



BRIGHDE CHAIMBEUL

Chaimbeul was born in 1998 and brought up in [Sleat](#) on the [Isle of Skye](#), and is a native [Gaelic](#) speaker.

She learned the fiddle and piano before taking up the pipes at the age of seven, having been inspired to learn the pipes after hearing [Rona Lightfoot](#) at the age of four. She received tuition from Niall Stewart, and competed successfully in solo competitions on the [Great Highland bagpipe](#) from a young age.

Along with her four siblings, she attended [St Mary's Music School](#) in [Edinburgh](#), where she received tuition from Iain Speirs.

In 2014, Chaimbeul took up the [Scottish smallpipes](#) being gifted a set of pipes by [Hamish Moore](#), and received tuition on the smallpipes from his son Fin Moore. A bursary from the [Saltire Society](#) allowed her to visit Bulgaria to study the piping tradition there, and her music has been influenced by Bulgarian, Irish, Scandinavian and Cape Breton traditions. Chaimbeul has worked extensively with [Aidan O'Rourke](#), as well as [Ross Ainslie](#), John McSherry, Paul Meehan, [Martin Green](#), [Carlos Núñez](#) and [Allan MacDonald](#).

Chaimbeul won the [BBC Radio 2 Young Folk Award](#) in 2016, and the "Horizon Award" in the 2019 [BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards](#). Her debut album *The Reeling* was recorded in 2019 in the [Cromarty East Church](#), featuring Aidan O'Rourke, Radie Peat from [Lankum](#), and [Rona Lightfoot](#). She has played at events including [Celtic Colours](#), [Celtic Connections](#), and [Piping Live](#).

Her older sisters Màiri and Steaphanaidh are [harpists](#), her father [Aonghas Phàdraig Caimbeul](#) is a writer and broadcaster, and her mother Liondsaidh Chaimbeul is a sculptor.

