

Pianist Libby Burgess is known for her 'warm, sensitive pianism' (The Observer), her musical intelligence, and her generosity of collaborative spirit, taking inspiration from the breadth of outstanding musicians with whom she works. Libby's exceptionally wide repertoire radiates outwards in both directions from her core love of nineteenth century Lieder and chamber repertoire; she has a passion for Bach, and regularly collaborates with living composers.

The creative highlight of Libby's year is the annual New Paths festival, which she and her partner Roland Deller founded in Beverley, East Riding of Yorkshire. As Artistic Director she has quickly been recognised for the striking, enticing tone of her programming, reflecting her own twin interests of song and chamber music, and she relishes this opportunity to gather the musicians she most values in one place for an intense few days of concerts, pop-up performances and community events. In this context she is normally to be found giving some dozen performances in four days, ranging from the complete Schubert song cycles in 2019 (partnering Jonathan Lemalu, Nicholas Mulroy and Marcus Farnsworth), and annual commissions from living composers, to performances for pre-schoolers.

As a result of the impact of these festivals, New Paths was additionally asked to take on the management of the long-running Beverley Chamber Music Festival each autumn, of which Libby and international pianist Martin Roscoe are now Co-Artistic Directors. They have played together in duet several times; Libby's other BCMF collaborators include the Brodsky Quartet, cellist Laura van der Heijden, and mezzo-soprano Kitty Whately.

In between these festivals, she is to be found on recital stages across the country, prestigious or obscure; she is also an experienced recording artist, with eight discs as duo partner and chamber musician to her name, performs on BBC Radio 3, and makes studio recordings with the BBC Singers. Although primarily motivated by musical collaboration, Libby enjoys solo performance: recent highlights include Shostakovich's First Concerto and a solo recital for Britten Sinfonia, and she is currently developing a major project based around Bach's Well-Tempered Clavier.

The seed of Libby's love for working with voices was sown in her role as organ scholar at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford – where she read music – and has blossomed in the intervening fifteen years at the piano, beginning with her postgraduate studies at the Royal Academy of Music. Whilst now primarily a recital artist, Libby continues to be highly regarded as a chorusmaster, vocal coach, chamber music tutor, writer, adjudicator, and leader of masterclasses. She was Head of Keyboard at Eton College until 2016, carries out education work for Aldeburgh Young Musicians, and leads regular workshops for Steinway Hall giving opportunities to children from inner-city schools.