SELENA
FARNSWORTH

Manchester
07847760057
Selena.farnsworth@hotmail.com

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Classically trained cellist who has been playing cello for over 20 years. Has a versatile performing background playing a variety of different music styles in various ensembles including orchestras, band and chamber groups. Experienced in solo performances as a freelance and session musician.

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Music with Honours in Music Performance | Royal Birmingham Conservatoire
2013 – 2017

Student | Junior Royal Northern College of Music
2007 – 2013

PERFORMANCE EXPERIENCE

Cellist | 'The Snow Queen' theatre show – UK
2022 – 2023
Performing original music daily in the band for the show 'The Snow Queen', an adaptation of the story written by Hans Christian Anderson. The performances were all at the Storyhouse theatre in Chester.

Cellist | The ELO (Electric Light Orchestra) tribute show – UK
2021 – PRESENT
Performing regularly in a three-piece string section as part of the band. Appearing regularly in shows across the UK in various venues. One of the most notable performances was in the auditorium at M&S band arena in Liverpool.

Classical/Electric Cellist | Luxury Live music entertainment agency - UK
2020 – PRESENT
Professional string quartet/trio, regularly performing in prestigious venues in the Midlands. Most recently have performed at *Resorts World* for the pre-show to an Andre Rieu concert.

Electric Cellist - Sapphire String Trio | Carnival Cruise Line – Caribbean/Miami

2019

Completed a 5-month Caribbean cruise contract as resident string trio (Sapphire Strings) performing daily to audiences of around 300-600 in various venues around the *Carnival Conquest*, including special requests from guests.

Cellist | The Wishing Well - Folk Band - Germany

2018

Guest cellist with well-established folk/rock band performing daily in different cities in Germany including street performances and concerts at various venues around Germany, Luxembourg, and Vienna. Toured with the band for a total of 3 months.

Cellist - String trio | Princess Cruises – Caribbean/Miami

2017-2018

Resident string trio performing daily to audiences of around 300-600 in various venues around the *Caribbean Princess*, performances of weekly shows and special requests.

Orchestral Experience

Cellist | The Urban Soul Orchestra (USO)

2022 – PRESENT

Performs as part of this world class ensemble in venues all over the UK in the Cello section in the prestigious Ibiza Classics show.

Cello Tutti | Piccadilly Symphony Orchestra

2017-2018

Invited to play in a supportive role / senior member at venues around Manchester as part of a project to provide orchestral experience to young musicians. Performed in a project in Kentucky, USA as part of an international festival for conductors in a local music community project in Danville.

Cello Tutti | City of Birmingham Symphony Youth Orchestra

2015-2017

Was successful in gaining a place and played at the Birmingham Symphony Hall for all our performances including some challenging repertoire such as the 'Alpine Symphony' by Richard Strauss and 'The Wooden Prince' by Bartok.

Cello Tutti | Halle Youth Orchestra

2008 -2012

Toured with the orchestra to Italy in 2009 and Czech Republic in 2011 playing at various venues around each country and also many performances in the Bridgewater Hall in Manchester. Was the joint lead cellist during the last year as a senior member. While performing in the orchestra, took part in a side-by-side project with members of the Halle. Performed in a couple of concerts conducted by Sir Mark Elder. Performed in prestigious venues including, the London Opera house and the Manchester Opera House, performing Victoria Wood's '*That Day We Sang.*'

Education/teaching experience

Private Cello Tutor | Birmingham/Manchester

2015-present

Taught Cello privately while studying at Birmingham Conservatoire and continued private cello tutoring in Manchester.

Project Manager and Lower strings tutor | Fallibroome High School - Macclesfield

2023-Present

Planning and delivering group tuition sessions, managing the other string tutors in their delivery of their group sessions. Communication effectively with parents and adult students to discuss progress and individual needs. Leading meetings with the other tutors to ensure all sessions run effectively. Ensuring all sessions are engaging and making sure appropriate learning and teaching materials are present.

Music support worker | Cre8 - Macclesfield

2022

Supported the engagement of disengaged children aged 8-16 in music-making activities on a one to one and group basis within a music setting. Encouraged and supported young people with personal practice and development of their musical and instrumental skills.

SKILLS

- Excellent sight-reading ability
- Adaptability to different music genres and styles
- Strong teamwork and communication
- Ability to perform solo pieces either with acoustic or electric cello
- Great knowledge and understanding of music technology and equipment for live performances.
- Confident in performing in front of an audience
- Comfortable and flexible in recording sessions
- Confident music arranger for solo and small ensemble performances
- Conducting a small ensemble
- Knowledge and understanding of music theory.

ACTIVITIES

Has taught cello privately, while studying at Birmingham Conservatoire and has entered students for ABRSM exam board cello exams. Performs regularly in different side projects and recently played in a recording for the Manchester based band The Orielles, who often feature strings in their music and albums. Performed in a concert in 2021 as part of the music ensemble the Infinity Orchestra organized by the award-winning pianist and composer Okiem; the performance included a symphonic arrangement of Dr Dre's album '2001'.

Recently featured in a Netflix music video in the Queen Charlotte's Global orchestra with the singer-song writer Alicia keys. This video celebrates the 20th year anniversary of the song 'If I ain't got you' featuring an orchestra of 70 plus, women of colour.