

**Joshua Dickson**

**ITALIAN SPRING PIPING SCHOOL**

Posted by: admin

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Joshua Dickson

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Joshua Dickson è il Preside del corso di studi in Scottish Music presso il Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (già Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama). Nato e cresciuto in Alaska, si trasferì in Scozia nel 1992 per studiare il gaelico scozzese presso l'Università di Aberdeen, ove conseguì l'M.A. nel 1996. Josh si imbarcò, quindi, in un dottorato di ricerca storica presso la School of Scottish Studies dell'Università di Edimburgo avente ad oggetto le tradizioni del piping nelle Ebridi meridionali e occidentali e conseguendo il relativo PhD nel 2001. La ricerca è pubblicata con il titolo "When Piping Was Strong: Tradition, Change and the Bagpipe in South Uist " (John Donald, 2006). Come strumentista (Great Highland Bagpipe) si è più volte apparso sulla scena della musica gaelica insieme al gruppo "Na Tri Seudan" e partecipando anche ai recitals inseriti nel contesto del premiato Festival di Edimburgo del 2007 con il titolo "From Battlelines to Barlines", Festival organizzato da Allan MacDonald.

Recentemente (2009) ha anche pubblicato un'importantissima antologia di scritti sul piping dal titolo "The Highland Bagpipe: Music, History, Tradition " , libro pubblicato dalla Ashgate per la sua popolare collana dedicata alla musica popolare e folk.

Nell'ambito delle attività post-dottorali, è tuttora in relazioni con l'Istituto di Celtic & Scottish Studies, Università di Edimburgo ed è assistant-editor della rivista Scottish Studies

Tra le sue pubblicazioni e lezioni spiccano

2009 The Highland Bagpipe: Music, History, Tradition (ed.). Aldershot: Ashgate.

2007 'Passive transmission of Hebridean bagpipe music in the 20th century: an interview with Mrs Mary Ann Lindsay in 1976 (with contextual notes and transliteration of syllabic notation)'. Tocher 2007, Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh (forthcoming).

2007 'Practice-based piping scholarship: an overview'. 14th William Kennedy Piping Festival, St Patrick's Trian, Armagh.

2007 'Piping in South Uist and Benbecula: a research journal, 21-27 November 2006 (in three parts)', with J Decker Forrest. Piping Today 28-30, Glasgow: National PipingCentre

2007 ' On Traditional Gaelic Bagpiping: 1745 – 1945 by John G Gibson'. Review. Scottish Studies 34. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh.

2006 When Piping Was Strong: Tradition, Change and the Bagpipe in South Uist. Edinburgh: John

Donald.

2006 'Voicing Ben Lawers: an oral history of north Lothians', with Dr Gary West and Ms Shona MacKay. Occasional Papers series of online publications, Celtic and Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh.

2006 'The life and music of Lachlan B'n MacCormick, Benbecula, 1859–1952'. Piping Live Festival lecture, National Piping Centre, Glasgow.

2005 'Calum Campbell: piper out of a long tradition' The Independent, 2 February, p. 33.

2005 'Authenticity, identity and the transformation of Gaelic music: a Survivals and Revivals case study'. Folk and Identity in Celtic Studies Conference, University of Cardiff.

2004 'S fhada mar seo tha sinn: p'obaireachd a bha agus bhios'. Ceolas Festival lecture, Lochboisdale.

2003 'Tradition and change in South Uist (parts one and two)'. Piping Today 6 and 7 (Sep – Dec), Glasgow: National Piping Centre.

2003 'Hiharin in 1940s Stoneybridge: a remnant of an earlier tradition?'. Piping Times 55/5 (Feb), Glasgow: College of Piping.

2003 'The age of improvement: piping in South Uist, 1900 – 1958'. John MacFadyen Memorial Lecture, Stirling Castle.

2002 'The voiced and the unvoiced: observations of verbal aesthetics among musicians in the Hebrides'. Rannsachadh na Gaidhlig 2 Conference, University of Glasgow.

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Joshua Dickson is Head of Scottish Music at Royal Conservatoire of Scotland (formerly the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama). Born and raised in Alaska, he arrived in Scotland in 1992 to study Scottish Gaelic at the University of Aberdeen (MA, 1996). He then undertook doctoral research in the history of the piping tradition of the southern Outer Hebrides at the School of Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh (PhD, 2001), now published under the title *When Piping Was Strong: Tradition, Change and the Bagpipe in South Uist* (John Donald, 2006). He has performed publicly in the contemporary Gaelic music scene with Na Tri Seudan and Allan MacDonald's award-winning 2004 Edinburgh Festival recital series, *From Battlelines to Barlines*. His ground-breaking anthology of piping studies in our time, *The Highland Bagpipe: Music, History, Tradition*, is published by Ashgate under its Popular & Folk Music series (2009).

He is also a postdoctoral fellow of Celtic & Scottish Studies, University of Edinburgh, and is assistant editor of peer-reviewed journal *Scottish Studies*.

Selected publications and papers read

- 2009 *The Highland Bagpipe: Music, History, Tradition* (ed.). Aldershot: Ashgate.
- 2007 'Passive transmission of Hebridean bagpipe music in the 20th century: an interview with Mrs Mary Ann Lindsay in 1976 (with contextual notes and transliteration of syllabic notation)'. *Tocher* 2007, Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh (forthcoming).
- 2007 'Practice-based piping scholarship: an overview'. 14th William Kennedy Piping Festival, St Patrick's Trian, Armagh.
- 2007 'Piping in South Uist and Benbecula: a research journal, 21-27 November 2006 (in three parts)', with J Decker Forrest. *Piping Today* 28–30, Glasgow: National PipingCentre
- 2007 'On Traditional Gaelic Bagpiping: 1745 – 1945 by John G Gibson'. Review. *Scottish Studies* 34. Edinburgh: University of Edinburgh.
- 2006 *When Piping Was Strong: Tradition, Change and the Bagpipe in South Uist*. Edinburgh: John Donald.
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