

Kit McCarthy — curriculum vitae

kit.mccarthy@outlook.com

kitmccarthy.co.uk

+44 7580 300698

26 Granger Court, Borehamwood, WD6 1GP

EDUCATION

Guildhall School of Music and Drama (2020-24)

- graduated with a first class honours degree in classical composition and electronic music
- won the Ian Horsburgh Prize for best undergraduate composition (*The Players Nearest The Fire Exist*)
- recipient of merit scholarships from Guildhall, the Cross Trust and the Caroline Fitzmaurice Trust

St Leonards Sixth Form (2018-20)

- achieved IB Diploma with 39 points — 775 in Higher Level Music, English Literature and History (equivalent to A*A*B at A level)

COMPOSITION AND PERFORMANCE

- **recently received commissions** from both the Bubbyjock Collective and St Andrews Renaissance Singers, for performance and recording in 2025-26
- **previous commissions** include—
 - *All Other Things Will Change* (orchestra), K3AO (2022)
 - *Laurence Crane looks at some organic broccoli* (vla + db), Festival of Laurence Crane (2021)
 - *And They Flew* (orchestra), Illuminated River Foundation/Guildhall Session Orchestra (2021)
 - *Wherever I Have Lived* (string quartet), Brompton Quartet/ESCAPE (2021)
 - solo pieces for Audrey Wu (piano, 2021) and Jotham Ben Yami (guitar + tape, 2022)
- while a student at Guildhall, **wrote new work** for artists and ensembles including the Ligeti Quartet, EXAUDI, the pianist Ben Smith and the school's Bauhaus Band
- recently completed an **experimental film score** for a short film about Scottish heritage (30 mins, prod. Forest of Black, 2025)
- written scores for a number of other **cross-disciplinary projects**, including dance (Shaper/Caper, 2020), theatre (Byre Theatre, 2020; University College Oxford, 2022) and radio drama (University of St Andrews, 2017-20)
- **won** the Royal Opera House's *Fanfare* competition; my music was recorded by the ROH Orchestra, conducted by Antonio Pappano (2016)
- **arranging** experience includes work for the London Music Theatre Orchestra (2022) and the singer-songwriter Sophie Wright (2024)
- arranged and produced **singles and EPs** for a number of singer-songwriters (Erin Snape, Elisa Tombazi, Ania Sharwood) (ongoing)
- currently developing *Storm Isla* (Five Is A Colour), a new musical about a fatal kayaking accident; recipient of Guildhall's 'undisciplined' grant for new collaborative work
- **performance credits** include Neil Luck's *Real Telepaths* (broadcast on BBC Radio 3, 2021) and the world premiere of John Luther Adams's *Across The Distance* (2015)

PRODUCTION AND ADMINISTRATION

***Resonate* at Green Note Camden, producer and music director (2024)**

- single-handedly produced a sold-out concert: a showcase of emerging singer-songwriters, with all-new string arrangements
- commissioned 20 new arrangements by early-career composers
- responsible for: administration, programming, finance, marketing and design, venue liaison, music direction, sound

***Unravelled* at Guildhall, co-producer (2022)**

- co-produced a concert of all-new work by and for students
- commissioned seven new works for mixed chamber ensemble
- similarly, took on responsibilities across all departments

***Five Is A Colour*, co-director (2023-)**

- co-director of early-career musical theatre company
- producer for *Storm Isla*, an in-development new musical aiming for a 2026 Edinburgh Fringe run

Pleasance Theatre (Edinburgh), various roles (2022-)

- from 2023 onwards, I've worked as the Pleasance's street team manager, running a team of volunteers and supervisors
- responsible for: planning, supervision, liaison with artists and producers, pastoral care, data analysis, assistance with photography and videography
- returned to help programme the Pleasance's scratch night, later providing dramaturgical assistance to featured companies
- began as a volunteer marketing assistant in 2022

OTHER EXPERIENCES

- **tutor** in composition, music theory, French horn and piano, including with the Scottish Schools Orchestra Trust (2020-)
- **shortlisted** for the Royal Albert Hall's Young Producers scheme (2024)
- **freelance photographer**, portraiture and events (2024-)
- **volunteer residential supervisor** for Free To Be Kids, a charity working with disadvantaged young people (2021-)
- **won** the UK Supreme Court's inaugural student writing competition, with an essay on the use of secret evidence in national security proceedings (2017)
- **elected** member of the Scottish Youth Parliament (2017-19)
 - argued for a ban on anti-loitering 'Mosquito' devices before a Scottish parliamentary committee and on BBC Radio Scotland
 - presented at Holyrood's 2017 freedom of information conference