

People Make Places: Popular Music and Scottish Urban Identity

1-day symposium and music-making

Saturday 4th October 2025

- **10:30 to 16:30 Laidlaw Music Centre – discussion and performances**
- **7:30 to 9:30 St Andrews Student Association – student bands, new songs, organised by Signpost.**

Logos: University of St Andrews; University of Glasgow; Fife College

- Open to the public: free

Description

This one-day event is part of the project “Popular Music and the Academy”. At the heart of the project is the work of Glasgow rock band and collective The Tenementals, whose first album “creates a new history of the city through the medium of music. “People Make Places” will build on this work to explore how popular music can radically imagine urban community identities within and outwith the academy. A second event is planned in Glasgow in 2026. The St Andrews event will comprise discussion of work in progress, and performances by The Tenementals and performers based in Fife and Tayside.

Outline Timetable

10:30-12:30 Laidlaw Music Centre “symposium” discussion (short papers and work in progress) on popular music making in local places – detail below.

14:30-16:30 Laidlaw Music Centre performances and more banter

- Chris Brown / Mark Burdett – guitar and vocal duo
- Lynne Campbell – Dundee popular song and traditions (folk)
- Hannah Clara Curteis – St Andrews / Nicaragua and the worlds between (St Andrews singer songwriter)
- Jonathan Kemp (Dry Island Buffalo Jump & St Andrews Fusion, St Andrews bands)
- The Tenementals (David Archibald) (Glasgow Band)

[break]

19:30-21:30 St Andrews Students Association, Sandys Bar – Signpost event, St Andrews student bands and singers, new songs. Contact: Ashvin Gupta, email ag412@st-andrews.ac.uk if you want to perform.

Detailed Timetable – Laidlaw Music Centre

10:30-12:30 Symposium – Discussion. 3 questions. 8min max “lightning talk” about research + 20 minutes discussion in each session.

***recording with transcript**

- a) Session 1: How do **songs** make [radical] communities? (Chair: Antonis Vradis, Radical Urban Lab, School of Geography and Sustainable Development, University of St Andrews) (c10:30-11:30)**

David Archibald and Robert Anderson (University of Glasgow), The Tenementals, introducing the research and the music

Student groups presentation (“Sounds of Resistance”: RUL summer project): protest songs, international forms of local resistance, research from Scotland reaching to understand other communities

Jonathan Kemp (University of St Andrews) and band building in St Andrews – Fusion, Dry Island Buffalo Jump (international influences, a gathered local community) – finding a song with a new group

- b) How/where can **making music** together make & sustain [radical, new] communities? (skills, places, opportunities) (Chair: Jane Pettegree, Laidlaw Music Centre) (c11:30-12:15)**

Ronan Breslin (Glasgow School of Art) – album and studio

Billy Rough (University of St Andrews) and Lynne Cambell – Dundee music halls and their legacies, working class entertainment in an industrial and post-industrial context, finding new spaces for performance

Mark Boyd and Graham Deas (Fife College) (Mark Burdett): Fife production training and education, and the role for FE and HE collaboration; local music festival (Silverburn)

Julia Lurfová (PhD researcher, Birmingham City University and alumna of University of St Andrews Radical Urban Lab) – Music Libraries and Collective Jamming Spaces (film)

- c) Bringing it together – how can academics in FE and HE help to support the work done by popular music in local communities? (c12:15-12:30)**

[LUNCH BREAK AND SET UP FOR AFTERNOON]

14:30 – 16:30 Making Music (playing and banter)

- Chris Brown and Mark Burdett, guitar and vocal duo

- Lynne Campbell – Dundee popular song and tradition (folk)
- Hannah Curteis, St Andrews / Nicaragua and the worlds between (singer songwriter)
- Jonathan Kemp (Dry Island Buffalo Jump & St Andrews Fusion, St Andrews bands)
- The Tenementals (David Archibald) (Glasgow Band)

[Evening – student-run event – from 1930pm in Sandy’s Bar, Students Association, St Mary’s Place, St Andrews]