

# *CV: Joanna Ward, composer*

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## *education*

### Guildhall School of Music and Drama (2019 – 2021)

Artist Masters in Composition, with distinction.

Supported by a Guildhall Scholarship, a Ralph Vaughan Williams Bursary and a Community Foundation Award.

### University of Cambridge (2016 – 2019)

BA Hons (Music), Class I.

### Other qualifications

AMusTCL with Distinction (2016)

Grade 8 Piano (ABRSM) with Distinction (2014)

Grade 8 Voice (ABRSM) with Distinction (2013)

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## *employment history*

- September 2021 – Development and Education Co-ordinator (0.8)  
NMC Recordings
- Managing the education, outreach, and resource creation at NMC Recordings.
  - Supporting fundraising work with particular focus on individual giving.
  - A wide range of creative tasks including creating newsletters and resources, working with young people in education contexts, planning events.
  - Administrative tasks including extensive use of Microsoft Excel and fluency with budgeting, management of NMC's large customer and donor database.
- June 2020 – Lead on the Decolonising Composition Reading Group at GSMD
- Researching and selecting appropriate texts (across different media).
  - Leading discussions with a decolonised and feminist pedagogical framework.
  - Working with sensitive and challenging subject matters, with a group ranging in academic background from first year undergraduates to senior staff.
- October – December 2020 Composer in Residence, Taunton Centre for Young Musicians.
- Leading composition lessons remotely for young people ages 10 to 15.
- 2017 – present Freelance Composer, Music Creator, and Producer.
- Managing my time flexibly to complete commissioned projects.
  - Editing audio and video to a professional standard.
  - Receiving a range of commissions which are personally and artistically fulfilling.
  - Successfully fundraising for my own projects, through organisations such as PRS for Music, Help Musicians UK, and Arts Council England.
  - Promoting myself and my work across different contexts and audiences.
  - Keeping my own accounts.
- 2018 – present Private teacher in Music, Composition, Music Theory.
- Including with several long term composition students whom I have helped reach a variety of individual goals.
- April 2018 – June 2019 Music Theory teacher at Stringmoves, Cambridge.
- Supervising Music Theory classes of 5-10 children ages 6 to 13.
  - Catering to individual children's needs, including SEN and children with Autism.
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## *professional development*

- 2023 Orkest de Ereprijs Young Composers Meeting 2023
- 2021-22 Junior Fellow, Guildhall School of Music and Drama

2021-22	Britten Pears Young Artist <i>year long mentoring programme culminating in a commission for the Aldeburgh Festival 2022. Mentoring from Cassandra Miller, Larry Goves, Juliet Fraser, Richard Ayres, as well as residency opportunities.</i>
2020	Psappha 'Composing For' Scheme <i>creating a work for solo cello for Jennifer Langridge</i>
2019	National Youth Choir of Great Britain Young Composers Scheme
2018 – 19	ensemble recherche 'Klassenarbeit' with the University of Cambridge
2017 – 18	Sound and Music Next Wave 2 ( <i>resulting in 'to think at the sun', written in collaboration with RNS musicians and Quinta, recorded with NMC Recordings and premiered and released in January 2018</i> )
2016	National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain Composer ( <i>including mentoring from Larry Goves, Anna Meredith and guest composers, and performances by the NYOGB Creative Hub around the UK</i> )

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## *selected commissions and prizes*

2023	Commissioned project with the Marian Consort and Britten Pears Arts, to be premiered in 2024  Commissioned project with Zeitgeist Online Gallery and choreographer Jordan Allen, to be released TBC.
2022	Selected for the Treephonia Live 2022 project to create a new commissioned work  Commission of a new work for James Creed, to be performed alongside a new realisation of Julius Eastman's 'Buddha'  Commission of a new work for voice and piano, commissioned by Natalie Birch (piano), to be recorded by Natalie and Fleur Barron and Francesca Chiejina (voice) for release on Delphian Records.
2021	Orchestral commission from the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra for their 2021-22 season, for performance at Tectonics Festival in April 2022  Commission for a new work for Zubin Kanga's Cyborg Soloists project  Commission for the newly formed Newcastle Youth Choir Project, co-creation of a work with the members, for performance in 2022 at the Newcastle Sings festival  'TEST EVER / GREEN HOUR' <i>commissioned for Donne Women in Music</i>
2020	The Garden Party ( <i>new opera commission: an adaptation of a Katherine Mansfield short story, to be developed with the Royal Opera House</i> ), supported by the PRS Foundation's open fund  'Christus factus est' <i>commissioned by the Gesualdo Six for the Aldeburgh Festival and their new disc of contemporary music, to be released on Signum Records.</i>
2019	'She is more precious than rubies' <i>commissioned for the Choirs of Jesus College Cambridge to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the admission of women students to the college</i>  'more daffodils' <i>graphic score for Ensemble Entropy (premiered at Café OTO in April 2019)</i>
2018	'in connection with' <i>for violin, cello and theorbo, for Listenpony's 2018 tour of the UK</i>  'Der du bist drei in Einigkeit' <i>for the Orgelbüchlein Project</i>
2017	'the banquet' for the Choir of St John's College, Cambridge

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## *recent performances / creative projects*

28 April 2023	<i>from the trees and from my friends (bean piece 3)</i> performed by the Goldfinch Ensemble and Rothko Collective at St Gabriel's, Pimlico
December 2022	SUMMER DRESSES/STRANGER-FRIENDS recording session for new work for piano and two voices, to be released on Delphian Records in 2023.
18 June 2022	MY FAVOURITE WALK new work for youth choir and fixed audio track, performed by Newcastle Youth Choir Project in King's Hall, Newcastle University

June 2022	<i>IN SUFFOLK, WORKING / PLAYING</i> 86 minute audiovisual documentary project, running throughout the Aldeburgh Festival 2022
May 2022	<i>Musarc: The End of the World Service</i> performing new pieces by Neil Luck, Saar Rodrigues and others, with experimental vocal collective Musarc in Taranto, Italy
22 May 2022	<i>LIVING ON ICE CREAM AND CHOCOLATE KISSES</i> performed by EXAUDI vocal ensemble at the Norwich and Norfolk Festival 2022
April 2022	<i>from the trees and from my friends (bean piece 3)</i> performed by the BBCSSO at Tectonics Festival 2022, conducted by Ilan Volkov
March 2022	<i>FULL AND HOLLOW (bean piece 4)</i> for Zubin Kanga with specially commissioned inside piano machine, premiered at Royal Holloway and subsequently performed at City University
March 2022	<i>Christus factus est</i> released on the Gesualdo Six's album <i>Tenebrae responsories</i> , on Hyperion Records.
22 February 2022	<i>TRANSLUCENT</i> for solo cello (with singing), performed by Jennifer Langridge at Kettle's Yard, Cambridge, as part of the New Music Series curated by Tom McKinney
11 February 2022	<i>THAW</i> for mezzo-soprano and piano, premiered by Lotte Betts-Dean and Joseph Havlat, St Mary-at-Hill.
06 December 2021	<i>New Music Society presents: Alternative Lessons and Carols 2021</i> co-produced an evening of new text scores at Pembroke House, London, featuring my text score, <i>I love this song!</i>

## publications

Redefining Compositional Practices Under Contemporary Capitalism (Casting Light #5). *I CARE IF YOU LISTEN*, 29/10/21.  
Decentring and dismantling: a critical and radical approach to diversity in tertiary music education. *Tempo* 74, no. 294 (2020): 65-76.

## selected awards and grants

2020	PRS Foundation's Open Fund <i>for The Garden Party</i> The Lord Mayor's Prize for Composition Guildhall Scholarship <i>for Masters study</i> Help Musicians UK Transmission Fund <i>for attending the Darmstadt International Festival 2020</i>
2019	Ralph Vaughan Williams Bursary <i>for Masters study</i> Guildhall Scholarship <i>for Masters study</i> Community Foundation (North East) Grant <i>for Masters study</i> Outstanding Student Contribution to Education Award, Cambridge University <i>Highly Commended in the category of Inclusive Practice</i> Scholarship, Jesus College Cambridge <i>for academic achievement</i> Renfrew Prize <i>for most significant contribution to the musical life of Jesus College</i>
2016	Winner of the Gesualdo 6 Composing Competition with the piece 'For a Number of Coins'

## references

Dr Amber Priestley — [amber.priestley@gsm.d.ac.uk](mailto:amber.priestley@gsm.d.ac.uk); other references available on request.