

Eleanor Turner Medium Biography 2017 (249 words)

Eleanor Turner is a passionate ambassador for the harp. Eleanor has been performing professionally for over eighteen years, making her London concerto debut aged just fifteen, with the Academy of St Martin in the Fields conducted by Daniel Harding and broadcast live on Classic Fm. Eleanor has performed solo at the Berlin Philharmonie, Musiekgeouw Aant Ij in Amsterdam and the Wigmore Hall in London, with concerto appearances in London, New Orleans and Sydney.

Eleanor won Second Prize in the 2011 Gaudeamus Interpreters Competition and has numerous other awards including First Prize at the European Harp Competition 2007, which kickstarted her international career. Eleanor's principal tutors were Daphne Boden and Alison Nicholls and another key influence in Eleanor's life is the American jazz harpist, composer and conductor Deborah Henson-Conant, whose music forms a centrepiece for Eleanor's 'Wild Bird' show about artistic freedom, and with whom she is greatly looking forward to working with in 2018.

As a composer, Eleanor wrote the score for Ballet Wales' 2007 production 'The Bride of Flowers' and has since written pop songs, a stage show 'Elusive Symmetry' with hip-hop dancer Lizzie Gough and guitarist-composer Alan Thomas and she regularly combines spoken word with the harp. Recent collaborations include Indian-western improvised music with tabla player Mendi Mohinder Singh and guest appearances with the band Ranagrí and pop legend Tony Christie. Eleanor is Head of Harp at Birmingham Conservatoire, where she has been working with Music Interaction Designer Balandino Di Donato on 'HarpCl', gesture-controlled electronic music.

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