

Vanessa Porter, percussion

Vanessa Porter is one of the most versatile percussionists internationally and is in demand for various projects, concert formats and programmes. As a soloist she combines current works with improvisation, electronics and the performing arts and collaborates with renowned composers such as Georges Aperghis, Zeynep Gedizlioglu, Jennifer Walshe or Ben-Amots Ofer. Using voice, body percussion, bells or vibraphone: In her latest programme *folie à deux* she creates hypnotic soundscapes between soft beauty and eruptive power.

In the season 22/23 she has been ECHO-Rising Stars artist and meanwhile performed in the most renowned European concert halls: Concertgebouw Amsterdam, NOSPR Katowice, Musikverein Wien, Müpa - Palace of Arts Budapest, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, The Sage Gateshead, LSO St. Luke's London, Birmingham Symphony Hall, Konzerthaus Dortmund, Festspielhaus Baden-Baden, L'Auditori Barcelona, Megaron Athen, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation Lisbon, Philharmonie Luxembourg, Philharmonie de Paris, Casa da Música Porto, BOZAR Brussels, De Bijloke Gent and Tonhalle Zurich.

She successfully premiered her programme DIS:JUNCTION at the Bodenseefestival 2023. In 2024, she made her acclaimed debut with the Deutsche Symphonieorchester Berlin playing Ferran Cruixent's percussion concert *Focs d'artifici* at the Philharmonie Berlin as part of her Deutschlandfunk-debut. She premiered Francesca Verunelli's *From scratch* at the Wittener Tage für Neue Kammermusik 2024 together with the WDR Sinfonieorchester and performed it again with the RSO Wien at the Elbphilharmonie Visions Festivals Hamburg. Together with the Staatskapelle Halle and percussionist Emil Kuyumcuyan she played Rebecca Saunder's *Void* for percussion duo and orchestra. Furthermore, she premiered the new solo piece *Éndropia* written for her by Samir Odeh-Tamimi at the ECLAT Festival Stuttgart and MaerzMusik Berlin in 2026 to great acclaim.

She is invited to festivals such as the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival, Festspiele Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, Rheingau Musik Festival, Beethovenfest Bonn, Wittener Tage für Neue Kammermusik, Ultraschall Festival Berlin, Kasseler Musiktage, ECLAT Stuttgart, Podium Festival Esslingen, Heidelberger Frühling, Schlossmedialle Werdenberg, Osterfestival Tirol, Eclats Concerts Fribourg and the Kalima Festival Switzerland. Through her close collaboration with the Goethe-Institute, she regularly has been giving workshops and concerts in the USA and was invited to Peru, Colombia, Brazil and Costa Rica on a 4-week South American tour with the Percussion Duo Porter.

Due to her many years of experience in the field of education, she collaborates with various universities and academies, such as the International Summer Academy of Music and held workshops at the Sibelius Academy Helsinki or the University of Birmingham within the framework of the WorldPercussionGroup. In 2017-2018, she taught percussion at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Stuttgart. Since 2024 Vanessa Porter has been a professor of percussion at the Hochschule für Musik Karlsruhe.

Vanessa Porter is 1st prize winner of the August-Everding Music Competition Munich, the International Percussion Competition Luxembourg, the Music Creative Award Lindau and the PercussiveArt Contest Italy, received the German scholarship and was a scholarship holder of the Kunststiftung Baden-Württemberg and the German Music Competition. In 2022, she released her solo recordings *cycle.sound.colour* and *folie à deux* (Bhakti Records) with Daniel Mudrack (percussion/sound installation). For her new recording *BETTER ME* (NEOS) she teamed up with Emil Kuyumcuyan, its release has been in 2026, and concerts will follow at the Musikbrauerei Berlin, MüPa Budapest among other venues.

After studying at the Royal College of Music in London (with David Hockings) and the Musikhochschule in Lübeck (with Johannes Fischer), Vanessa Porter completed her master's degree at the Musikhochschule Stuttgart (with Marta Klimasara, Klaus Dreher and Jürgen Spitschka) with top marks in summer 2018.

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