

Lauren Scott – long biography

LAUREN SCOTT fell in love with the harp aged four after seeing a historic lever harp in a museum in Australia. After two years of pestering her parents she began harp lessons aged six when her family moved back to England.

Lauren studied harp at Trinity College of Music and has a busy portfolio musical career. As an established and in demand freelance player, she plays guest principal harp with many of the UK's leading orchestras and chamber groups as well as pursuing her own projects. Her harp playing has led her to performing in venues across the UK from the Royal Albert Hall to West End shows to commercial recordings to live broadcasts on radio and TV.

Over the last 20 years Lauren has worked as guest principal harp with Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra, Royal Scottish National Orchestra, Hallé Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, BBC Concert Orchestra, BBC Symphony Orchestra, City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra, Manchester Camerata, Royal Northern Sinfonia, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Britten Sinfonia, Ensemble Cymru and she is the regular harpist with the Picture House Orchestra, Northern Chamber Orchestra and Psappha Contemporary Music Group.

Lauren has recently embarked on a creative compositional journey having only started writing music in 2018. Since then she has published three volumes of music for lever harp, her music has received praise from harpists and harp societies worldwide and her music is used as set pieces on Trinity and AMEB grade syllabuses. In January 2020 she was a recipient of a PRS Foundation Women Make Music award to compose new harp music. In March 2020 her debut solo CD, Beyond the Horizon which features eight of her compositions alongside works by Peter Maxwell Davies and John Cage was released on the Avie Records label to critical acclaim. Her music has been broadcast on BBC Radio 3, Scala Radio, included on BBC Introducing & Apple Music playlists and in January 2021 she was a recipient of a 'Developing Your Creative Practice' award from Arts Council England. Lauren is currently composer-in-residence with Harps North West.

Lauren has been actively involved in the UK harp community, acting as Chairman of the United Kingdom Harp Association for 5 years. Keen to support the next generation of musicians, Lauren founded a not-for-profit organization in her home town in 2010, that with the help of volunteers hosts eight concerts per season, combining professional musicians with local young musicians whilst raising money for local charities. Along with an annual Youth Music competition, over 500 young musicians have either performed or taken part in workshops with the concert series thus far.

A lifelong passion for the lever harp has led her to composing new enjoyable and accessible music that is influenced by her diverse experiences in the music industry; from regularly performing in symphonic and chamber orchestras, to working in pop sessions and collaborating with composers in the contemporary classical sphere.

"Pre-eminently thoughtful and compelling, she draws sounds of deep soulfulness and will-o-the-wisp rustlings. Her Lever Harp sings sweetly and the recording is beautifully judged." BBC Music Magazine

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For short biography please visit www.lauren-scott-harp.co.uk/epk