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# Erik Chisholm Newsletter 2010



Front cover of Biography

## Greetings and Best Wishes for 2010

This is the Trust's second New Year newsletter which we hope will be enjoyed by a growing body of Erik Chisholm friends. The number of visitors to the ECT website:

[www.erikchisholm.com](http://www.erikchisholm.com) has increased, and at years-end topped the 7500 mark.

Please refer to website for more details on recent and future events and for *special offers* on CD sales and the biography.



Trustees at work  
Clockwise Martin Dalby, John Purser, Michael Jones, Morag Chisholm, Fiona Wright, (absent Hugh Macdonald)

## Erik Chisholm Trust News

The ECT met twice in 2009. The spring meeting was held at our usual venue, Scottish Music Centre, City Halls, Glasgow. On October 22nd we met at the Birmingham Conservatoire of Music, the venue in the evening for the biography launch.

The year went well for Chisholm's music. Several projects reached fruition while new ones began. Some highlights of the years activities follow.

*Our watchword for the year is "Doors are opening"*

## Major Events in 2009

Top of the list is the publication by Boydell and Brewer of John Purser's biography **Erik Chisholm Scottish Modernist 1904-1965**.

At the biography launch held in the Conservatoire concert hall, John Purser gave an excellent talk, beautifully illustrated with slides and Chisholm music performed by pianist Robert Markham and mezzo-soprano Anna Hainsworth. The day ended with a reception hosted by the Trust. Principal George Caird congratulated John and the two performers on their recital and welcomed special guests Lillias Scott Forbes & Virginia Fortescue who had travelled from Scotland.



Guests at book launch Clockwise Morag Chisholm, John Purser, Lillias Scott Forbes, George Caird & Virginia Fortescue

**2 Music Matters, BBC Radio 3** broadcast on 24th October gave John Purser the opportunity to talk about his book. A memorable occasion - the first time in over 50 years that Chisholm's music has been heard on BBC Radio, south of the border..

**3** In August two inspiring pianists, Murray McLachlan and Graham Scott, gave two performances, one week apart, of *The Forsaken Mermaid* at Chetham's School of Music. They recorded the work earlier in the year.



Murray McLachlan & Graham Scott at *The Forsaken Mermaid* Concert

**4 The catalogue of Chisholm's Piano scores** was published on the ECT website. View the catalogue and place your order online or by post. Spring 2010 sees publication and sales of a catalogue of non- piano scores including instrumental, chamber, string orchestral, vocal and choral works.

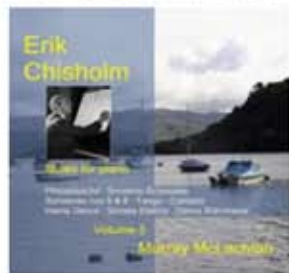
**5 Schott's re- issue** of the *Chisholm Concerto for Piano and Orchestra No 2*, arranged for 2 pianos, was a pleasant surprise. Hyperion Records have committed to a CD of both piano concerti in 2011 so the new issue is timely.

## CD Production

Two new CDs were released in 2009

**Divine Art DDV24140**

**Erik Chisholm: Music For Piano, Volume 5**



**Murray McLachlan (piano).**

Includes *Piobaireachd: no. 14, 16, 17, 19-23, Sonata no. 5 and 6, Cameos, Sonatine Ecossaise Harris Dance, Tango, Sonata, Elektra, Dance Bacchanal*

“This album maintains the standard of this series, one of the most worth-while integrals in recorded history of pianist/composers. A fine recital programme.”

Peter Grahame Woolf (Musical Pointers).

**Dutton Epoch - CDLX 7239**

**Royal Scottish National Orchestra**

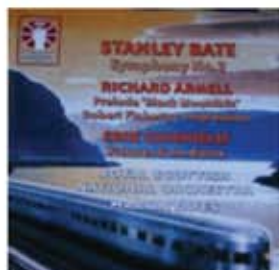
**Conductor Martin Yates**

Erik Chisholm *Pictures from Dante* Stanley Bate

*Symphony No. 3* Richard Arnell *Prelude ‘Black*

*Mountain’ Robert Flaherty -*

*Impression*



Jeffery Davies gives a \*\*\*\*\* review saying “Don’t miss this one! This has to be one of the best Dutton releases of all time.”

See the ECT website for more reviews and how to buy *Music for Piano* series and *Pictures from Dante*, a world premier recording by Dutton Epoch. Both CDs can be ordered through the ECT or online from amazon.co.uk

*Divine Art’s Music for Piano Vol. 6 & 7* have been recorded and will be released later this year.

*The Forsaken Mermaid and The Hoodie*, Chisholm Music for two ballets performed by the Margaret Morris Celtic Ballet over 50 years ago, have been



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recorded in the 2-piano version by Murray McLachlan and Graham Scott; the CD may be released in 2010.

## What we can look forward to in 2010

1 *Chisholm’s Piano Concerto No 2* was recorded by pianist Ronald Brautigam for Purser’s *Scotland’s Music* series in 2007. *Classics Unwrapped* will broadcast excerpts from the work on BBC Radio Scotland on 7 February between 5.05 and 7.00 pm. John Purser and Morag Chisholm have been invited to comment on the man and his music.

2. An *Anglo-American tour* by lyric tenor Wills Morgan and pianist Richard Black, of the Art Song Collective, will include Chisholm’s *Seven Poems of Love* in an ambitious programme. UK venues and dates will be advertised on the ECT website.

3 Two Cape Town events are in the pipeline,

i) The UCT College of Music, where Chisholm worked for his last 20 years, celebrates its centenary; his music will be played in the Chisholm Recital Room.  
ii) *The Erik Chisholm Catalogue Raisonne* will be out on its designated UCT website ‘sometime’ in 2010. This and the CDROM to follow, are the fruits of several years of research in the Chisholm Archives by UCT Music Lecturer, Michael Tuffin.



College of Music

4 The centenary of dancer/choreographer Margaret Morris opens 13 February in the Fergusson Gallery, Perth. In August, *M for Margaret Morris*, opens at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. At both events *The Forsaken Mermaid* music will be heard.

## Concluding Comment

Several of these events are still at the planning stage and the Trust will **News flash** information on its website. If the electronic age hasn’t yet reached you, please drop us a line.

*It promises to be another exciting year.*

**Morag Chisholm Chair Erik Chisholm Trust**

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