

LAURA VAN DER HEIJDEN

Cello



“A superstar cellist comes out of the shadows” The Times, March 2022

Admired for her captivating sonority and creative programming, Laura van der Heijden is renowned for her exceptional talent and musicianship as both a soloist and chamber musician.

Her 23/24 season sees the completion of her year as 'Artist in Focus' at King's Place, London, concerto projects with the CBSO (Haydn D), London Philharmonic Orchestra as well as US touring with Kaleidoscope Collective, chamber projects in Bern with Hyeyoon Park, Arnhem with the Redon Quartet, Lammermuir and Dartington Festivals. Recitals with her long-standing pianist Jâms Coleman include at St George's Bristol and at the Cello Biennale, Amsterdam.

Recent highlights include touring with the Brno Philharmonic (Martinů), BBC Symphony at the Barbican as part of the George Walker 'Total Immersion' project conducted by Alpesh Chauhan, Aurora Orchestra, Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Britten Sinfonia, BBC Scottish with the World Premiere of a new work by Cheryl Frances-Hoad entitled 'Earth, Sea, Air'. She also gave solo and chamber recitals at the 2023 BBC Proms, Concertgebouw Amsterdam, Wigmore Hall including alongside Hilary Hahn and Kaleidoscope Collective, Cheltenham Music Festival, Bad Kissingen Summer Festival.

Other performances include concerts with leading orchestras such as Yomiuri Nippon Symphony Orchestra, Philharmonia Orchestra, BBC Scottish Symphony and BBC National Orchestra of Wales, the Royal and BBC Philharmonic Orchestras, as well as the Academy of St Martin in the Fields, European Union Chamber and English Chamber Orchestras, New Zealand Symphony, BBC Concert Orchestra at the 2018 BBC Proms, and with Melbourne Symphony Orchestra in the opening concert of the inaugural BBC Proms Australia. She has performed at venues including the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow, Amsterdam's Het Concertgebouw, Opernhaus Zürich, Wigmore Hall, LSO St Luke's, Leeds Town Hall, Usher Hall Edinburgh, Tokyo Metropolitan Theatre, Smetana Hall Prague, Snape Maltings, Saffron Hall, Kings Place and St George's Bristol. She has made numerous appearances on BBC Radio 3 In Tune, and has worked with such distinguished musicians as Sir Andrew Davis, Karl-Heinz Steffens, Kirill Karabits, Ryan Wigglesworth, Huw Watkins, Krzysztof Chorzelski, the Redon Quartet and the Brodsky Quartet.

Her first album on Chandos Records, "Pohádka" features works by Janacek and Dvorak and was released in 2022 to critical acclaim with further releases including Mozart Piano Quartets with chamber partners Francesca DeGo, Timothy Ridout and Federico Colli and 'Transfigured' with Kaleidoscope in 2023. Laura was the winner of the BBC Young Musician competition aged 15. Her 2018 debut album 1948 won the 2018 Edison Klassiek Award and the 2019 BBC Music Magazine Newcomer of the Year Award. The disc, featuring Russian music for cello and piano with pianist Petr Limonov, has been hailed as a "a thought-provoking debut disc from an impressive and intelligent young cellist" (Gramophone).

Also a passionate chamber musician, Laura is a key member of the member of the critically-acclaimed Kaleidoscope Collective, who perform a wide variety of captivating repertoire across the UK and beyond. She also regularly collaborates with the likes of Jâms Coleman, Timothy Ridout, Katya Apekisheva and Max Baillie, and has given recitals at the Wigmore Hall, West Cork and Beverley Chamber Music Festivals, Harrogate International Festival, the Cheltenham Festival, Music In The Round, Oxford's Holywell Music Room and at the Oxford Lieder Festival. In Summer 2023 she will also perform in the Miesbach Festival, Germany.

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Laura is a graduate of St John's College, Cambridge and currently studying for a Masters with Antje Weithaas at the Hans Eisler in Berlin. She plays a late 17th-century cello by Francesco Ruggieri of Cremona, on generous loan from a private collection.

This biography is valid for use until June 2024. We update our biographies regularly and ask that they are not altered without permission. For updated versions, please e-mail Andrea McDermott am@jamesbrownmanagement.com

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