

My favorite note I have ever played was the additional one caused by my daughter, Naomi when I was pregnant with her. I was holding a long note in the last song of Miss Saigon when she gave a hearty kick and made me play a higher note. At that time I was depping in eight different shows a week including Sunset Boulevard, Oliver!, Beauty and the Beast, Martin Guerre, Into the Woods, and Les Miserables and numerous shows at the National Theatre.

I was born and grew up in a small town near the steel capital of the world, Buffalo New York. When I was ten I was inspired by a visit from Jean Pierre Rampal and decided that I wanted to play this instrument for a living. Before I went to music college I studied at Interlochen's National Music Camp and the prestigious Chautauqua Institution. I went on to study at the Hartt School of Music with John Wion and I travelled regularly to New York City to hear concerts and to have lessons with Julius Baker. I made one memorable trip to New Orleans in my clapped out VW Beetle for the convention of our sister organization, the NFA. While there I played in a masterclass for William Bennett and Trevor Wye. I won the competition to play with the legendary Emerson String Quartet.

In 1987 I came to the UK for a workshop with William Bennett and was inspired to come the following year to study at the RAM. While at the Academy I was awarded the DipRAM and was a Leverhulme Scholar. A few years later I was awarded the ARAM for outstanding service to music.

I was a member of the Regent Wind Quintet for 15 years playing concerts all over Europe and America. I have played with the Royal Philharmonic, Royal Opera House Orchestra, Royal Birmingham Ballet Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra of Europe, English Chamber Orchestra, English Classical Players, Northern Ballet, National Symphony Orchestra. I have toured with Ballet Rambert and the National Tour of Porgy and Bess. I have performed the Bolling Suite with my husband's Jazz group, toured Japan and Italy with the Parnassus Ensemble of London. In Italy I have worked extensively with Henze at the Cantiere Internazionale d'Arte-Montepulciano. I was a soloist at the NFA Convention in New Mexico. I have recorded for Deutsche Grammophon with the Chamber Orchestra of Europe with Askenazi playing the music of Ligeti and Beethoven. Also many recordings for BBC radio and television including Woman's Hour, The Generation game and Blue Peter.

I have been teaching at Junior Academy since 1990 and also teach at Highgate School and City of London Girls.