

Jessica Duchen

BIOGRAPHY



"Jessica writes with an unpredictable and original voice and a dazzling perceptiveness, and I was hooked from the first page" - Joanna Lumley

"Jessica Duchen writes...with such skill and passion that her books are unputdownable. It is very rarely that I find a new writer whose work I love so much." - Katie Fforde

Jessica Duchen is an acclaimed author and journalist. She writes regularly for *The Independent* on topics including opera, ballet, classical music, theatre and cultural commentary, and during a distinguished career she has interviewed many of the world's finest musicians. Her work also appears in *BBC Music Magazine*, *Opera News* and numerous other publications.

Her four novels to date, published by Hodder, have gathered a loyal fan-base and wide critical acclaim. Her first novel, *Rites of Spring*, was published in 2006, followed by *Alicia's Gift*, *Hungarian Dances* and *Songs of Triumphant Love*, the latter termed "not just a tale of universal human emotion, but a symphony to the off-beat melodies of modern life" by the Lancashire Evening Post.

She is also the biographer of the composers Erich Wolfgang Korngold and Gabriel Fauré (both published by Phaidon) and maintains a popular blog, JDCMB, often ranked among the world's top classical music blogs. <http://jessicamusic.blogspot.com>

Jessica's plays, *A Walk through the End of Time*, and *Sins of the Fathers*, and numerous 'words & music' programmes for musicians and actors, have been widely performed in the UK, with overseas performances including France, Australia and the US. She frequently narrates concert versions of her novels *Alicia's Gift* and *Hungarian Dances*.

Jessica is a sought-after speaker for pre-concert talks, on-stage artist interviews and music and literary festivals, appearing often at venues including the Royal Festival Hall, the Wigmore Hall and Symphony Hall Birmingham, and serving as a contributor and commentator on BBC Radio 3 and 4, among other channels. She has also appeared on television as a guest expert for the BBC Proms on BBC Four.

www.jessicaduchen.co.uk

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