **Vacas (Cows)** by Julio Medem; **Dantzia** by Telmo Esnal; **El Día de la Bestia (The Day of the Beast)** by Álex de la Iglesia; **Loreak (Flowers)** by Jon Garañano and Jose Mari Goenaga; **El espíritu de la colmena (The Spirit of the Beehive)** by Víctor Erice; **Obaba** by Montxo Armendariz; and **No habrá paz para los malvados (No Rest for the Wicked)** by Enrique Urbizu. The year's best Basque short films will also be screened at **Kimuak: Basque Short Film Night**, featuring shorts like **592 metroz goiti (Above 592 metres)** by Maddi Barber; **Ama (Mother)** by Josu Martinez; **Ancora Lucciole (Still Fireflies)** by Maria Elorza; **Kafenio Castello** by Miguel Angel Jimenez; **No me despertéis (Don't Wake Me Up)** by Sara Fantova; and **Zain (Waiting)** by Pello Gutierrez.

Another event, **Great Basque Women Animators**, will present animated shorts that have influenced the careers of two of the Basque Country's most prominent animators: Begoña Vicario

and Izibene Oñederra. Both will be present for a conversation following the screening.

Guests. As part of the retrospective Basque Spring: Focus on Basque Country, director **Ana Schulz** will join **Begoña Vicario** and **Izibene Oñederra** for talks and masterclasses held at two of Scotland's most prominent art venues, Edinburgh College of Art and the Centre of Contemporary Arts in Glasgow. **Maddi Barber**, director of the short film *592 metroz goiti* (Above 592 metres), will host a Q+A at the Hyde Park Picture House in Leeds and Instituto Cervantes in Manchester.

The retrospective will also include a more playful section with a nod to Basque gastronomy. In collaboration with LeithLate, a visual arts organization based in Leith, CinemaAttic will present a **Basque Pintxos & Films Crawl** in one of the areas in Edinburgh.

More info: www.cinemaattic.com



Programme.

25 April

19:45

OPENING

Kimuak: Basque Short Film Night

CCA Glasgow (Glasgow)

26 April

19:30

OPENING

Dantza / Basque Traditional Dance and Music

(In collaboration with traditional Dance Forum Scotland)

Lauriston Hall (Edinburgh)

28 April

15:00 - 18:00

Leith Pintxos & Films Crawl

(In collaboration with LeithLate and Kimuak)

Victoria Bar, Leith Depot, Bar Brig (Edinburgh)

19:00

El día de la Bestia

(The Day of the Beast)

LeithLate/CinemaAttic afterparty

Henderson Hall (Edinburgh)

1 May

17:30

Basque Classics: Tasio

Glasgow Film Theatre (Glasgow)

2 May

10:30

Director's Talk: Collective Animation (Begoña Vicario + Izibene Oñederra)

(In collaboration with ECA Animation)

Edinburgh College of Art, Hunter Lecture Theater (Edinburgh)

10:30

Documentary Masterclass:

Ana Schulz at SDI

(In collaboration with Scottish Documentary Institute)

Edinburgh College of Art, Hunter Lecture Theater (Edinburgh)

17:45

Mudar la Piel (The Spy Within)

Q+A with directors

Glasgow Film Theatre (Glasgow)

4 May

12:30

Basque Women Animators: animated shorts

Q+A Begoña Vicario + Izibene Oñederra

CCA Glasgow (Glasgow)

18:00

CCA Glasgow, Culinary Docs: Bihar dok 13 (Dinner + Screening)

(In Collaboration with Slow Food Glasgow)

The Project Café (Glasgow)

5 May

17:00

Basque Classics: Vacas (Cows)

Glasgow Film Theatre (Glasgow)

7 May

15:00 - 18:00

Basque Double Bill: Loreak (Flowers) + El Espíritu de la Colmena (The Spirit of the Beehive)

University of Strathclyde, McCance Building (Glasgow)

8 May

15:00 - 18:00

Basque Double Bill: Obaba + No habrá Paz para los Malvados (No Rest for the Wicked)

University of Glasgow

17 May

19:30

Kimuak: Basque Short Films

Stour Space (London)

22 May

18:00

Kimuak: Basque Short Films

Q+A with Maddi Barber (director)

Instituto Cervantes (Manchester)

23 May

18:00

Kimuak: Basque Short Films

Q+A with Maddi Barber (director)

Hyde Park Picture House (Leeds)

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

The Edinburgh International Film Festival (EIFF), established in 1947, is the world's oldest continually-running festival. It began as a festival of documentary films, but now shows a range of fiction films. The EIFF has been the stage for many successful British filmmakers, such as Bill Forsyth, Danny Boyle and Stephen Frears.

Two Basque productions are featured in this edition of the Edinburgh International Film Festival as part of the Focus on Spain programme: *Oreina*, directed by Koldo Almandoz, and the short film *Espedizio Handia* by Iban del Campo.

Basque cinema will also have a place at the industry event this year. A dozen Basque professionals will share experiences with other professionals and work on the Basque Country-Scotland co-production meeting to be held at the San Sebastian International Film Festival on September 24th. The event will also be attended by half a dozen Scottish film producers.

More info: www.edfilmfest.org.uk

Edinburgh /

19-30 June



Photo: Edinburgh International Film Festival

SCOTTISH PREMIERE

THE DEER

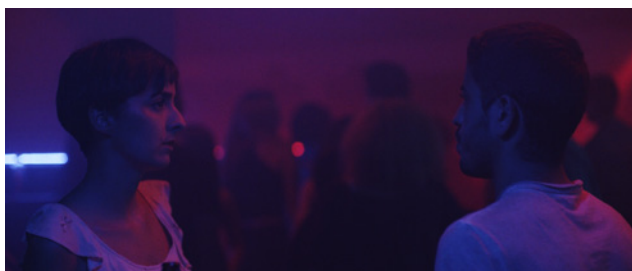
(OREINA)

Part of the Focus on Spain Strand

DIRECTOR: Koldo Almandoz

Khalil is a young man torn from his roots who lives on the edge of town, where the industrial estates merge into the river and the marshes. Khalil gets by as best he can and spends his time with an old poacher, who shares a house on the riverbank with a brother he hasn't spoken to in years. On the banks of the marshes, the tides mark the time of love and heartbreak, of friendship and revenge.

It is a film that shows geographical and human peripheries. Filmed with both professional and non-professional actors in real landscapes and places that were filmed as they were, the border separating fiction and reality is blurred in *Oreina*. The production is influenced by the more experimental face of Basque cinema.



Screening dates:

Monday 24th > 20:50

Odeon Cinema 4

Wednesday 26th > 18:05

Vue Omni Centre Screen 11



Reviews:

Beatriz Martinez: Fotogramas

"*The Deer* (Oreina) is more than the story of two brothers who live next door to one another (...) without speaking for decades. Its atmosphere (...) transports us to a universe as recognizable as it is hypnotic in which the landscape becomes a fundamental element packed with symbolism."

Awards:

- Irizar Prize for Basque Films (San Sebastian International Film Festival)
- *Oreina* was selected in 2018 as a finalist among European, Asian and Latin American film directors at the 66th San Sebastian Film Festival competing for the Kutxabank-New Directors Prize. It did not win.

Additional information:

- **Starring:** Laulad Ahmed, Patxi Bisquert
- **Run Time:** 89 mins
- **Release Year:** 2018
- **Country of Origin:** Basque Country, Spain.
- **Language:** Basque
- **Director of Photography:** Javier Agirre Erauso
- **Editor:** Laurent Dufreche
- **Music:** Elena Setién, Ignacio Bilbao
- **Screenplay by:** Koldo Almandoz
- **Sound Production:** Alazne Ameztoy, Xanti Salvador

UK PREMIERE

THE GREAT EXPEDITION

(ESPEDIZIO HANDIA)

Part of the Focus on Spain Strand and Spotlight on Contemporary Spanish Short Films

DIRECTOR: Iban del Campo

Human beings want to be more than what they are. They want to be more than stardust. Based on an amazing combination of footage and Super 8 home videos, this short is a fantastic exploration of the thrill of interplanetary travel. It is part of the 2018 edition of Kimuak (the Basque word for 'sprout'), a selection of the year's best short films made in the Basque Country. Kimuak selects the best Basque short films that sprout up every spring and takes them to all corners of the world.

Screening dates:

Wednesday 26th > 18:05
Filmhouse 2

Additional information:

- **Starring:** L'Estrange family
- **Run Time:** 10 mins
- **Release Year:** 2018
- **Country of Origin:** Basque Country, Spain
- **Language:** Basque
- **Director of Photography:** Edward O. L'Estrange
- **Editor:** Iban del Campo, Benito Macías
- **Produced by:** Iban del Campo
- **Screenplay by:** Iban del Campo, Antonio del Campo
- **Sound Production:** Adrian Chom



EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

The Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the largest arts festival in the world, takes place every August in the streets of the Scottish capital. It was created in 1947 alongside the Edinburgh International Festival after the Second World War to raise awareness of Scottish culture within the European framework. In the first edition, eight theatre companies that had not been part of the official programme performed on the streets of Edinburgh. Because they had acted on the festival sidelines the expression 'fringe' was coined to describe the alternative festival that has taken place ever since in conjunction with the Edinburgh International Festival. Thousands of artists and spectators

flock to the Scottish capital in August to enjoy hundreds of performances in the streets or at indoor venues. 3548 shows were staged in 317 venues at the 2018 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. With over fifty thousand performances in total, the programme featured theatre, dance, circus, cabaret, family entertainment, musicals, opera, poetry recitals, and exhibitions. The Fringe is known for the diversity of the acts and for showcasing internationally acclaimed artists and emerging new talent.

This year, Basque traditional dance and contemporary theatre will also have a place on this important international stage. Created within the Scotland

Goes Basque programme, a street performance combining traditional Basque and Scottish dance is due to premiere at the festival; the Krego-Martín Danza dance company, HQPC Collective Project and Akira Yoshida will be performing at the Dance Base, Scotland's National Centre for Dance; 2theatre at Assembly Rooms and Tio Teronen Semeak will be taking their show to the street.

More info: www.edfringe.com

Edinburgh /
2-26 August

ATLANTIK 1050 STREET PERFORMANCE OF TRADITIONAL BASQUE AND SCOTTISH DANCE

Traditional music and dance are deeply imbedded in both Basque and Scottish society. Both communities take great pride in their rich and unique dance tradition. In order to take this pride to the stage, the Etxepare Basque Institute, Dance Base (Scotland's National Centre for Dance) and the Atlantikaldia festival of Erreterria have worked together to create a street performance called *Atlantik 1050*. Choreographer Jen Wren is the project's artistic director, musician Amy Geddes is musical director, and dancer and choreographer Alain Maya is music and dance consultant representing the Basque dance group Ereintza Dantza Taldea. With the sea as a connecting link, this initiative is designed as a round-trip journey, from coast to coast: the show will premiere in Edinburgh at the Festival Fringe and make its way back to the shores of Euskadi in September at the

Atlantikaldia festival in Erreterria. 1050 nautical miles separate the two shores, the precise distance that gave *Atlantik 1050* its name.

The seeds of the *Atlantik 1050* international project were first planted by the Fringe programme's artistic director, Morag Deyes, who opted to include traditional Basque dance in the festival in the way of a street performance. The *Atlantik 1050* project is the result of collaboration and research. To create the work group for this show, Dance Base will select the artistic and musical directors and a group of young Scots versed in traditional Scottish dance. As for the Basque participants, the Atlantikaldia festival will count on the Erreterria-based Basque dance group Ereintza Dantza Taldea. A member of the group,

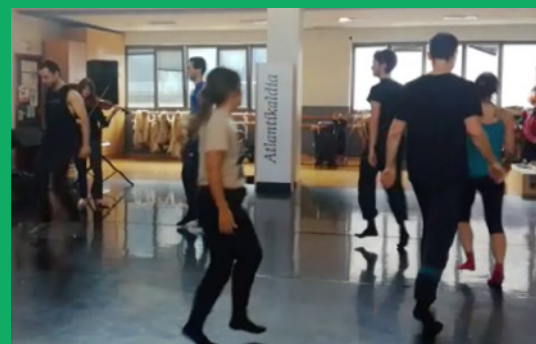


Photo: Etxepare Euskal Institutua

Edinburgh /
9 August
Popping up around the city
Erreterria /
22 September
Atlantikaldia

Alain Maya will be entrusted with advising the directors on traditional Basque music and dance. Maya will also decide which dancers from Ereintza and other Basque dance groups will be in the show.

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL FRINGE

KREGO-MARTÍN DANZA - (NON) COMFORT ZONE

The Krego Krego-Martín Danza company, created by María Martín and Judith Ruiz in 2011, emphasizes the "humanization of dance" in their performances. Using various sensory techniques, they seek to strengthen the connection between body language and the public. In the *(Non) Comfort Zone*, they wanted to reflect the sensation of discomfort when one feels observed, and the body reactions

that emerge from that sensation. Through movement and dance, they try to make the audience feel the same thing, alluding to the feeling of making people's private lives public. The show is recommended by SAREA, the Basque theatre network, and was selected for the Internationale Tanzmesse dance festival in Düsseldorf.

Edinburgh /
8/9/10/11 August
Dance Base



Photo: Krego-Martin Danza

HQPC COLLECTIVE PROJECT - HABRÁ QUE PONERSE CACHAS



Photo: HQPC Collective Project

Edinburgh /
8/9/10/11 August
Dance Base

Habrá que ponerse Cachas (HQPC) is the first choreography as artistic guide by Bayonne dancer Maylis Arrabit's. It is a collaborative project with dancers Xabier Madina Manterola and Ebi Soria Corón, in which each participant contributed their reflections. The idea took root in Arrabit's mind with a Bob Dylan song. In just over half an hour, the piece shows us the relationship between two people in a hospital waiting room. Using innocence and the absurd, the project wants to reflect an inclusive world, connecting different forms of movement. HQPC is supported by Gipuzkoako Dantzagunea. The collective conducted a dance residency at the Gazteszena cultural centre in Donostia / San Sebastián.



Photo: Akira Yoshida

AKIRA YOSHIDA – HOME

Home is a choreography created and performed in its entirety by Akira Yoshida, born in Pamplona to a mother from Donostia / San Sebastian and a Japanese father. Yoshida began his career as a break dancer, and shortly drifted towards contemporary dance in Pamplona. After studying dance in Salzburg, the young dancer now fuses the two styles creating a unique hybrid. Although, as he puts it, "Dance speaks all languages, and at one point, what happens on stage is simply an experience shared with the audience. It needs no label to determine the style". He creates his shows by himself, generally based on his own experiences. Infused with nostalgia, *Home* tells the story someone who wants to return home but does not know how.

Edinburgh /

8/9/10/11 August

Dance Base

TIO TERONEN SEMEAK – FRESHCOOL

Edinburgh /

7/8/9/10 August

Royal Mile Mercat Stage



Photo: Ju Ostroushko

The company Tio Teronen Semeak is a combination of things. Its members are dancers and musicians; its artistic disciplines, music, dance and humour; its styles, traditional Basque music and international pop hits. Partying and revelry are indisputable parts of their performances, in which a crowd of people gather on stage. The company will perform *FreshCool* in the streets of Edinburgh, a piece filled with funny and absurd situations – they'll even dance the solemn Basque *aurreku* to a song by one of Spain's best-known and most flamboyant singers, Raphael! The show will have audiences crying with laughter.

2THEATRE

2Theatre, founded in 2011 by Txema Perez and Svetlana Biba, produces multi-disciplinary shows that fuse physical theatre, clown, puppets, mime and dance. The aim is always to bring nations closer together and cancel out borders through topics that bring all humans together. This year at the Fringe Festival, they are presenting *Interbeing: stories from a current war*, a show combining Basque, English and Ukrainian artists, with a script based on true stories and images from the current conflict in East Ukraine. The audience can enjoy physical theatre, handling objects, live music, acrobatics, miming, dance, mask work and images, topped off with oral language blending Basque, Spanish, English, Ukrainian and Russian. The action and the image provide for a result that is absolutely comprehensible to audiences of any language.

Edinburgh /

1 - 25 August

Assembly Rooms
(Ball Room)



Photo: Tio Teronen Semeak

EDINBURGH INTERNATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

Created in 1983, the Edinburgh International Book Festival is now one of the most outstanding festivals of its kind the world. Every year the festival plays host to more than 1000 writers, poets, scientists, philosophers, athletes, illustrators, cartoonists, historians, musicians, biographers, economists and others. The festival programme includes over 900 events of different kinds for both adults and children and offers an open space in the heart of the city where writers and the public can exchange ideas and opinions.

Basque literature will be a guest at this year's festival: **from August 10th to 18th** various Basque writers will take part in the official programme. The festival's Unbound programme this year will include multidisciplinary presentations that combine literature with other art forms, for example, Basque poetry and gastronomy. **Harkaitz Cano, Miren Agur Meabe, Uxue Alberdi, Bernardo Atxaga, Iban Zaldúa, Danele Sarriugarte, Eñaut Elorrieta, Joseba Etxegoien** and **Eider Rodríguez** will travel to Edinburgh.

In 2019, the Edinburgh International Book Festival will work in conjunction with literature events in the Basque Country with an eye to future exchanges with organizations including the Gutun Zuria festival (organized by Azkuna Zentroa in Bilbao), the Durango Basque Book and CD/Record Fair (Durangoko Azoka) and San Sebastián's Literaktum.

More info: www.edbookfest.co.uk

Edinburgh /
10-26 August



Photo: Edinburgh International Book Festival

CHEJOV VS SHAKESPEARE

Chekhov vs Shakespeare is another project that emerged in 2016 as part of the Donostia / San Sebastián European Cultural Capital and has been active ever since. The aim of this initiative is for two writers from different countries to maintain a correspondence in their own languages in which they discuss the challenges and conflicts facing Europe today.

In this edition, the Basque writer **Iban Zaldúa** and the Scotsman **James Robertson** will write six letters each, in which they will share their views on different aspects of Basque and Scottish life today. James Robertson will write in Scottish and Iban Zaldúa in Basque, although English will be used as a bridging language throughout the project.

The letters will be published in a book and the project will be featured at round tables within the framework of the Edinburgh International Book Festival during the Literaktum Festival in San Sebastian. The Basque writer Bernardo Atxaga, Albanian novelist Bashkim Shehu, Eider Rodríguez, Spaniard Belén Gopegui, Harkaitz Cano and Croatian writer Dubravka Ugrešić have all taken part in previous similar projects.



Photo: DSS2016EU



Programme.

August 10

12:30

Chejov Vs Shakespeare

IBAN ZALDUA & JAMES ROBERTSON

Garden Theatre

15:30

**HARKAITZ CANO
& JUMOKE VERISSIMO**

Writer's Retreat

August 11

12:15

MIREN AGUR MEABE & ZINZI CLEMMONS

Baillie Gifford Corner Theatre

18:00

**Wine and Words
HARKAITZ CANO**

(translator, Danele Sarriugarte; musician, Joseba Etxegoien).

The Spiegel Tent

21:00

Unbound: Scotland Goes Bertsolaritza!

(Bertsolaritza, music)

What is Bertsolaritza? (Video)

UXUE ALBERDI, *bertsolari*

(translator, Danele Sarriugarte)

ENAUT ELORRIETA, *singer*

The Spiegel Tent

August 12

18:00

Throwing Voices

**UXUE ALBERDI, CIARA MACLAVERTY,
RACHEL NEWTON**

The Spiegel Tent

August 17

19:00

**BERNARDO ATXAGA
& MARGARET JULL COSTA**

Baillie Gifford Corner Theatre

August 18

10:00

Ten at Ten

EIDER RODRIGUEZ

Writer's Retreat

14:00

Translation Workshop

**EIDER RODRIGUEZ
& MARGARET JULL COSTA**

Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel

SEMINAR: CROWDED OUT OR LIMITLESS HORIZONS? MINORITY LANGUAGE-MEDIA IN THE DIGITAL AGE

The Etxepare Basque Institute and the University of Edinburgh have organized an international seminar which will be held on October 16 and 17 on the university campus. Its aims are to exchange knowledge and promote collaboration between academics and professionals working on minority-language media. The conference will be in English. In the early 1980s, the establishment of Catalan, Basque and Welsh TV channels motivated several European scholars to investigate key concepts concerning minority language media and undertake important case studies. In 1992, the European Charter for Regional and Minority Languages emphasised that public authorities have important responsibilities in this field.

In the last two decades, the introduction of digitalisation and the Internet have developed a global world where the impacts, challenges and opportunities

for minority language media have become increasingly complex. Despite these transformations, there has been little focused discussion and debate on the relationship between the digital and minority-language media. University experts in the subject and sector professionals will gather to study and compare different cases studies in the world. Among other topics, debate will revolve around financing models for audiovisual content, production requirements, dissemination and exhibition models, cultural policies, strategies, the role of media in society, the use of language and building identity, measuring media audience, and new forms of media consumption.



The seminar will include a special session, a round table to discuss the current situation of the media in minority languages. Academics and professionals from the Basque Country, Scotland and Ireland will be invited to the University of Edinburgh to take part in the event.

Edinburgh / 16-17 October



The conference will feature a number of plenary speakers. The following are confirmed as speaking: **Rob Dunbar**, University of Edinburgh; **Josu Amezaga**, University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU); **Elin Haf Gruffydd Jones**, Mercator Media; **Alan Esslemont**, TG4 Irish TV General Director; **Itziar Azpeitia**, Head of Special Projects - Basque Public TV (ETB).

The deadline for registration and for submitting individual papers, group panels or posters on research projects or case studies is April 30.

The scientific committee for the seminar will be made up of **Miren Manias-Muñoz** (University of Edinburgh-University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU)); **Aitor Zuberogoitia** (Mondragon Unibertsitatea); **Estibaliz Amorrortu** (University of Deusto); **Helen Kelly-Holmes** (University of Limerick); **Tom Moring** (University of Helsinki); and **Tarlach McGonagle** (University of Amsterdam).

EUROPA
TRANSIT

EUROPA TRANSIT

Europa Transit is an 'itinerant embassy' created as part of the Donostia / San Sebastián European Cultural Capital 2016. To promote the values of empathy and mutual understanding, Europa Transit traveled to 10 European cities in areas of conflict or war: Ceuta, Belfast, Dresden, Wrocław, Sarajevo, Moscow, Pafos, Plovdiv, Pristina and Thessaloniki. The embassy began its journey aboard a bus in January 2016. The team led by Xuban Intxausti filmed a documentary in each city, combining an on-the-ground war report with the effects of the conflicts on subsequent cultural expressions. These documentaries were broadcast on the Basque television station ETB in 2016 and were also selected for several international festivals. This year, a number of Europa Transit documentaries will be screened at the universities of Glasgow and Edinburgh, each accompanied by a guest Basque artist.



Photo: DSS2016EU

SARAJEVO – ERRESILIENTZIA SOINUAK (SOUNDS OF RESILIENCE)

Film + Music

Edinburgh /

17 October

University of Edinburgh

Basque performance artist Maite Arroitauregi, "Mursego", travels to Sarajevo to create a piece evoking Vedran Smailović's rendition of Albinoni's Adagio "The Cellist of Sarajevo", played amidst sniper fire, to pay tribute to the 22 civilians killed while waiting in line for bread. Mursego discovers the consequences of the Balkan war and, in particular, the current situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina, through conversations with the people Sarajevo. Testimonies by women fighters, thinkers, veterans, students, and musicians inspire her with sounds for a final concert in Sarajevo. This documentary is about the ability to overcome the trauma of war and the about power of music.

PAFOS – MUGAMINAK (COMMON BORDERS)

Edinburgh /

18 October

University of Edinburgh

Film + Bertsolarismo

Since 1974, Cyprus is divided by the last wall still standing in Europe, a border that divides the island in two communities: the Greek Cypriot and the Turkish Cypriot. Amet Arzallus, a Basque *bertsolari* (improvisational poet), travels to Cyprus to learn about the consequences of this conflict, which left thousands of dead or missing persons and many homeless families. Accompanied by the musicians and poets of Pafos, he learns about the current situation in the country. Arzallus compares the border conflict in Cyprus with his own experiences: the border that separates the Basque Country (French part and Spanish sides) is a wound that has marked his own life. The film conveys the pain of these two borders told through the eyes and verses of Amets Arzallus.



Photo: DSS2016EU



Photo: DSS2016EU

PLOVDIV – KALEKO DANTZARIAK (STREET DANCERS)

Sra. Polaroiska, the artistic duo made up of Alaitz Arenzana and Maria Ibarretxe, has put designed an artistic workshop in Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Several people of gypsy ethnicity are involved and together they will give a performance in the city center. Thanks to the relationship between young participants and Sra. Polaroiska, we will learn about the difficult situation of the Roma people in Bulgaria. The documentary *Kaleko dantzariak* teaches us that dance, art and culture are the antidote to prejudice, social discrimination and fear of the different.

Glasgow /

19 October

Centre for Contemporary
Arts (CCA Glasgow)

Film + Dance



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