

## Alwynne Pritchard

Composer, Performer and Artist

*“Craw, by Alwynne Pritchard, refreshed the palate with silence and delicate atonality a la Webern.. the writing was cool and lucid, like frosted flowers in morning sunlight.”*

Nicholas Williams, The Independent

Alwynne Pritchard is a British artist, performer and composer based in Bergen on the West coast of Norway. She was born in Glasgow and as a teenager began having composition lessons with her father, Gwyn Pritchard. She then studied with Robert Saxton at the Guildhall School of Music, and later with Melanie Daiken, Justin Connolly and Michael Finnissy at the Royal Academy of Music, where she was awarded many prizes for her work. During this time she also studied voice with the mezzo-soprano Linda Hirst. In 1997 she was awarded a research scholarship by the University of Bristol and in 2003 received a PhD in composition. In the summer of 2000 Alwynne was awarded a Visions of Norway scholarship for a two-month artist’s residency at the Kulturhuset USF Verftet, Bergen and later returned for an extended residency three years later. In April 2007 she completed a one-year residency at the Internationales Künstlerhaus Villa Concordia in Bamberg, Bavaria after which she spent a year living in Berlin; from June until August 2010, she was resident at PointB Worklodge, New York; and in 2012 she was Artist in Residence at the Philippine High School for the Arts (PHSA) in Los Baños, Philippines.

From 2008 until 2013, Alwynne was Artistic Director of the Borealis festival in Bergen, Norway. In 2015 she formed the music-theatre company Neither Nor with her partner Thorolf Thuestad.

Over the last decade and a half Alwynne’s music has been performed by leading players and ensembles throughout Europe and America. Her work is regularly heard in the UK and has received performances in America, Belgium, Finland, Germany, Holland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Poland and Norway, and has often been broadcast on BBC Radio 3 and 4, as well as abroad.

As a vocalist, Alwynne has performed both improvised and composed music and has recently commissioned a series of short music-theatre pieces from composers Vinko Globokar, Felix Kubin, Helmut Oehring, Trond Reinholdtsen, François Sarhan, Gerhard Stäbler, Øyvind Torvund, Adam de la Cour and Hollie Harding on the theme DOG/GOD. This was premiered at the Bergen International Festival in 2015.

In recent years, as well as musical composition and performance, Alwynne’s artistic work has included photography, with an exhibition of her photographic portraits being held at The Cello Factory gallery in Waterloo, London in 2013. For her current projects, she is also exploring the realms of choreography and dance and has twice attended intensive courses with the Batsheva dance company.

From 2001 until 2008 Alwynne taught composition at Trinity College of Music in London. She has also worked regularly as a project leader for the BIT20 Ensemble's music education projects in Norway and abroad and presented many contemporary music programmes for BBC Radio 3, including Music in Our Time, Midnight Oil, Music Matters, Hear and Now and Discovering Music. In January 2016, she will take up the position of Artistic Director of the BIT20 Ensemble.