

Poetry and Music at the Poly

Artist information



HANNAH COPLEY – UK, poet, lecturer, and editor, is the author of "Speculum" (Broken Sleep Books, 2021) and "Lapwing" (Pavilion Poetry, 2024), which was shortlisted for the T.S. Eliot Prize and received a Poetry Book Society Summer Recommendation. Winner of the York Literature Festival and Newcastle Poetry Prizes, her work is praised for its musicality. In 2025 she collaborated with the poet Alycia Pirmohamed on 'Hertz', a new compostable poetry project commissioned and published by DIRT compostable poetry. She is poetry editor at "Stand Magazine" and runs a regular poetry night at the Soho Poly. As Senior Lecturer in Creative Writing at the University of Westminster, she leads the MA in Professional Writing and supervises creative writing PhDs, actively shaping the next generation of poets.

"Bold, exacting, and deeply personal..." – Poetry Book Society <https://hannahcopley.wordpress.com/>



ED JONES – UK is a London-based saxophonist and composer. Ed Jones is known for his expressive playing, genre-crossing versatility, and deep commitment to musical exploration. He has collaborated with artists as diverse as Horace Silver, Evan Parker, D'Angelo, and Bootsy Collins. As a bandleader, he seamlessly blends structured composition with improvisation. His longstanding quartet balances jazz tradition with contemporary influences, while his duo with Emil Karlsten showcases his experimental side. Jones has composed for festivals and broadcasters, and his recordings highlight his evolving artistic voice with small and large ensembles.

"One of Europe's most exciting and innovative bandleaders" - Evening Standard; <https://www.edjonesjazz.co.uk/>



TOKU - Japan is a leading figure in Japanese jazz, TOKU is known for his rare combination of flugelhorn and rich vocals. With twelve acclaimed albums, many released under the prestigious CBS Jazz label, he has performed with renowned artists worldwide. His ability to bridge genres has led to collaborations with figures in J-pop, hip hop, and R&B, expanding jazz's reach in Japan. His versatility shines through projects with Clammbon, Miki Imai, and Exile, among many others. Always evolving, he continues exploring new sounds, and artistic relationships. <https://en.tokujazz.com/>



TAKASHI SUGAWA – Japan, a graduate of Berklee College of Music, Sugawa studied under pianist Masabumi Kikuchi while playing in New York before returning to Japan. He has performed with major jazz groups, including the Terumasa Hino Quintet and Sadao Watanabe Quartet. In 2018, he released "Outgrowing" with Leo Genovese and Tom Rainey. As leader of the Banksia Trio, he has released three albums, most recently "MASKS" in 2023. He has played internationally, appearing at Tokyo Jazz Festival and Montreux Jazz Festival. His recent collaborations include improvisational contrabass for Ai Kaneko's theatre production "The Tale of the Heike," further expanding his creative reach.

<https://www.tsgw.net/about>



REBECCA NASH – UK

Rebecca Nash is a pianist gaining international recognition for her distinctive artistry and emotive sound. She has performed at leading festivals such as EFG London Jazz Festival, Cheltenham Jazz Festival, and Ronnie Scott's. A featured artist on BBC Radio 3's J to Z, her solo performance for International Women's Day was widely acclaimed. Her album "Redefining Element 78" (Whirlwind Recordings), commissioned by Bristol Jazz Festival, showcases a refined compositional voice, blending jazz with contemporary classical influences.

"One to watch both as a composer and musician." - Jazzwise; <https://www.rebeccanashmusic.com/>

