

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

KATHRYN WHITNEY

mezzo-soprano

Kathryn Whitney took her early training at the Victoria Conservatory of Music in Canada, going on to further study at the University of Toronto (BA), the University of Oxford (MPhil & DPhil) and the Guildhall School of Music and Drama in London (PGDipPerf). Upon finishing her Guildhall diploma in 2001, she was elected to the prestigious Creative Arts Fellowship in Music at Wolfson College, Oxford (2002-2005), a position that made her artist in residence in Oxford, supporting her further professional development for a period of three years. Kathryn studied singing with Cornelius Reid (New York) and Emma Kirkby (London) before beginning work with her principal teacher, Susan McCulloch (London). She has also sung in masterclasses for a many musical luminaries, including Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Rudolf Jansen, Elly Ameling, Stuart Hamilton, Timothy Vernon, Peter Barcza, Lillian Watson and Laura Sarti.

Kathryn Whitney is the recipient of a number of scholarships and awards in addition to the Wolfson fellowship, including those from the Worshipful Company of Drapers of London, the University of Oxford Faculty of Music, Somerville College and Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, the Canada Council for the Arts, the Arts Council of England, the RVW Trust, the PRS Foundation and the Mountainview International Festival of Song and Chamber Music. An experienced soloist and touring artist, she has appeared with numerous ensembles and opera companies in Canada and England, performing three international solo recital tours in the past three years. A champion of new music, she has given over 15 world and national premières, the majority of them works composed expressly for her voice. Kathryn Whitney has taught music at Oxford, Cambridge, the Royal Academy of Music and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. She released her first solo recital disk in 2004 and has been heard on a number of occasions on CBC radio, including most recently an extended feature interview with presenter Sheryl McKay.