

## Jocelyn Freeman

*Collaborative Pianist, Curator*

"... ever-sensitive... exemplary, whether taking the lead or in discreet support"

**Richard Wigmore, *Gramophone***

"Freeman's delicate whisper summons the tenor's aspiring dreams"

**Claire Seymour, *Opera Today***

The award-winning Welsh collaborative pianist Jocelyn Freeman is lauded for her artistry, programming and powers of communication. Artist-in-Residence at the 2025 St Davids Cathedral Festival, she is an advocate for diversity in a range of artistic endeavours and has curated extensive concert and recording projects to wide critical acclaim. Her love of the Lied genre led her to establish SongEasel in 2018, a charity for Song in South East London. As its Founder-Director she has pioneered new approaches to audience development and the wider welfare of the music ecosystem, which have gained international attention. She values her role as a mentor for early-career musicians, devising and delivering a series of collaborative and keynote talks and song masterclasses 'Song & Society', most recently in Salzburg by kind invitation of the Mozarteum University. In 2023 Jocelyn was endorsed with a prestigious Associateship from the Royal Academy of Music for her contribution to the music industry. She is a skilled communicator on the concert platform, and in broadcasts, recording and social media, and has featured in several industry and lifestyle publications.

Jocelyn's engagements have taken her to four continents including broadcasts in the UK and Germany; performances in the Wigmore Hall, the Royal Albert Hall, Oxford's Sheldonian Theatre, the Sage Gateshead; Schubert's song cycles in the Global Concert Hall (IDAGIO), and many return invitations to festivals and series in the UK such as the Three Choirs Festival and the Aldeburgh Festival. Notable collaborations feature some of the world's leading singers, such as Fleur Barron, Florian Boesch, Francesca Chiejina, James Gilchrist, Stephan Loges, Elin Manahan Thomas, Mark Padmore CBE, Bryn Terfel and Ailish Tynan. In addition she has collaborated with instrumentalists Jamal Aliyev, Leon Bosch, Abi Hyde Smith, Joseph Shiner, the Alkyona and Piatti Quartets.

Together with standard song repertoire including the major song cycles by Schubert and Schumann, Jocelyn's repertoire also champions lesser-known composers such as Marie von Kehler, Dilys Elwyn-Edwards, William Mathias, Morfydd Owen, Ethel Smyth and Rita Strohl, and contemporary composers including John Metcalfe, James MacMillan, Rodrigo Ruiz, Rhian Samuel and Judith Weir. She gives frequent premiere performances and recordings annually and has commissioned songs from Emily Hazrati and Isabella Gellis. In other genres she has performed chamber music by Beethoven, Brahms and Schubert, and concertos by Mozart, Beethoven, Grieg, Liszt, Rachmaninov and Gershwin.

In 2013, Jocelyn released her debut album *Night and Novelties* for Kissan Records, followed by *Mae Hiraeth yn y Môr* (2018) with Elin Manahan Thomas for Ty Cerdd, *Song Lied Cân*



www.jocelynfreeman.com  
jocelyn\_freeman@hotmail.com  
07791 958 309  
@PianoLieder

(2019) for the same label. More recently *Flax & Fire* (2020) with Stuart Jackson for Orchid Classics entered the Classical Charts at number six, and *The Poet's Echo* with Rubicon Classics in 2023 at number four. Press highlights include accolades from BBC Music Magazine, Gramophone Magazine, The Observer, Opera Today, Planet Hugil, Presto Classical and International Piano Magazine, including 'Editor's Choice' at Presto Classical and 'Album of the Week' at Donne | Women in Music.

Jocelyn is a prize-winning graduate of the Royal Academy of Music, recipient of the Phoebe Benham Fellowship at the Royal College of Music, Britten–Pears Young Artist Programme alumnus and beneficiary of the Viola Tunnard Young Artist Award at Britten Pears Arts. Prizes include Gold at the International Marlow Concerto Competition and 2nd Prize at the Internationalen Wettbewerb für Liedkunst from the Internationale Hugo-Wolf-Academie.

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