

Sabra Swing – Full Bio

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www.sabraswing.com

Meet internationally acclaimed jazz band Sabra Swing.

Performances have included EFG London Jazz Festival, Toulouse Lautrec London, Piano Smithfield, Manchester Jewish Museum, South Mill Arts Centre, Lincoln Center New York City, Hong Kong Arts Festival and Cheltenham Festival.

The band features violinist Miriam Kramer, known for her passionate and fiery performances – described as "a soulful and virtuosic performer" by the New York Times. Versatile vocalist Sara Feldmann Brummer sings everything from cabaret to classical "her vocals are by turns sensuous and impertinently hilarious" (This is Cabaret). Pianist Nicholas Durcan has played around the world to great acclaim, The Observer praising his performance of Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue as "a sparkling performance". Bassist Steve Rossell and drummer Hamish Birchall complete the sound. The band's arrangement style has many influences including Klezmer, Latin Jazz and Showtunes, with a special interest in music by Jewish composers.

Sara Feldmann Brummer – voice

Sara Feldmann Brummer (was Cluderay) trained at Trinity Laban, London.

She has broadcast for Classic FM, BBC Radio 1, Channel Four and Channel 5. Session work includes backing vocals with The Clint Boon Experience (UK tours supporting Travis and Echo & the Bunnymen, Reading and Leeds Festival), concerts and recordings with the Maida Vale Singers and the BBC Concert Orchestra, including shows at the Royal Albert Hall and a UK arena tour. Solo recitals include St Paul's Covent Garden, St. Martin-in-the Fields and the National Portrait Gallery. Sara sang the leading role in *Cirque d'Hoffmann* (Arkadia Opera Zirkus) at Jacksons Lane Theatre and UK tour. Musical Theatre and Opera includes *Uncle Remus* (Pegasus/Hackney Empire), *John Cage Uncaged* (BBCSO/Barbican), Menotti's *The Old Maid and the Thief* (Dee Major Opera) North Wales tour, *La Bonne Cuisine* (Rosemary Branch) and *American Cabaret* (Southwark Playhouse). Cabaret highlights are Don't Tell Mama (New York City), Sunday Cabaret (West End), The Pheasantry, RVT and Posh Club London. Sara is a member of a cappella vocal group The Kitchen Quartet and is a Cantorial Soloist at Westminster Synagogue and at Edgware & Hendon Reform Synagogue.

www.sarafeldmannbrummer.co.uk

Miriam Kramer – violin

Miriam Kramer began studying the violin at age four, giving her first public performance at the age of seven, with Mozart's Concerto in G Major. Since then, her solo recitals and concerto performances have taken her round the world to such venues as Carnegie Hall, Lincoln Center, Kennedy Center (USA), Wigmore Hall, Barbican Hall, King's Place, St. David's Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall (UK), Vienna Konzerthaus and Théâtre des Champs-Élysées (France). Praised by Strad Magazine as "a violinist of superior natural talent, an exceptionally sensitive interpreter and a phrase maker of uncommon expressivity" and by the New York Times as a "soulful and virtuosic performer", Miriam also received critical acclaim for her six CDs, including Editor's Choice for her recording of the violin music of Ernest Bloch, from Gramophone Magazine, who said, "Kramer's playing could hardly be more heartfelt. Scanning the catalogue for rivals, her musicianship is irresistible." This disc was listed in the 2017 guide *1001 Classical Recordings You Must Hear* compiled by Matthew Rye and Steven Isserlis. Miriam has also been included in David Milson's book *A-Z of String Players, 300 Great String Players*. Alongside her performing and recording schedule, Miriam maintains a busy private teaching practice and is regularly invited to give masterclasses at the Dartington Festival and for the Benslow Music Trust. She champions the music of new composers and her latest project, a recording of *Elegy* by British composer Andrew Pearce, with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, has led to invitations from other composers in France, Belgium and the USA to record and perform their music. Miriam has broadcast on Classic FM, BBC Radio 3 and international radio, as well as on BBC Television in a tribute to Yehudi Menuhin.

www.miriamkramerviolin.com

Nicholas Durcan - piano

Nicholas Durcan studied the piano with Hamish Milne and Angus Morrison and organ with Alan Harverson at the Royal Academy of Music, where he won many prizes including the highest performing award -the Recital Diploma. Upon graduating, he was immediately invited to be organist at Westminster Cathedral and held this position for two years. In the following year, he made his concerto debut at the Queen Elizabeth Hall and has since performed concertos at the Royal Festival Hall, St. John's Smith Square and given recitals at the Purcell Room, broadcast on Classic FM, BBC Radio 2, 3 and 4 and appeared on several TV programmes. Nicholas performs regularly in the USA and has given solo and chamber music recitals in Sweden, Germany, Holland, France, Spain, Italy, Malta, Switzerland and Hong Kong.

In conjunction with a performing career, Nicholas is also a composer and arranger and has written the music for the BBC series *A Painter's World* and the Channel 4 film *The Daughters of De Beauvoir*. He has released a number of recordings including the piano works of Billy Mayerl and a CD for Naxos of the violin and piano works of Szymanowski with violinist Miriam Kramer, described by American Record Guide as "flawless and beautiful" and that "Durcan plays with warmth and affection". His playing has also been described as "sparkling and virtuosic."

Steve Rossell - double bass

Steve studied Double Bass at the Melbourne Conservatory of Music, before holding a position with the Adelaide Symphony Orchestra for two years. On moving to the UK, Steve furthered his studies at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama and has enjoyed a busy freelance career in London both in classical and jazz genres. He has appeared in many West End shows such as *Woman in White*.

Hamish Birchall - drums

Hamish is a freelance drummer equally at home playing smooth dinner jazz or laying down a funk groove. His versatile range of styles includes Swing, Blues, Bossanova and Bebop to contemporary material.