




HCC


Hungarian Cultural Centre
LONDON


JAN | **FEB**

2009


events

 *message from the director*

 January

 February



 If you wish to receive more information about our upcoming events, please send an e-mail to culture@hungary.org.uk
Thank you for your interest.

Join us for a year-long celebration of Talent, Tradition and Innovation in 2009

Dear Visitor,

After the tremendously busy, fruitful year of 2008, I now have the pleasure of presenting our first HCC brochure of 2009, which offers a broad range of artistic and cultural programmes, in the spirit of celebrating “**Talent, Tradition and Innovation**”.

2009 provides us with numerous occasions to commemorate recent events in Hungarian history, since it is twenty years that Hungary, together with our fellow Central and Eastern European countries, gained independence. It is five years ago that we joined the European Union. Where 1989 gave us liberty, joining Europe has opened up borders and granted us the right to interact with the diversity of cross-cultural values in Europe. Experiencing liberty, and learning to live with its benefits, is an ongoing challenge to Hungary that requires innovation.

The aim of our 2009 programme is to share this experience with you, to show you our perceptions, constructions and reconstructions of our immediate cultural context, as seen through the eyes of contemporary Hungarian talents, and to communicate both our traditional and modern values to the European scene.

2009 is also a milestone in the history of the HCC. It is now ten years since the Hungarian Cultural Centre first opened its doors in Covent Garden. I am delighted to say that, over the past decade, Britons have become much more familiar with Hungarian culture. Colourful events, like the Magyar Magic festival in 2004/5, or Check The Gate, the first Hungarian film showcase in Britain in 2008, have drawn attention to the most precious thing Hungary has to offer: **talent**.

In the spirit of nurturing talent and innovation, we will introduce new initiatives in 2009 to support young, contemporary artists working in the fields of drama, film, the visual arts and music.

The HCC strives to enhance dialogue on the consequences of Transitions, between intellectuals, historians, writers, diplomats and representatives

of the media, in order to contribute to a clearer understanding of recent political, social and cultural issues.

We aspire to continue as an active participant in European cultural collaborations, such as Dance Union, the contemporary dance festival at the Southbank Centre in 2008.

We shall continue our classical musical programme series, the Monday Music Soirées and, to provide for sophisticated jazz enthusiasts, we will continue to present sought-after Hungarian jazz musicians at the HCC Jazz Fridays, as well as our fruitful cooperation with the 606 Jazz Club in Chelsea. The popular HCC Film Club, which brings the latest Hungarian films and filmmakers to the UK, and The Curators' Talk series, will also continue in 2009.

In 2008, with the support of the HCC, Hungarian artists performed at the most renowned venues in the UK, such as the Royal Academy of Music, Royal Scottish Academy of Music, Southbank Centre, Glasgow School of Art, ICA or the Wigmore Hall. In 2009, we will maintain our mission to mediate, and provide opportunities to as many Hungarian artists as possible, in order to continue and broaden our participation in the UK's thriving art scene.

Do come and call at the Hungarian Cultural Centre in Covent Garden to learn more about current cultural trends in Hungary, and to meet our very best artists, musicians, writers and many more. Details of all our programmes are also available on our new, exciting website.

I wish you a very happy and peaceful 2009, and hope to see you soon,

Dr. Ildikó Takács
Director, Cultural Councillor

**BECOME FAMILIAR WITH HUNGARY'S THRIVING
CONTEMPORARY CULTURE BY VISITING THE HCC**

Monday 12 – Tuesday 20 | January *Private View on Monday, 12 January 7–9 pm*

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

► EXHIBITION

The Painting Lives of Marianne & Adrian Stokes

Known for his landscapes, **Adrian Scott Stokes** (1854–1935) entered the Royal Academy early in his career, first exhibiting in 1876. He travelled to France in the same year where he continued to live for a decade, and where he met Marianne Preindsberger in Pont-Aven, the artists' colony in North West France. The pair married in Marianne's hometown of Graz. Adrian Stokes' early work demonstrates a fascination with atmospheric effects shown in dramatic skylines, such as those seen in *Uplands* and *Sky* (1886) and *Hunters on the Moor* (1885). He later moved towards a more decorative style which can be seen in works such as *Islands of the Adriatic* (1906), which will appear in the exhibition at Wolverhampton Art Gallery.



AUTUMN IN THE MOUNTAINS AND ISLANDS OF THE ADRIATIC BY ADRIAN STOKES

The retrospective draws examples of their work from a range of both public and private collections. Perhaps most well known is the work 'Madonna and Child' by **Marianne Stokes** which adorned the Christmas first class stamp in 2005, and comes from Wolverhampton Art Gallery's collection. This work represents a group of works painted in tempera which combines her interest in religious and folk art. The work of both the Stokes' are featured in a number of public collections which include museums in Canada, France, Germany, Denmark, Australia and New Zealand. They can be seen at The Tate, National Portrait Gallery, V&A and many regional collections including that of Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Leeds City Art Gallery and the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool.



MADONNA AND CHILD AND BRIDAL VEIL BY MARIANNE STOKES

UTMOST FIDELITY: THE PAINTING LIVES OF MARIANNE & ADRIAN STOKES OPENS AT WOLVERHAMPTON ART GALLERY, 30 JANUARY 2009

- The Hungarian Cultural Centre event is free. For reservation for the Private View please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk. The exhibition can be viewed in the Hungarian Cultural Centre between 13 January – 20 January 2009, Monday to Friday, 10 – 5 pm.

Thursday | 15 January | 7.30 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

FILM

FILMCLUB HOSTED BY LÁSZLÓ HECKENAST

Mario, the Magician (Márió, a varázsló)

directed by Tamás Almási

(2008, feature film, 35 mm, colour, 92 min., 1:1,85, DolbySRD)

At the beginning of the 1990s, not long after the change in regime, a miracle occurs in a tiny sleepy Hungarian village with the arrival of Mario, the elegant Italian shoe manufacturer. He promises jobs and wellbeing to the local women, setting the village

in motion. Vera cannot resist the charisma of the Italian either. She becomes more and more enchanted by the man's special charm, and feels the Italian is not indifferent to her either. She dreams obsessively about a better life at Mario's side.



FESTIVALS

2008 – Cairo International Film Festival (in competition)

• Free. For reservation please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk

Wednesday | 21 January | 7 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

BOOK LAUNCH

Ágnes Lehoczky: Budapest to Babel

The Hungarian Cultural Centre, in association with Egg Box Publishing, is pleased to present new voice, Ágnes Lehoczky, as she launches her new collection, with an introduction by George Szirtes & Nathan Hamilton.



*'To get to the turret we climb up the spiral staircase
that echoes our disintegrating words and laughter'*

The well-known Babel myth provides the backbone for the first cycle of poems and a departure point for further journeys in this, Lehoczky's first book in English. Budapest to Babel is a lively and rewarding exploration of the difficulties and joys of language. Often poignant, always inventive, states of confusion and chaos, playfulness and delight are all examined with a freshness of style and tone. An original and unique talent.

"It is rare to find such articulate poems about inarticulacy; poems that comprehend inarticulacy in their composition and yet which are, for my money, very moving... an original writer with something original to say." > GEORGE SZIRTES

"Ágnes Lehoczky draws on the poetic tradition of making language the subject of the image but complicates this intriguingly by being in two places at once; she makes herself both actor and acted upon in enjoyable strategies of investment and displacement." > LAVINIA GREENLAW



Ágnes Lehoczky was born in 1976 in Budapest. Station X (2000) and Medallion (2002), her first two short collections, were published in Hungary by Universitas.

She graduated from the UEA Creative Writing MA in 2006 and her work has been published in a number of places in print and online, in Hungary and the UK.

- Free. For reservation please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk

Thursday | 22 January – Wednesday | 11 February

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre [Private View on Thursday, 22 January 7–9 pm](#)

▶ EXHIBITION

Because we think (words reflect our worlds)

by Kurtág & Mech

It is the minor details which reveal that things are not what they used to be.

A small crack in the wall allows light or a draught in, but also gives an indication that there might be another scene behind the scene. Such little hints open up space for a subliminal gesture, or humane doubt, regarding whether the way we used to do things are still correct. The world appears to alienate itself, even to its observer who thinks s/he created it (*Die Welt scheint einem abhanden zu kommen und das, obwohl sie eine selbst geschaffene ist*). And yet this is still perception, unarticulated, struggling to find expression, as we still seek a language that could shape the changed world.

Essentially, this is the old theme of *'je est un autre'*, applied here to the body and its relationship to one's surroundings: the perceived world is deformed as a dilution of one's own self, while the body becomes an object profoundly unknown to one's self.



“Because we think” is a multi channel audio-visual installation, in which language is detached from the speaker, and which finds its way to the speaker as reported speech.

VON WEM GEHT DIE REDE,
WENN VON MIR DIE REDE GEHT

Heiner Müller writes these lines in *Landschaft mit Argonauten* and he describes within a single sentence that bidirectional movement of estrangement and self-realization that takes place even within the simple act of speaking: as spoken word leaves the speaker, it reports

something about him or her. In the works of Franz Kafka we find those movements of indirect speaking again and again; often only as single words that appear as the surplus of communication which reveal the actual manner of speaking.

We do not speak about frauds or trickeries, nor about tactics or strategies, however they might be motivated; we try to describe the state in which the speaker fights to perceive what he or she is expressing. In such moments, reality appears to be ghostly, created through one's own perception, and which one has difficulties recognising.

- Free. For reservation for the Private View please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk. The exhibition can be viewed in the Hungarian Cultural Centre between 22 January – 11 February 2009, Monday to Friday, 10–5 pm

Monday | 26 January | 7.30 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

MONDAY MUSIC SOIRÉES

Four Temperaments

baroque & classical music ensemble

London based multi-national ensemble Four Temperaments was established at the Royal Academy of Music in September 2005, where they were holders of a prestigious Leverhulme Chamber Music Fellowship in 2007/2008. In June 2006 the quartet won the RAM Friends Prize for Early Music.

Representing four different nations (Finland, Great Britain, Hungary and Poland) the quartet performs both throughout the UK and abroad and has played in many festivals such as the London Handel Festival and the Festival de Saintes, France.

Members of Four Temperaments are established musicians in London's early music scene, and they have worked with groups including the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, English Baroque Soloists, Gabrieli Consort and Players, Ex Cathedra, Florilegium and English Touring Opera.

Their extensive repertoire embraces masterpieces of the baroque and classical period by composers such as Bach, Couperin, Mozart and Beethoven, as well as the innovative programming of rarely performed works including chamber arrangements of great classical symphonies.



KINGA GÁBORJÁNI, SOILE PYLKKÖNEN,
PAWEŁ SIWCZAK, ELEANOR HARRISON

• Free. For reservation please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk
For more details please visit www.fourtemperaments.co.uk

Thursday | 5 February | 7.30 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

▶ FILM

FILMCLUB HOSTED BY LÁSZLÓ HECKENAST

Adventurers (Kalandorok)

directed by Béla Paczolay

(2008, feature film, 35 mm, colour, 100 min., 1:1.85, DolbySRD)

Géza is a trumpeter in his fifties, who settled in Hungary decades earlier. On his fourth marriage now, he lost whatever he had in a series of divorces. His son, András, supports himself by odd jobs, often for the underworld, and usually losing on them. They travel to a small village to take Grandpa to Budapest, to save him from the misery his life has become due to Grandma's senility. The journey begins, but will they ever get anywhere?



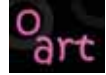
• Free. For reservation please call 0207 240 6162
or email press@hungary.org.uk

Thursday | 5 February – Monday 16 | February

→ DegreeArt.com Gallery, 30 Vyner Street, E2 9DQ

*Private View on Thursday,
5 February 6–9 pm*

▶ EXHIBITION



Private Practice (Part Two)

Private Practice is an exhibition of works produced by emerging artists from Budapest and London. What brings these particular artists together here is their production of small and rather intimate works, seemingly made without hesitation. The exhibition is a celebration of the “off the cuff” art work, as it is perhaps these works that directly explore the personal dialogue that the artist holds with their medium and audience. This exhibition presents the first opportunity for works by artists from Budapest



and London to be seen together. Private Practice will create a platform to explore the notion of the individual in today's flat culture. If this mixed media show represents anything, then it's the curious and autonomous delight taken in the investigation of art.

• The opening is 6–9 pm on the 5th. For more information please visit www.degreeart.com
Tel: 020 8980 0395, e-mail: info@DegreeArt.com

Friday | 6 February | 7.30 pm

→ St James Church, Piccadilly

▶ MUSIC/JAZZ

Hungarian jazz meets early music

The **Elemér Balázs Group & the Voces4 Ensemble** play and sing pieces composed by the likes of Pergolesi, Händel or Guerrero with a totally new approach. This is not an attempt to ride the wave of the so-called ‘crossover’ movement but it invests renaissance and baroque melodies with new instrumentation and arrangements. The music combines the simple majesty of a bygone age with the freshness of jazz.

The Elemér Balazs Group

Elemér Balázs, one of the, if not the best jazz drummer in Hungary founded the group in 2000 which became popular soon. The group created a unique sound with melodic themes grafted onto asymmetrical, yet hypnotic rhythms. **József Balázs**, the band-leader's younger brother is one of the most remarkable pianists of the new genera-



tion. He also runs his own group that took the stage at the Budapest Jazz Festival backing Robin Eubanks. **Gábor Winand** is, without a doubt, the most original jazz-vocalist in Europe. He's certainly rated as such by the influential critics of the french magazine, Jazzman. **Klára Hajdú**, the young vocalist supplies the incredibly beautiful voice to set off Winand's masculine style. **Dávid Lamm**

another bright star in the firmament of hungarian jazz is a spellbinding guitar-player with an incredible wealth of ideas who played an incredibly successful gig with his own trio in london in 2007. **Márton Soós** on the bass is the „new boy” in the group and, indeed, he is one of the rising stars on his instrument in this country. He is also a member of the award-winning Szabolcs Oláh Quartet. **József Czibere** is the great new discovery among hungary's amazingly good percussionists. More and more bands are signing him. His playing beautifully augments his boss' drumming.

The **Voces4 Ensemble** vocal group made its name by the beautiful but contemporary rendition of gregorian chants. Their soloist is **Judit Andrejszki** more than ably backed by **András Demjén, Csaba Gyulai** and **Zoltán Mizsei**.

• Tickets: £12 full price, £10 concessions. For booking information please visit www.st-james-piccadilly.org
For more information please contact: St James's Church, 197 Piccadilly, London W1J 9LL. Tel: 020 7734 4511

Wednesday | 11 February | 8 pm

→ 606 Jazz Club, 90 Lots Road, Chelsea, London SW10

Friday | 13 February | 7.30 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

▶ MUSIC/JAZZ

THE HUNGARIAN CULTURAL CENTRE IN LONDON PROUDLY PRESENTS



Julianna Fábíán

Songstress **Julianna Fábíán**, despite her youth, is a mature performer with a distinctive style of her own and a tremendous flair for improvisation. Her voice has, justifiably, been as 'honey with chilli peppers'. Before she decided to take up singing, she studied classical piano which deepened her understanding of music, and widened her horizons. She has been performing on stage since the second year of her jazz studies. Despite her relatively short presence on the jazz scene, she has been picked out by many top



musicians and bands. In 2007, Julianna was a finalist in the Shure Voice Competition at the Montreux Jazz Festival. Her effortless delivery sometimes makes one forget her daring and adventurous attitude to jazz singing.

An absolute must!

Julianna will be accompanied by the dazzling pianist, **Péter Sárík**. It's hard to say what Péter's forte is because he is simply brilliant, both as a soloist and as an accompanist. His most recent album gives testimony to the former. Péter is also very much at home in classical, Latin and world music. In 2007, he won the best soloist's prize in

the competition organised by Hungary's Radio Jazzy. Julianna and Péter have an uncanny musical understanding of each other that makes their music entrancing.

On 11th February, two days before her appearance at the Hungarian Cultural Centre, Julianna Fabian will sing with British musicians at Chelsea's famous 606 Club as part of an exchange deal between 606 and the Budapest Jazz Club.

• The Hungarian Cultural Centre event is free.

To make a reservation for dinner and the concert at 606 Club please call 020 7352 5953 or e-mail: jazz@606club.co.uk

Tuesday | 17 February – Friday | 12 March

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre [Private View on Thursday, 17 February 7–9 pm](#)

▶ EXHIBITION

Mikrokozmosz

Károly Keserű's art has always been open to a wide array of interpretations and speculations. It is generally non-referential, atmospheric and abstract. However, his works subtly reflect the artist's personal interests in various sciences and how we physically experience music. Another source of inspiration is philosophy and religion, transgressing Western and Eastern ideas.

The method of creation, though obsessive, incredibly crafted and meticulous, is fairly straightforward.





Horizontal and vertical lines run parallel to create a fine grid filled with a myriad of tiny dots. The introduction of colour increases the compositional complexity.

Károly Keserü is Hungarian-born. He studied art for five years in Melbourne, won Australia's most prestigious 'Sams-tag' scholarship and completed his MFA at Central St Martins in 2001. His works are exhibited and collected widely in Europe, USA and Australia.

This exhibition is coinciding with Károly Keserü's show at Patrick Heide Contemporary Art from Wednesday 11 February – Saturday 28 March. Address: 11 Church Street, London NW8 EE

- Free. For reservation for the Private View please call 0207 240 6162 or email press@hungary.org.uk. The exhibition can be viewed between 18 Feb – 12 March, Monday to Friday from 10–5 pm. For more information about the artist please visit www.patrickheide.com

Monday | 23 February | 7.30 pm

→ Hungarian Cultural Centre

▶ MONDAY MUSIC SOIRÉES

PÉTER BÁRSONY › *viola* | MÁRTA GULYÁS › *piano*

PROGRAMME

Weiner László	Sonate for viola and piano
Hubay Jenő	Maggiolata Un Conte Ballada (arranged by Lajos Huszár)
Johannes Brahms	Sonate in E-flat major for viola and piano Op.120, Nr.2. (1894)

Márta Gulyás began her piano lessons at the age of five in Hungary. She studied in Budapest at the Liszt Ferenc Academy for Music with István Lantos. After graduating she won a scholarship to study at the Tchaikowsky Conservatory in Moscow with the renowned pianist and professor Dmitri Bashkirov.



Furthermore, she was awarded the prize „For Hungarian Culture” in 1985 and the „Liszt Ferenc prize” in 1998.

Currently Márta Gulyás is teacher of the chamber music faculty at the Liszt Academy in Budapest and professor of chamber music at the Escuela Superior Reina Sofia in Madrid. She has given masterclasses in Finland (Riihimäki, Lohja, Kuhmo), Sweden (Gothenburg), Italy (Bergamo, Imola), Spain (Santander, Ávila), Germany (Pommersfelden, Weimar), Greece (Athens), Hungary (Keszthely).

Péter Bársony was born in Budapest in 1975. He graduated from the Liszt Ferenc Academy of Music in 2000. His masters were Ferenc Rados, György Konrád, Sándor Nagy, Béla Bánfalvi. He took part in masterclasses conducted by Dénes Kovács, György Kurtág, Dénes Zsigmondy, Pinchas Zukerman, Zoltán Tóth. In 1999 he studied in Gerard Caussé’s class at the Conservatoire of Paris. Péter Bársony gives regularly concerts in Hungary and abroad. He is the founding member of the Akadémia and Somogyi String Quartets, was member of the Keller String Quartet from 1999–2000 and he has been solo viola player of the Hungarian Symphony Orchestra since 2000. In 2004–2005 he was holder of the Annie Fischer scholarship. Since 2007 he has been member of the UMZE (Chamber Ensemble for Contemporary Music). They make their US debut in the Carnegie Hall in January 2009 with Peter Eötvös.



- Free. For reservations please call:
020 7240 6162
or email press@hungary.org.uk

JANUARY 2009

12–20 January → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 04
EXHIBITION **The Painting Lives of Marianne & Adrian Stokes**

15 January → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 05
FILM **Mario, the Magician (Márió, a varázsló)**

21 January → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 05
BOOK LAUNCH **Ágnes Lehoczky: Budapest to Babel**

22 January – 11 February → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 06
EXHIBITION **Because we think (words reflect our worlds)**

26 January → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 07
MONDAY MUSIC SOIRÉES **Four Temperaments**

FEBRUARY 2009

5 February → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 08
FILM **Adventurers (Kalandorok)**

5–19 February → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 09
EXHIBITION **Private Practice (Part Two)**

6 February → St James Church, Piccadilly | PAGE 09
MUSIC/JAZZ **Hungarian jazz meets early music**

11 February → 606 Jazz Club | PAGE 10

13 February → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 10
MUSIC/JAZZ **Julianna Fábíán**

17 February – 12 March → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 11
EXHIBITION **Works by Károly Keserü**

23 February → Hungarian Cultural Centre | PAGE 12
MONDAY MUSIC SOIRÉES **Péter Bársony & Márta Gulyás concert**

The HCC team:

Dr Ildikó Takács | Director
Dávid Kerényi | Finance Manager
Edit Cesarczyk | Head of Administration and Referee of Education
Enikő Leányvári | Producer, Theatre and Literature
Zsuzsa Berényi | Producer, Music
Judit Kőrös | Consultant, Information Service and Film Events
Zsuzsa Kalmár | Project Leader, Visual Arts
László Heckenast | Consultant, Film
Péter Pallai | Jazz Consultant
Natália Tarjányi | Press & PR

If you are interested in joining the Friends of the Hungarian Cultural Centre please contact Ruth and Robert Wing on 020 7351 7653 or email r.wing@imperial.ac.uk

The Reading Room, our Information Service and the rental of video films are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11 am and 7 pm.

For more information, please call our information consultant, Judit Kőrös. The information in this brochure is believed correct at the time of going to press, but as this may be three months or more before the events take place, we strongly advise you to confirm dates, times and availability before setting out for any particular event. The HCC reserves the right to alter artists or programme details as necessary.

Hungarian Cultural Centre
10 Maiden Lane, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7NA
Tel: 020 7240 8448 • Fax: 020 7240 4847 • Message: 020 7240 6162
e-mail: culture@hungary.org.uk



www.hungary.org.uk





HCC
Hungarian Cultural Centre
LONDON



10 Maiden Lane
Covent Garden
London WC2E 7NA

TEL: 020 7240 8448
FAX: 020 7240 4847
MESSAGE: 020 7240 6162

www.hungary.org.uk
culture@hungary.org.uk