

## Membership subscription form

We cordially invite you to become a member. Benefits of Society membership include a newsletter, free sampler CD, discounts and prior notice of events and releases, and the knowledge that by your support you will be enabling present and future generations to discover Hans Gál's musical and cultural legacy.

Please complete details below (and overleaf) and return form to The Hans Gál Society, 16 Blasket Place, Edinburgh EH9 1RL

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Please choose one of the following options:

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\* If paying in Euros or dollars please pay direct into the account of the Hans Gal Society at:

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*Honorary President: Sir Colin Davis*

*Honorary Vice President: Eva Fox-Gál*

*Patrons: Steven Isserlis, Leon McCawley*

## Welcome to the Hans Gál Society!

### Our purpose is to encourage and support:

- ◆ performances and recordings of Gál's works
- ◆ professional staging of his operas
- ◆ access to study and performance editions of Gál's work
- ◆ new research and writing about Hans Gál
- ◆ talks, seminars, conferences and exhibitions relating to Gál and his work
- ◆ study and performance of his music among young people, amateur groups and non-professional musicians

### Further Information

For general enquiries about the Hans Gál Society please contact Tanya Fox at:

The Hans Gál Society, 16 Blasket Place,  
Edinburgh EH9 1RL, +44 (0)131 667 8819  
[enquiries@hansgalsociety.org](mailto:enquiries@hansgalsociety.org)  
[www.hansgalsociety.org](http://www.hansgalsociety.org)



## Hans Gál

Born in 1890 near Vienna, Hans Gál achieved early recognition as a composer with the award of the Austrian State Prize for Composition in 1915. During the period after the First World War, he rapidly established his pre-eminence as a composer, particularly following the success of his second opera, *Die Heilige Ente* (*The Sacred Duck*): this was premiered in 1923 in Düsseldorf, under Georg Szell, and was subsequently performed in some 20 theatres, including Berlin, Prague and Breslau. It was still in the repertoire in 1933.

As a result of Gál's international successes, he was appointed director of the Mainz Conservatoire in 1929, where he remained until 1933, when Hitler's accession to power resulted in his dismissal from office and the banning of all publication or performance of his work in Germany.

He returned to Vienna, but, as a Jew, had to flee when the Nazis annexed Austria to the Third Reich in March 1938. He and his immediate family were able to escape to Britain, but it was not until after the Second World War, during which he suffered a period of internment as an 'enemy alien', that he finally obtained a permanent position as lecturer in the Department of Music at the University of Edinburgh and acquired British nationality.



*Hans Gál, 1962*


As a 'continental Briton', he brought to his adoptive country a very direct personal link with the Austro-German tradition in which he remained so deeply rooted. He remained creatively active for most of his long life, and, in addition to his extensive output as a composer, which spans all the major genres, he was the author of books on Brahms, Schubert, Schumann, Wagner and Verdi.

As a teacher, performer, scholar and founder member of the Edinburgh International Festival, he touched countless lives, but his music remained largely unknown. It is hoped that through the work of the Hans Gál Society, his rich musical legacy will be rediscovered and will be preserved for future generations.

## Gift Aid

As a registered charity we can claim back from the Inland Revenue the tax you have paid on your subscription, meaning it will be worth almost a third more to us. Please sign the declaration below.

NB Gift Aid can only be claimed if you are a UK tax-payer.



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