



# Anna Lapwood

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## 1. Biography

Anna Lapwood is a trailblazing musician. As a broadcaster she is regular contributor to BBC Radio 3 and hosts a live, weekly classical music show on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. Alongside her work as a conductor, Director of Music and public speaker, she performs an extensive number of organ recitals on some of the greatest instruments across Europe each season.

Appointed Director of Music at Pembroke College at Cambridge University in 2016 aged just 21, she conducts the Pembroke College Chapel Choir. Their first recording will be released on Signum Records in 2020. Anna's passion to support girls and women in music shines through every aspect of her work, especially at Pembroke. In 2018 she established the Pembroke College Girls' Choir for girls aged 11 to 18 to inspire them to explore Church music, and runs the annual Cambridge Organ Experience for Girls. Her non-stop Bach-a-thon performance of the complete works of J.S. Bach had an all-female team of organists in its second year and is now an annual fixture in the Pembroke calendar. Multiple other initiatives for musicians of all ages and gender include the introduction of a choir designed to teach sight-reading skills to singers, open to all. In January 2020, Anna was appointed a Bye-Fellow at Pembroke College.

Beyond her work at Pembroke, Anna is increasingly in demand as a conductor, directing the BBC Singers as part of the BBC Proms Inspire programme in 2019. She has led choral workshops around the world with recent events in Thailand, Perth WA, Shenzhen, Shanghai and Lusaka. A strong advocate for music education at home and abroad, she specialises in bringing music to children from impoverished backgrounds. As a Trustee of the Muze Trust, a charity committed to making music accessible to children and young adults in Zambia, Anna works in Zambia regularly and leads the Muze Pembroke Music Exchange Programme.

Anna is a highly distinguished concert organist. Awarded an Organ Scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford, from where she graduated with a first class degree, she was the first female in the College's 560-year history to be given the Scholarship. Performances have taken her to the Royal Albert Hall and Royal Festival Hall (London), St Thomas Church (New York), and across the UK and Europe on recital tours. In 2019, Anna opened the BAFTA TV awards on the organ of the Royal Festival Hall.

Formerly Principal Harpist for the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain and the Junior Academy Symphony Orchestra, she also studied piano, violin, viola and composition at the Junior Royal Academy of Music. Anna has a tremendous zest for life, extraordinary work ethic and passion for multiple genres of music. She has collaborated with Katy B at London Fashion Week and worked with Tom Chaplin as arranger and conductor for the choir on a recording project at Abbey Road Studios. As a singer, Anna was a member of Gareth Malone's professional ensemble, Voices, with whom she has released two albums, performed at the Classical Brit Awards, Royal Variety Show, the National Eisteddfod of Wales and in multiple TV performances.

Having spent some years being encouraged to "play like a man" and with a dedication to her art and mission that belied her years, Anna is now humbled to find that she is an inspiration to many young women and amused that they have adopted her hashtag, #playlikeagirl.

## 2. Short Biography

Anna Lapwood is a trailblazing musician. As a broadcaster she contributes to BBC Radio 3, with her live, weekly classical music show on BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. Alongside her work as a conductor, Director of Music and public speaker, she is a highly distinguished concert organist.

Appointed Director of Music at Pembroke College, Cambridge, she conducts the Pembroke College Chapel Choir. In 2018 she established the Pembroke College Girls' Choir and runs the Cambridge Organ Experience for Girls.

Sought after as a conductor, Anna has directed the BBC Singers and leads choral workshops around the world, specialising in bringing music to children from impoverished backgrounds. Anna is a Trustee of the Muze Trust, a charity working to make music accessible to children and young adults in Zambia, and leads the Pembroke Music Exchange programme.

Awarded an Organ Scholarship at Magdalen College, Oxford, Anna was their first female organ scholar. Performances have taken her across the UK, Europe, and to the USA. In 2019, Anna opened the BAFTA TV awards on the organ of the Royal Festival Hall.

Formerly urged to "play like a man", Anna is an inspiration to many young women and is amused that they have adopted her hashtag #playlikeagirl.

### 3. In the Press

#### 2.1: Evening Standard



**Trailblazing classical musician  
Anna Lapwood: 'At 19, I was told to  
play like a man'**

[Link to article](#)

#### 2.2: Classic FM

**'Young girls can be organists too,' says  
pioneering musician Anna Lapwood**

[Link to article](#)

#### 2.3: Classical Music



**An Interview with Anna Lapwood**

'I was told to play more like a man': the British organist on why she's bringing together 22 female organists for a 24-hour Bach-a-thon

[Link to article](#)

#### 2.4: Jessica Duchen's Classical Music Blog

##### **Smash all-male choirs? A choral expert responds**

Much fuss has been caused in the choral world these past few days by [a suggestion from Lesley Garrett that it's high time all-male choirs were abolished](#). Some defenders of the great English choral tradition, in which these have featured since forever, have been up in arms. Others lean strongly towards providing equal opportunities for girls to sing, because at the moment they still miss out, and have done for centuries.

[Link to article](#)

## 4. Interviews and Presenting Links

### 3.1: Interview with Anna Lapwood: The Psychology of Conducting



[Link to video](#)

### 3.2: Classic FM: Anna Lapwood: 'Young Girls Can be Organists Too'



[Link to video](#)

### 3.3: 2018 Bach-a-thon: #PlayLikeAGirl



[Link to video](#)

## 5. Radio Links

### 4.1: Classical Cambridgeshire



[Link to listen](#)

### 4.2: BBC Radio 3: Music Matters (from 38'22")



[Link to listen](#)

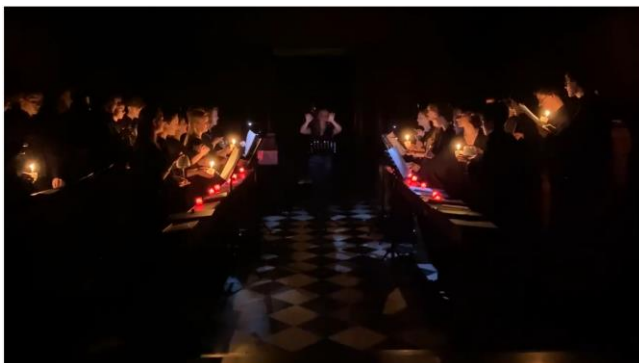
## 6. Performance Videos

### 5.1: Classic FM Sessions: Nicolaus Bruhns' Praeludium in E minor 'Big'



[Link to video](#)

### 5.2: Stars - Erik Esenvalds - performed by Pembroke College choir, Cambridge



[Link to video](#)

### 5.3: Classic FM Sessions: Patrick Gowers - An Occasional Trumpet Voluntary



[Link to video](#)



## 7. Social Media Accounts

Facebook:

@annalapwoodmusic

<https://www.facebook.com/annalapwoodmusic>

Twitter:

@annalapwood

<https://twitter.com/annalapwood>

Instagram:

@annalapwood

<https://www.instagram.com/annalapwood/>

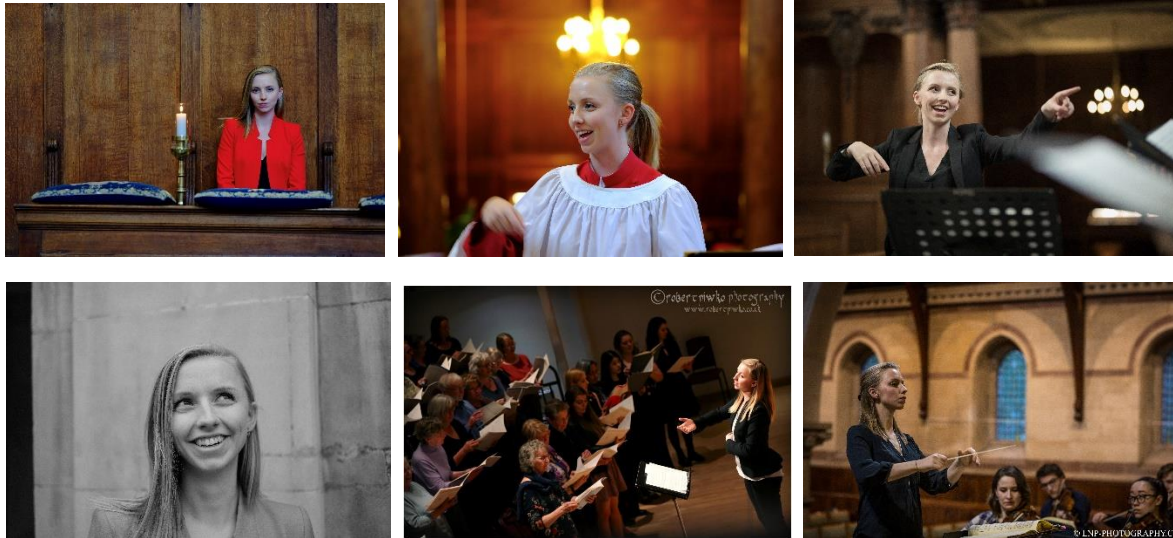
Youtube:

Anna Lapwood

<https://www.youtube.com/user/oxflapwa1>

## 8. High Resolution Photos

High res photos for download [here](#).



## 9. Contact General Management

Music Productions Ltd

<https://www.musicprods.com/>

+44 (0) 1753 783 739

Claire Long

claire@musicprods.co.uk

Meg Davies

meg@musicprods.co.uk

Lara Serafin

lara@musicprods.co.uk