

Eve Loiseau – Soprano

Eve trained in Bel Canto with eminent Soprano Margaret Bennett, LRAM. She had her debut at the Royal Festival Hall in Feb 2002 where she performed with the celebrated Tippett quartet world premiere works by Gilbert Biberian and P.M.Wyer for the Japanese Festival of Light. Since



then Evelyne has performed in the UK, New York, France and the Caribbean, featuring also on several broadcasts and recordings including *Insomnia Poems* for Radio 3; *Stories from the City at Night* for Thirsty Ear Records/ P.M.Wyer; *Sounds of Singing* for Nelson Thornes, *Cotswold Songs* with pianist Colin Decio, and the BBC production *The Roman Mysteries*.

Eve's bright and lustrous soprano voice has been compared to Britain's Emma Kirkby and France's Mado Robin. Her extensive repertoire ranges from Baroque to Contemporary music and with Scottish/French parentage she has had a natural empathy with French Chanson specialising in songs by Fauré, Debussy and Poulenc. Eve performed for many years with the acclaimed baroque ensemble Duo Dolcetini bringing to life soprano duets by Purcell, Cherubini, Monteverdi and Handel, performed in period costume.

She has appeared as guest soloist of New Omega Players and GBIMC International Guitar

Festival performing new Spanish songs by Luis Morales, and with arrangements of Villa Lobos, De Falla, Gerhard canciones and vocal works for ten guitars. Oratorio work has included Mozart Mass in Cm, Fauré Requiem, Vivaldi Gloria 588/589 for various Choral societies.

Over the last 8 years Eve has been touring with PIAF-the Songs her highly acclaimed tribute to French singer Edith Piaf; piafthesongs.com. Passion for Piaf developed at a young age around the table in south East France where long summer, family meals ended with rousing choruses of French popular chansons. Eve is currently singing with Periscope Ensemble – Jazz circus which brings together music and the arts in semi-improvised conversations.

Previous theatre credits include, *Closer than ever*; *The Hired Man & Large as Life* for Focus Theatre; *Sandra in Beautiful Thing* for Hillyer Productions; *Felicia in Witches of Eastwick* for Blue Parrot Productions; *QU Theatre Company*; *Not Quite Quintet* cabaret, and *Opera in Cameo*.

Wendy Nieper – Soprano

Wendy has been interviewed on BBC Radio 4's Women's Hour & Radio 3's In-Tune, she released two solo albums one classical and the other in jazz! Her jazz album "First Flight", signed to First Hand Records, received a sold out performance in London's famous Pizza Express Jazz Club.

As a **classical soprano** Wendy has appeared with over 30 leading orchestras, including the Berlin Philharmonic, Tonhalle Orchestra, the Tokyo and American Symphony Orchestras, the London Sinfonietta and the Gothenburg Symphony Orchestra, a performance recorded for Deutsche Gramophone described by the Telegraph as an "Exceptionally fine release." She's performed mostly contemporary operas including the world premier of Stockhausen's "Mittwoch aus Licht", Berio's Outis, Azio Corghi's Tat'yana and Britten's Peter Grimes with the LPO in China & the UK. She's also worked for the Royal National Theatre.

She is a regular concert soloist around the UK and as well as recitals has performed most of the oratorio repertoire including: Mozart Mass in C minor, Exsultate Jubilate & Requiem, Mendelssohn Elijah, Poulenc Gloria, Haydn Nelson Mass, Handel Messiah, Vivaldi Gloria, Rutter Magnificat, Beethoven Mass in C, Bach St Matthew's Passion, Magnificat in D & the Christmas Oratorio & Faure's Requiem.

Wendy lectures at the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire.

As a **jazz singer** Wendy has sung with many of the country's leading jazz musicians including Digby Fairweather and Denys Baptiste, at the Southend International Jazz festival with Dame Cleo Laine, for the British Jazz Foundation in Harlow, the Jazz Cafe in London and the Stables in Wavendon. As a solo artist she has toured in Italy, Austria & the UK, including a performance at Florence's beautiful Theatre Del Sale.

Previously she spent five years world touring with a cappella group The Swingle Singers, with whom she recorded five albums and sang at La Scala, Milan and Chatelet, Paris.

She was vocal coach to Michael Caine on his film 'Is Anybody There?' and has featured vocals on the last 3 "Total Greek Yoghurt" adverts playing a singing cow! Her very extensive studio work includes recording for Bryn Terfel, Paul McCartney, Robin Gibbs, film soundtracks including Star Wars III, Lord of the Rings, and Harry Potter & the Hobbit and many more.

www.wendynieper.com



Martin Bills - Biography

Martin is an award-winning songwriter and composer born in the north west of England. His approach blends classical, jazz and popular styles with a focus on craftsmanship and rich luminescent voicings.

His current vocal project synthesises the aesthetics of the great American songbook with the modality and finesse of the English art song tradition.

Martin graduated with first class honours and went on to gain a Master of Arts degree in composition and conducting, receiving guidance from Dr Jeremy Cox, Professor David King, Professor Richard Steinitz, Dr Margaret Lucy Wilkins, conductor George Hurst and classical guitarist Neil Smith.

Martin has lectured in composition and analysis at various departments in the United Kingdom, including Leeds College of Music, Truro College and the University of Falmouth. For nine years he was a module leader on the innovative Contemporary World Jazz Degree based in Cornwall.

He has presented lectures and workshops on Erno Lendvia's Axis System at several music seminars, including the *Leeds International Jazz Education Conference* and continues to explore creative pedagogical methods to teach theory without stylistic boundaries. Martin currently teaches composition in China at the Shanghai United International School.

Martin's music has been performed and recorded throughout world. He has worked with film and theatre directors, won awards for his original scores and received the Handel Protheroe Memorial Trophy for his artistic portfolio. His publisher is Doberman Yppan, Canada.

