

Cressida Nash - Biography



A unique combination of education, training and life opportunities have enabled Cressida to develop a wide range of musical skills including, performance, composition, music therapy, teaching and community work.

Cressida studied music at St Anne's College, Oxford, and went on to train as a music therapist (Nordoff/Robbins Centre London & City University). She was subsequently employed by NHS and Capability Scotland to work in hospitals and special schools in Lothian, setting up and running two new music therapy departments, working with children and adults of all ages, and lecturing and leading workshops across the region.

As MD for *Lung Ha Theatre Company* for people with a learning disability, she composed and directed the music for *The Odyssey* (filmed and broadcast by BBC Scotland - Edinburgh 1986)

While bringing up a young family and living in South London, she returned to her cello studies gaining diplomas in teaching (LGSM) and performance (Trinity College of Music, London), since when she has given countless concerts and solo recitals in the UK and abroad. As continuo player for the *Beaumont Singers and Orchestra* she has performed with Gareth Malone (*St John Passion, St Matthew Passion, The Creation*), and with pianist Jacquelyn Bevan gave a performance of Moscheles and Mendelssohn Sonatas, in the *Leipzig Mendelssohn Haus (Gwandhaus Mendelsson & England Festival, 2011)*. Cressida has given recitals at the National Centre for Performing Arts, Mumbai (2001) and venues in Greece, South Africa, France, The Netherlands and across the UK.

Cressida is currently working as cellist with *Kertész Quartet* and *Ensemble Burletta*. With these groups she has recorded 4 CDs for Toccata Classics. She has recently been commissioned by *Ensemble Burletta* to arrange works for their next project: *Diaspora - music for clarinet and strings by Composers of Jewish Origin*, to be recorded/ released next year.

Cressida, with her husband John Clarke, moved to Chippenham in 2015 and is delighted to be invited by Chippenham Museum as musician in residence for this year's *Fringe February*, where she has been exploring the Don Little collection alongside the exquisite exhibition by Bath Textile Artists, "Loose Threads".