



Wednesday 5th February 2025 at 6 pm
O'Reilly Theatre
Keble College, University of Oxford



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



Works of Mystery and Imagination

Sandra Porter, mezzo-soprano
John Rogers, violin & viola
Emilie Capulet, piano

Mélo­dies

Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924)

Le Papillon et la Fleur, Op.1 No.1
Les Roses d'Ispahan, Op. 39, No. 4
Mandoline (from Cinq mélodies 'de Venise'), Op. 58, No. 1

Trois Chansons

Arthur Honegger (1892-1955)

Chanson des Sirènes
Berceuse de la Sirène
Chanson de la Poire

Violin Sonata

Claude Debussy (1862-1918)

Allegro vivo
Intermède. Fantasque et léger
Finale. Très animé

Quatre Poèmes

Charles-Martin Loeffler (1861-1935)

1. La Cloche Félée
2. Dansons la gigue!

Elégie

Jules Massenet (1842-1912)

Sandra Porter, mezzo-soprano

An enchanting evening of French song...infinite subtle artistry" (*The Glasgow Herald*)

Born in Edinburgh, Sandra Porter studied at the Royal College of Music, London, where she was awarded several prestigious scholarships and awards. Subsequently, she completed her studies with Dame Felicity Palmer.

Continually exploring new and varied repertoire, she released an acclaimed album, *Clara* in 2021 with pianist Graeme McNaught. The CD includes the premiere recording of Sally Beamish's *Clara*, which Sandra commissioned and first broadcast in 1995, alongside lieder by Clara and Robert Schumann. It has been described in the press as "beautifully modulated" (BBC Music Magazine) and "something unique. Porter's soprano-like timbre is bright and pointed, with a sympathetic vibrato. Her unaffected delivery conveys genuine emotion..." (American Record Guide).

Sandra makes regular appearances on BBC Radio 3 and has given first performances of works by James MacMillan and songs by Barber, Thomas Wilson, Satie, Liszt, Bartok and French song. She has sung with the Chamber Group of Scotland, Sentieri Selvaggi, the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, the Telemann Ensemble and the International Baroque Players. In opera, Sandra has performed at the Aldeburgh Festival, Buxton Festival, English National Opera, Opera Holland Park, Iford Opera, English Touring Opera, and in Ireland at the Everyman Theatre and Cork Opera House. Roles include Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*), Bianca (*The Rape of Lucretia*), Cherubino (*Le Nozze di Figaro*), Rosina (*Il Barbiere di Siviglia*), Cenerentola (*Cenerentola*), Carmen (*Carmen*), Marcellina (premiere of Giles Swayne's *Le Nozze di Cherubino*), Queen Vaan (*Columba* by Kenneth Leighton), Maddalena (*Rigoletto*), Mercedes (*Carmen*) and Suzuki (*Madame Butterfly*). From St John's Smith Square to Perth Concert Hall and Auditorium di Milano to the Beijing Concert Hall, she has enjoyed performing an extensive range of chamber music repertoire both old and new.

Sandra has taught at the Royal Scottish Conservatoire of Music and Drama. In addition to performing, she currently teaches singing privately, adjudicates at competitive festivals and is a vocal teacher at the London College of Music.

<http://www.sandraportermezzo.co.uk>

John Rogers, violin and viola

The son of two of New Zealand's leading chamber musicians, John Rogers (violin and viola) has been immersed in chamber music throughout his career. Through scholarships to the Royal College of Music and the University of Michigan he received coaching and masterclasses with members of the Chilingirian, Juilliard, Allegri, Aeolian, Camerata, Orion, Rasumovsky and Endellion quartets and the Bach Aria Group, New York, plus classes with Martin Katz, Manoug Parikian, Kim Kashkashian, Steven Isserlis, Yo Yo Ma, and Yuri Bashmet.

He has performed, coached and recorded chamber music in NZ, the US and Hong Kong, where he was Principal Viola in the HK Philharmonic, as well as the in UK. After working with the Philharmonia, BBC orchestras, the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra with Simon Rattle and others he has performed for over 20 years with English Touring Opera and now directs the LCM String Ensemble. As a physics graduate he lectured at the University of Hawaii and continues to find application of the study of musical acoustics.

Emilie Capulet, piano

Emilie Capulet is an award-winning international concert pianist, lecturer and musicologist. Described by Anne Grateaux Geli in *Utmisol* magazine as having a "heightened musical sensitivity, total emotion, a magical touch at once sensual, vigorous and varied", she is invited to perform in international music festivals and concert halls in Europe, the USA, Canada, Latin America and Asia, and regularly gives concerts and lecture-recitals on luxury cruise liners and musical cruises on the Seine, the Danube, the Rhône and the Rhine. Emilie has an MMus in piano performance from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, an MA on Shakespeare and a PhD on music in the works of Virginia Woolf.

Emilie has recorded works by Beethoven and Chopin with BMP, the chamber music and solo piano works by contemporary composer Richard Lambert on the Quartz label and a double album featuring the first recording of the complete solo piano music of the Corsican-French composer Henri Tomasi (1901-1971) on the Calliope label which has received great critical acclaim. She has been broadcast on BBC Radio 3, Radio Canada, France Musique, Radio Télévision Suisse, Bayern Klassik, and Nicaraguan television and radio and has appeared live on Sky News as their classical music expert. While touring Latin America, she received the ExpressArte award for her contribution to Nicaraguan culture, art and education.

Emilie is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy and is the BMus (Hons) Programme Leader at Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music and Dance, located in the Old Royal Naval College in Greenwich. She has previously been Head of Classical Performance Studies, BMus (Hons) Performance and MMus Performance Course Leader at the London College of Music, University of West London and lecturer in the Department of Music at the University of Surrey. She is currently the recipient of a prestigious Leverhulme Research Fellowship to write the first critical study and biography of Henri Tomasi and has been appointed Visiting Fellow at Keble College, University of Oxford, until September 2025.

www.emiliecapulet.com