

Louise Ashcroft

Website Bio

Born in Liverpool and brought up on the Isle of Man, I have performed widely in opera, recital, music-theatre, theatre, tv, film and radio. I work with leading orchestras, ensembles and collaborators. Together we push boundaries and cross genres to translate the present and imagine futures.

I'm a lyric mezzo-soprano and character actor, specialising in singer-actor roles. I'm known for my warm tone, stylistic flexibility, and immersion in role. Over the years, I've had the most amount of fun playing a variety of characters in various stages of graceful and disgraceful behaviour. From mother figures to matriarchs and inmates to prime ministers.

My work has been featured in international exhibitions (V&A, Pompidou Centre and MoMA), and also includes a BAFTA nominated comedy sketch show for the BBC (*Little Miss Jocelyn*), a renowned piece of avant-garde music-theatre (*23 Songs for a Mad Woman*) and an award-winning film (*The Ultimate Truth*).

With a passion for experimental and multi-disciplinary practice, I have performed three world premieres to critical acclaim: Developed and performed the roles of Evalga (*The Algae Opera*) and Britannia (*New Organs of Creation*) for an art/science collaboration with Burton Nitta/Matt Rogers; Created the Mad Woman for James Wishart's polemic, *23 Songs for a Madwoman* with RLPO's Ensemble 1010, conducted by Clark Rundell.

A curator and creator of song recitals and a regular poetry reader, I love a covert moment, understand that song can heal and I am always ready to listen.