# FUNERAL SERVICE TO CELEBRATE THE LIFE OF



# WILLIAM MCILVANNEY

25th November 1936 – 5th December 2015

Glasgow University Chapel Wednesday 16th December, 12.30pm Music: Lament Aly Bain

## Welcome and Introduction

Stuart McQuarrie

## **Tribute**

Frank Donnelly

# Reading

Barry Lynch

**Music:** Jubilee *Mary Chapin Carpenter* 

**Tribute** 

Robbie Gillespie

#### **Tribute**

Hugh McIlvanney

**Music:** Alexandra Leaving *Leonard Cohen* 

# **Reading & Tribute**

Siobhán McIlvanney

Because I Could Not Stop For Death by Emily Dickinson

Because I could not stop for Death –

He kindly stopped for me –

The Carriage held but just Ourselves –

And Immortality.

We slowly drove – He knew no haste
And I had put away
My labor and my leisure too,
For His Civility –

We passed the School, where Children strove At Recess – in the Ring – We passed the Fields of Gazing Grain – We passed the Setting Sun –

Or rather – He passed Us – The Dews drew quivering and Chill – For only Gossamer, my Gown – My Tippet – only Tulle –

We paused before a House that seemed A Swelling of the Ground – The Roof was scarcely visible – The Cornice – in the Ground –

Since then – 'tis Centuries – and yet Feels shorter than the Day I first surmised the Horses' Heads Were toward Eternity.

Music: Anthem Leonard Cohen

**Tribute** 

Liam McIlvanney

#### Music:

# Auld Lang Syne

Should auld acquaintance be forgot And never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot For auld lang syne?

For auld lang syne, my dear For auld lang syne We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet For auld lang syne

And surely ye'll be your pint-stowp And surely I'll be mine And we'll tak a cup o kindness yet For auld lang syne

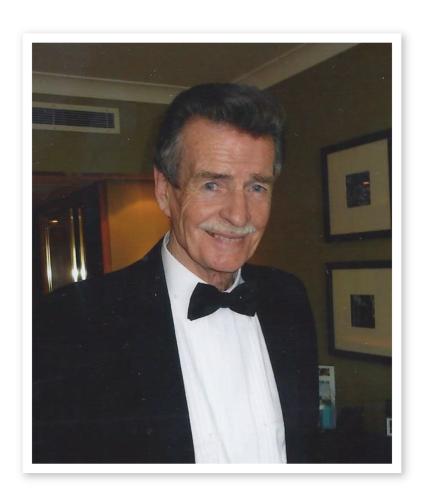
For auld lang syne, my dear For auld lang syne We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet For auld lang syne

We twa hae run aboot the braes And pu'd the gowans fine And we've wandered many a weary foot Sin' auld lang syne

> For auld lang syne, my dear For auld lang syne We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet For auld lang syne

We twa hae paidled i' the burn From mornin' sun till dine But the seas between us braid hae roared Sin' auld lang syne

> For auld lang syne, my dear For auld lang syne We'll tak' a cup o' kindness yet For auld lang syne





And so adrift in unknown selves we lie
Abandoned to dark plucks of circumstance,
Not knowing what will come or what we'll do
Or where the tides of sleep will wash us and
Shy from the sculling shapes that feed on mind,
Feel every certainty drift out of reach
And sigh and hold each other, tryst with touch
To share what is not shareable, and know
The jerking terror of time's undertow
And madly try to dream ourselves a beach.

William McIlvanney