

Gallery4allarts - 'WINGS OF LOVE' - ABOUT THE PERFORMERS



Barry Gerald Webb was born in Oxford and then studied theology and philosophy at **Corpus Christi College Cambridge**. He then studied to be an opera singer at the **Royal Northern College of Music** and at the **Royal Conservatoire of Scotland**. He has sung for the **Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, the Bayreuth Festival, La Scala Milan, the Edinburgh Festival, Buxton Festival, Garsington Opera, Pimlico Opera, Dublin Grand Opera Society and Scottish Opera**. He has sung with the **London Voices** (recordings include Lord of the Rings and Star Wars) and the **BBC Singers**. He is Musical Director of the **St Cecelia Singers** in Chester and **Roundelay Choir** in Southport. He also teaches singing (www.singingexpert.co.uk) throughout Merseyside and as a conductor he conducted **Pergolesi's Stabat Mater** in Liverpool in 2020. He has produced operas and concerts through his companies **Co-Opera** (Eugene Onegin), **Bloomsbury Opera** (Magic Flute) and **Klaster Studios** (concerts in the Czech Republic). His cello sonata was performed in Liverpool in November 2021. As a composer he conducted his opera **Nepomuk** in 2018 funded by the **Arts Council of England** as part of a cultural exchange between the Czech Republic and Liverpool (www.projectnepomuk.com). This led to recent solo recitals at the **Frantiskovy Lazne Literary Festival and Theatre Alfa** in Plzen and on Czech radio. His present company **Aquawebb Ltd** founded in 2020 explores the health benefits of music and water to us and the environment. The aromatherapy based wellness products made from the water of his monastery house in **Nepomuk** in the Czech Republic (www.innerwater.com), with its unique connection to **St John of Nepomuk**, will help finance future climate aware music projects (www.the-aqua-project.com, www.patreon.com/theaquaproject).

ROBERT WOODS was born in Craigavon, Northern Ireland, in 1986. His interest in music began when he started his secondary education at the Royal School Armagh, where initially he studied trumpet. At the age of 11 he joined St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir, and commenced study piano, organ and voice with Canon Martin White. A few years later Robert was appointed organ scholar of **Armagh Cathedral**, and Vicar Choral. During this time he joined the **Charles Wood Singers** under direction from David Hill, and gained a place in the **Ulster Youth Choir**, singing for the **Last Night of the Proms** in Belfast. After leaving school, Robert studied Biochemistry and Music at Keele University, where he accompanied all of the music societies, including the Keele Bach Choir and the **Keele Philharmonic Society**. In 2007 he decided to study Music and Politics at **Liverpool Hope University**, where he was a joint **Choral and Organ Scholar**. In 2008 Robert accompanied 27 universities choirs in a joint performance in **Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral**; in 2010 he was selected to play as a soloist with **Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra** for the opening concert of the universities new **Capstone Building**. Since then, Robert became accompanist for many local choral societies and is currently accompanist of **Frodsham and District Choral Society**. Until the pandemic he was also conductor of an cappella group called "**Mostly Madrigals**", with whom he was a collaborative composer with the National Trusts art installation "**Blue Bell**" at **Speke Hall**. He currently is **Director of Music of St Josephs Church, Blundellsands**, a Vocal Trainer with **Liverpool Welsh Choral Union** and the **Pennine Spring Music Festival** under Keith Orrell and has primarily moved from Freelance musician to the civil service!

NICOLE BARTOS, primarily a freelance multidisciplinary visual artist (**MA, BA Hons**), has an unusual journey of vocal discovery, having trained in her mid 30s as a Bell Canto Soprano, studying with some influential singers and voice teachers, both in Liverpool and abroad. Her choice of music lies in the love for the vocal sound and its' healing potential of the soul but also, in the beauty of the Early/Baroque music, opera and lieder. Nicole has been fascinated by philosophy and healing with vocal sound and started to write on the topic of 'The Voice and the Soul'. She has sung public performances in various languages, since 2011 but only since 2014 she started performing as soloist, organizing her own local performances and collaborating with some musicians from the North West England and abroad. Some local venues Nicole has sung in: Liverpool's Blackburne House, Hornby Library, Williamson Art Gallery, New Brighton Floral Pavilion Lounge, Heswall and Liverpool Quakers Meeting House, The Florrie, The Old Police Station and local church halls and as part of the **Wirral Arts Festivals**. Nicole is known mainly for the concert cycles 'CARI GIORNI' and 'LOVE ARIAS AND SONGS', performed throughout the years under the same name, 'CARI GIORNI' trio, with guitarist Robin Turvey and composer Richard Harding, former members of Liverpool Guitar Society. Also, has collaborated with the **Liverpool Guitar Society** and **Liverpool Improvisers Orchestra**. Some of the pianists Bartos has performed with are: Irina Ljubohh, Peter Kolcsar, Caroline Smith, Martin Robinson, Richard Meritt, Tim Kennedy etc. Nicole has studied under various singers and teachers: Tenor Nick Hardy, Mezzo sopranos Carmen Calo, Mezzo soprano Irina Ljubohh, Soprano Iazmina Stanescu and others. Bartos is also an experienced Artist and Curator; events' organiser, Qi Gong meditation practitioner and a part time teacher of Art, Meditation and Vocal training & Singing. Bartos is the founder of **Gallery4allarts** (2006). A summary of Nicole's artistic activity may be viewed on her website: <https://www.gallery4allarts.com>