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# ISABEL WILLIAMSON – CV

Exceptionally versatile and creative cellist with a dual specialism in contemporary/session strings and Baroque 'cello.

[www.isabelwilliamsonmusic.com](http://www.isabelwilliamsonmusic.com)

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## HISTORICALLY INFORMED PERFORMANCE:

- Ensemble Laus Deo – principal cellist (Baroque and modern) - from 2023
- University of St Andrews Summer Baroque course - 2025
- Dartington Internation Summer School Advanced Baroque Orchestra course – 2017
- Leeds Baroque – 2017
- Experienced continuo player, including numerous performances of Handel and Purcell operas and oratorios
- Extensive pursuit of Baroque chamber music during studies at the University of Manchester and RNCM, including as soloist in Vivaldi's Concerto for Two Cellos
- Studies with Claire and Amanda Babington, Susan Sheppard, Roger Hamilton, Richard Tunicliffe, Tim Smedley and Rachel Gray

## ORCHESTRAL:

- London Concertante – including as principal cellist – from 2024
- Michael Haydn Orchestra – principal cellist - 2019-20
- Darwin Ensemble Chamber Orchestra – 2019
- Assisting as guest player with various amateur and youth orchestras such as Liverpool Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Oldham Symphony Orchestra
- Rigorous orchestral training during studies at RNCM and University of Manchester, including schemes with Academy of Ancient Music and Academy of St-Martin-in-the-Fields

## CONTEMPORARY:

- Permanent member of The ELO Experience – from 2025
- Multiple international tours with BenBen – from 2024
- Multiple UK tours with Persian artists including Alireza Goorbani – from 2022
- Member of alternative bands Bonfire Tide and Scatterchild – from 2020
- Creating and releasing original cinematic folk music as St Cloud -from 2025
- 5 month international tours with folk-rock band The Wishing Well – 2016
- Performs on tin whistle, keyboards and vocals in addition to cello

## SESSION AND ARRANGEMENT:

- Highly experienced and sought-after session cellist in a wide variety of genres
- Accomplished composer of orchestral and string arrangements for live and studio use
- Experience working with a wide variety of producers and studios, including in Grammy Award winning Studio G in New York
- [Credits playlist here](#)

## SOLO AND CHAMBER MUSIC:

- Member of the Ryebank Trio, winner of "Best Small Ensemble" award at the Buxton Festival Fringe; produced a CD of Brahms and Beethoven trios - 2017-21
- Frequent recitals with longstanding duo partner Jonathan Ellis
- Soloist in Elgar Cello Concerto with the University of Manchester Symphony Orchestra - 2015

## EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

2015-2017 Royal Northern College of Music

- MMus with distinction
- Studied cello with Sally Pendlebury

2012-2015 University of Manchester

- BMus, 1<sup>st</sup> Class Hons
- Studied cello with Simon Turner
- Recipient of the Proctor Gregg Recital Prize

2010-2012 Peter Symonds College

- Distinctions in ABRSM Grade 8 'cello and piano
- A levels in Music (A\*), Extended Project (A\*), History (A) and Maths (A)
- 1<sup>st</sup> place in Peter Symonds Young Musician of the Year competition
- Awarded the Simon Clarkson Memorial Bursary and the College Prize for Music