

Beverley Davison Biography

"One of the most outrageously gifted musicians and inspirators this country has ever produced ..."

Sir Simon Rattle

Virtuoso violinist Beverley Davison is founder and Artistic Director of 'Classical Cabaret', a ground breaking artistic concept in which she performs as soloist with either her virtuoso ensemble 'Hot Strings' or with piano (keyboard) as part of the 'Classical Cabaret Duo'. Beverley makes frequent appearances on BBC Radio and performs at concert venues and theatres nationally and internationally. Her latest 'Classical Cabaret' CD features regularly on Classic FM.

Her exceptional talent was recognised early when, aged 10, she was awarded a place at the Yehudi Menuhin School for outstanding young musicians where she participated in violin master classes with Lord Menuhin and composition workshops with Nadia Boulanger. Menuhin described her as "a much loved, excellently gifted musician". Further success followed with the award of two double first scholarships on violin and viola to the Royal College and Royal Academy of Music.

At twenty-one Beverley was invited to guest lead the London Sinfonietta and became a member of the 'Fires of London', one of the world's foremost contemporary music ensembles directed by the composer Sir Peter Maxwell Davies who said she is "one of the most naturally and superbly gifted musicians it has been my privilege to work with". It was during this time she worked with the renowned ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev in performances of Schoenberg's *Pierrot Lunaire*.

Beverley made her Royal Festival Hall debut playing the Nielson Violin Concerto, which she subsequently recorded on the 'Cameo Label'. Amongst her other acclaimed recordings is a live performance of Mozart's D major Violin Concerto recorded at the Queen Elizabeth Hall, London by Capital Radio. In addition to her popular "Classical Cabaret" CD Beverley has also completed a second classical crossover album where she explores a more contemporary style of performance and repertoire including her own compositions.

Beverley has toured internationally as both soloist and chamber artiste and has guest led the Bolshoi, Rambert, Birmingham Royal, English National and Harlem ballet orchestras, the Michael Nyman Band and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group. Sir Simon Rattle offered Beverley the prestigious appointment of Co-leader of the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra. Eager to break away from the traditional formality of classical concerts she declined the position in order to follow her career as soloist with her own innovative group "Classical Cabaret".

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