

Festival INTERCELTIQUE
Lorient

Mrs Fiona Hyslop
Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs
THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT
St. Andrew's House, Regent Road
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
Royaume-Uni

Lorient, France, 14 February 2017

Dear Madame,

As the director of the 47th edition of the Lorient Interceltic Festival, I am delighted and honoured to invite you to:

a cocktail reception and the inauguration concert for the launch of the Year of Scotland
at the Grand Théâtre in Lorient
on Saturday 5 August 2017 from 7.30pm

and

a brunch for the «Great Parade of the Celtic Nations»
at the Stade du Moustoir in Lorient
on Sunday 6 August 2017 from 10am

and

the Grand Nuit honouring Scotland
at the Espace Marine in Lorient
on Monday 7 August 2017 from 10pm

For over twenty years, the Lorient Interceltic Festival has managed to become one of the biggest festivals in Europe. From the 4th to the 13th of August, this great gathering dedicated to creation, encounters and sharing will offer 10 days and 10 nights of an eclectic programme. Over a hundred of concerts and shows, with more than 4,500 artists from all the Celtic countries will delight the 750,000 festival-goers awaited in the streets of Lorient.

We hope you will be able to join us for the festivities. Please confirm your attendance to the festival team, which is at your disposal to make your experience as pleasurable as possible.

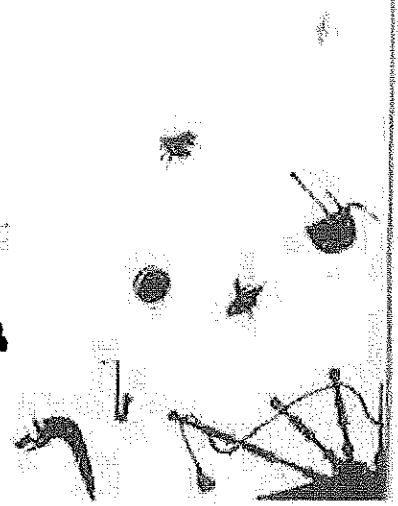
Best regards,

Lisardo LOMBARDIA
General director

R.S.V.P.: Public relations, Lorient Interceltic Festival
Heymann, Renault Associées

Tel.: ~~02 97 30 30 30~~

cc Pierre Gergaudic - 56100 Lorient
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Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External
Affairs
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Mr Lisardo Lombardia
General Director
Lorient Interceltic Festival
Rue Pierre Guergadic
56100 Lorient
France

Email: [REDACTED]

Our ref: 2017/0007173

24th March 2017

Dear Lisardo

Thank you for your invitation to the opening weekend of Lorient Interceltic Festival and the festival's celebratory events that focus on Scotland in 2017.

Unfortunately, due to prior diary commitments in Scotland in August, I am unable to accept your kind invitation.

I would however, be very pleased to join you at the official launch of Scotland as the festival's focus country on 22 May, to be held at the British Embassy in Paris. Please contact my official [Anna Dick](mailto:Anna.Dick@gov.scot) on 01846 211212 or Anna.Dick@gov.scot to make the necessary arrangements.

Kind regards

Fiona

FIONA HYSLOP

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 13 June 2017 22:42
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Lorient Festival - Ms Hyslop attending

Very good idea.

De : [REDACTED]
Envoyé : mardi 13 juin 2017 15:31
À : [REDACTED]
Objet : Lorient Festival - Ms Hyslop attending
Importance : Haute

Dear [REDACTED],

I just wanted to let you know that Ms Hyslop will be attending the Lorient Festival from 6-8 August and I have put in a request to our Embassy in Paris to request a meeting with Foreign Minister Le Drian (should he be attending the festival) for either the Sunday evening or Monday evening.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 July 2017 10:57
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Lorient Festival

Hi

Taking the opportunity to update you on our activity on the Lorient Festival. Useful if VS activity can be included in updates that go forward to the Cab Sec on Lorient.

Thanks

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

VisitScotland

Ocean Point One
94 Ocean Drive
Edinburgh EH6 6JH

DD: 0131 472 2312
M: 07778 163 085

From: [REDACTED])
Sent: 17 July 2017 16:33
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: FW: exhibition at Lorient

Importance: High

Please see below, Document Scotland are not available to talk through the exhibition. Do you know if the curator / gallery owner speaks English? If not I will need to get the interpreter there for a show around.
Thanks

■

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 17 July 2017 16:30
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Re: exhibition at Lorient
Importance: High

Dear [REDACTED]
Lovely to hear from you. Hope all is well with you.

Unfortunately none of the Document Scotland photographers will be present at the show, and sadly not able to show Ms. Hyslop around. We would have enjoyed that, but alas we shan't be there.

Hopefully some other time we can show the work and explain it.

Many thanks for asking, and for letting us know,
with best wishes,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

On 17 Jul 2017, at 14:36, <

[REDACTED]

Hi both, I hope you are well and organised for the forthcoming exhibition at Lorient Interceltique festivals. You may not be aware but Fiona Hyslop is going out to Lorient 6-8 August and I will be there supporting her - please keep this confidential. On Monday 7th August we have organised for the gallery to be open at 10am so that she can have a private view of your work and the tapestry on display. It would be great if someone could be available to take Ms Hyslop around the exhibition but I am not sure which one of the team will be out at that time. If there is more than one of you then anyone on the ground would be welcome.

Let me know if this is going to be possible and give me a call if need be.

Best wishes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2017 14:53
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hyslop/Le Drian at Lorient

Thank you for letting me know [REDACTED].

Best wishes
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 July 2017 14:49
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hyslop/Le Drian at Lorient

Dear [REDACTED],

Many thanks for your collaboration regarding the Lorient festival next week. Unfortunately, the Deputy Ambassador will no longer be able to attend so we won't be able to join up with your programme. However, I hope it is a success. And we hope to see the First Minister in Paris soon.

Best,
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 20 July 2017 17:40
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Hyslop/Le Drian at Lorient

Hi [REDACTED], please find attached the revised draft programme for Ms Hyslop's visit. For many of the elements she has been invited as a guest so we are not in the position to influence attendance of the Deputy Ambassador on those occasions. The two elements the DA might want to consider is the French media session on 7th at lunch time and as

Rùnaire a' Chaibineit airson Cultar, Turasachd agus
Cùisean an Taobh a-Muigh
Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External
Affairs
Fiona Hyslop BPA/MSP



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Mr Lisardo Lombardia
Director
Festival Interceltique de Lorient
Rue Pierre Guergadic – 56100 Lorient
Straed Pierre Gergadig – 56100 An Oriant
France

Email: [REDACTED]

Dear Lisardo

I want to extend my sincere thanks to you, and your Festival Interceltique de Lorient team, for providing such a warm and heartfelt welcome to Scotland and Scottish artists in Lorient. Apart from our musicians being provided with an opportunity to showcase their work to such a large and enthusiastic audience, they also benefited from being able to work with others from their field to share and learn from the experience. I was impressed by the scale of the festival and how responsive and supportive the French media were to the artists and the festival.

The feedback I have received has been tremendous from the team, with over €30,000 worth of CDs being sold at the Scottish Pavilion and 'Elephant Sessions' entering the French download charts. All of this activity underpins the importance of our cultural relationship and friendship with France.

I look forward to seeing you again at Celtic Connections in 2018.

Kind regards

Fiona

FIONA HYSLOP

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent: 21 August 2017 14:02
To: Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External Affairs
Subject: Lorient

Hi there Fiona

How are you? I hope you got back from Lorient safely and that the Edinburgh Festivals have not seen you be too busy, although I suspect they will have.

I just wanted to write to you and thank you so so much for not only coming to Lorient, but for supporting the initiative from the outset. I am not sure that without your support the event would every have been realised. This focus on Scotland is a unique in so many ways and a first in so many ways. A huge thanks from me and all the Showcase Scotland Expo team.

It was undoubtedly a successful working partnership and to have so many agencies working together for the first time, yet understanding each others objectives and delivering such a huge focus, is something that I sincerely hope can be repeated for future events both at Lorient and others. It would not have been achievable without all the partners, not just financially but in terms of human resources.

The outcomes are still pouring in and it will take some time to be able to evaluate it all, but as you know the media coverage for Scotland was extremely significant both here and in Europe.

There are still two documentaries to be aired here on BBC Alba and also on Radio Scotland, with two pieces of film on France TV 3. Elephant Sessions were featured in Rolling Stone Magazine France and also entered the French download charts! - which is exceptional for any roots genre band.

The artists undoubtedly achieved a huge amount and our Pavilion has been described by the festival as the best Pavilion in the history of the festival, it was packed at all

times

[REDACTED]) Their fees were more than the sum of money we collectively invested in the events delivery (I will get a full report done for your teams and send it over, still collating all the info - but we know the amounts paid to Scottish musicians exceeded the amount collectively invested in delivering the event.) Several onward bookings have been registered and Elephant Sessions are performing in London on the 1st of September for Belhaven Beers with more offers for artists coming in as I type.

In addition to this being the first time that Showcase Scotland Expo have managed to work with all the partners, it is also the case that its the first time we have secured commercial sponsorship

I also think that for the younger artists the experience was a huge learning curve and you could see as the week progressed that they were all picking up tips from each other that were put to use in improving their performances. Stage craft really benefitted and it's an experience that these artists will carry for life and one that I believe has made a huge difference to them in so many ways.

So once again a huge thanks to you! I know how busy you were on that weekend and it would have been easy not to get on a plane, but you did and the difference that having you there made to everyone including myself is massive.

The artists were so pleased that you were visible as part of the focus, so were the sponsors, the media, our team and from a personal point of view myself. Thank you, Thank you and I hope the rest of the Festival goes well for you.

PS I know you didn't get a chance to see Elephant sessions, but if you go to the Showcase Scotland Facebook page you will see one of Euan from the band crowd surfing on a giant inflatable pineapple!

<https://www.facebook.com/showcasescot/>

All the very best.

Cabinet Secretary for Culture, Tourism and External
Affairs
Fiona Hyslop MSP



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Ms Lisa Whytock
Director
Active Events

Email: [REDACTED]

Our ref: 2017/0030003

4 September 2017

Dear Lisa

Thank you for the kind words in your recent letter, it was a real pleasure to attend the Lorient Interceltic Festival in August and join with this year's celebration of Scotland as the festival's country of focus.

I was most interested to hear your feedback on the festival's huge success and in particular of the impact of the Scottish Pavilion. The Pavilion brought energy, passion and musicality to the festival, providing our musicians with the opportunity to showcase their work to a large, engaged audience and to work with and learn from others in their field. I was impressed by the scale of the festival and how significant the media coverage was for our artists.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to you and your team for all your support and hard work in ensuring that the festival was such a success. Events such as this play a key role in strengthening our cultural relationships overseas.

Congratulations and kind regards
Fiona

FIONA HYSLOP