



## Melanie Spanswick

Born in the UK, Melanie Spanswick's reputation as a classical pianist, teacher, and writer has proffered a diverse career.

A graduate of the Royal College of Music in London, Melanie studied the piano with Patricia Carroll, Tatiana Sarkissova and John Lill. Whilst at the RCM, she won many prizes including the Ziff prize for the most outstanding postgraduate pianist, Arthur Bliss Prize, Marguerite Long Chamber Music Prize, a Leverhulme Trust Award, and graduated with a Master's degree in Performance Studies.

Melanie has performed as a soloist, chamber musician, and accompanist at most of the major UK concert halls, and for countless music societies, university concert series', and festivals (Windsor, Cheltenham, Brighton, Southwark, Prussia Cove).

International performances include appearances in Canada, USA, Bermuda, Germany, Spain, Gibraltar, Russia (including a performance at Tchaikovsky's house in Klin), Holland, Denmark, and Sweden. She gave a recital series at The Great Romantics Festival in Hamilton, and has performed at the Guelph Festival, also in Canada. Performing for the Queen Mother and Queen of Denmark are particular highlights.

Recordings comprise a solo album for *Opera Omnia* (recorded at Wigmore Hall) as well as broadcasts on Classic FM (Platform live broadcasts), BBC Radio 2, CBC Radio, Swedish and Spanish Television.

She enjoys writing about practising and learning to play the piano; her first publication, *So You Want To Play The Piano?* (Alfred) has recently been revised and republished, and has received much critical acclaim. A new *Faber Piano Anthology* (Faber) was published in October 2016; compiled by Melanie, it consists of a collection of 78 favourite works.

The most recent publication, *Play it Again: Piano* (published by Schott Music), is a two book series, featuring a collection of graded pieces from elementary to advanced, intended for all those returning to the piano after a break; each piece is accompanied by copious practice tips and suggestions, including exercises and technical help.

Melanie writes a column for *Pianist* magazine, and has written articles for many publications and websites including *The Stage*, *Piano Professional*, *Music Teacher Magazine*, *International Piano Magazine*, *Clavier Companion*, *Sinfini Music*, *Rhinegold Publications*, *Pianoforte* (published by Faber) and the *Daily Telegraph*.

A committed teacher, she regularly tutors workshops in Germany, running a bilingual piano project near Düsseldorf, and has given master classes for *EPTA (European Piano Teachers Association)*, the *Overseas Masters Winter Piano Academy* held at the Yehudi Menuhin School, and is a tutor at Jackdaws Music Education Trust in Somerset.

Melanie has examined for the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music, she adjudicates nationally and internationally for the British and International Federation of Festivals, and is an external moderator at Royal Holloway University (London).

She recently adjudicated and gave master classes at the 2016 Chicago Amateur Piano Competition, and at the 66<sup>th</sup> Hong Kong Schools Association Music Festival, and in 2017 she will be adjudicating, as well as giving master classes and workshops, in Singapore and Malaysia.

In addition, her educational piano compositions are published by EVC Music Publications Ltd, and have been featured in several publications (including *Pianist* magazine and the *International Piano Magazine*), and they will be included in various British and International Federation of Festivals syllabuses from 2017. Melanie has curated and presented an interview series, *Classical Conversations*, speaking on camera to some of the world's finest pianists.