Beat: Travel

Edinburgh Hogmanay

Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker

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USPA NEWS - Edinburgh, Scotland´s capital, is one of the best places in the world to celebrate the New Year. Thousands of people take to the city´s streets, parks and pubs to celebrate Hogmanay every December 31st "" and if you´re thinking of joining them, you´ll receive a warm welcome.

Edinburgh´s world-famous Street Party hosted by Johnnie Walker, directed by Bradley Hemmings (London 2012 Paralympics Opening Ceremony, Greenwich & Docklands International Festival) features a non-stop six hour party as Princes Street is transformed and animated by a host of international, UK and Scottish artists. Collaboration and artistic exchange remain at the heart of the festival as Scottish companies work alongside European acts to create bold new performances, as supported by Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council´s PLACE fund. Edinburgh´s Circus Alba will join forces with French multi-disciplinary immersive experience Compagnie Remue Ménage to create new performance work to delight and enthral Street partygoers. In another international exchange, Edinburgh´s Harbingers Drum Crew collaborate with Germany´s "˜Gentle Giants of Light´, Dundu to produce a unique street performance which fuses puppetry, sound and light.

The legendary Marc Almond headlines the Waverley Stage this year. The hugely popular singer-songwriter will perform a selection of his greatest hits with his band.

Opening for Marc is a young singer-songwriter from Fort William, Keir Gibson whose excellent debut single Eyes Wide is creating waves already. We´re also delighted to welcome The Ninth Wave, frontrunners of Glasgow´s indie/glam movement, with triumphant sets at Isle of Wight, Belladrum Tartan Heart Festival, Jocktoberfest, HebCelt and King Tut´s New Year´s Revolution. After Marc Almond takes us up to The Bells, Edinburgh´s good-time ska godfathers PorkPie take the stage after midnight to keep the party going

The Johnnie Walker Stage plays host to Hogmanay regular The Great Calverto, opening for Radio 1 DJ and presenter of Love Island: The Morning After, Glasgow born Arielle Free - followed by the return of the Mac Twins after last year´s triumphant set no one wanted to end, taking us through The Bells and into 2020.

Edinburgh´s Hogmanay 2019 is supported by City of Edinburgh Council, EventScotland´s International Events Programme, Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council´s PLACE fund and Creative Scotland through the Scottish Government´s Edinburgh Festivals EXPO fund, all working together to create a bold new Hogmanay for Scotland.

Charlie Wood and Ed Bartlam, directors of Edinburgh´s Hogmanay, said: "Be bold. Be adventurous. Be here. And be together! For many years Edinburgh´s Hogmanay has seen residents and visitors from across the world come together to welcome in New Year in a wonderful and important cultural celebration.

"This year we are extremely excited that international superstar DJ Mark Ronson has created a soundtrack especially for the Edinburgh´s Hogmanay world famous midnight fireworks, as well as headlining Hogmanay in the Gardens. Rocking the Street Party will be the very best of Scottish talent, from The Snuts and Idlewild to Edinburgh´s own Mac Twins. And again the streets will be animated and transformed by some of the most exciting street performance companies from Scotland and Europe, working on a hugely exciting collaboration as supported by Scottish Government and City of Edinburgh Council´s PLACE Fund.

The McEwan Hall plays a starring role throughout and we are delighted to continue our partnership with Celtic Connections, welcoming Eddi Reader on 1st of January. Message from the Skies returns to illuminate our winter nights with five unique collaborations between writers, artists and composers including Irvine Welsh and Kayus Bankole.

"As we continue work to reduce our carbon impact, we are pleased to become the first of Edinburgh´s Festivals to offer audiences the opportunity to offset their carbon footprint of visiting Edinburgh´s Hogmanay as part of an important new partnership with Forest Carbon. We are also hugely proud to continue our support of vital charities in Edinburgh and across the UK, including OneCity Trust, the RNLI and The Brain Tumour Charity."

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