

# 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. In January 2015 she was appointed Editor of *Amati* magazine.

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. Her latest novel, ‘Ghost Variations’, is published September 2016 by Unbound.

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. [www.jessicaduchen.co.uk](http://www.jessicaduchen.co.uk)

**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. In 2015 she hosted pre-concert talks at Istanbul Music Festival. She also serves as a contributor and commentator on BBC Radio 3 and 4, among other channels, and has appeared on television as a guest expert for the BBC Proms on BBC Four.

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