

Cath Roberts

Artist/educator/organiser

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Pronouns: they/them

- *Over 15 years professional experience as an improviser on baritone and alto saxophones;*
- *Also working with live electronics since 2020;*
- *Composer making experimental scores and installation work;*
- *Educator/workshop leader working with 11-18 and university level students;*
- *Organiser producing tours and events since 2013, including multiple funded projects.*

Qualifications

- 2011 MMus in Performance, Guildhall School of Music & Drama
Jazz Studies (Saxophone)
- 2006 MA, Goldsmiths, University of London
Cultural Studies
- 2005 BA (Hons), University of Warwick
English Literature & Creative Writing

Notable performances/commissions

- 2024 Solo performance: *Patch Dynamics*. hcmf//, Huddersfield
New collage work created and performed using sampler and analogue synthesiser.
- 2022 Australian Art Orchestra: *Fresh Water - Salt Water*. Melbourne and Huddersfield
Guest UK artist, devising new work as part of the ensemble. Performances in Melbourne, Australia (Melbourne Recital Centre) and Huddersfield, UK (hcmf//).
- 2022 Chris Corsano Three-Day Residency. Cafe Oto, London
Improvised trio set with Chris Corsano and Alan Wilkinson.
- 2021 Commission: *And then the next thing you know*. hcmf//, Huddersfield
Installation piece for improvising electroacoustic trio, with giant, fragmented graphic score hanging in the performance space.
- 2019 Trio performance: Summer Bummer Festival, Antwerp
Improvised trio set with Tullis Rennie and Dirk Serries, curated by Sound In Motion.
- 2016 Artist In Residence Headline Commission: *Favourite Animals*. Lancaster Jazz Festival
For ten-piece improvising ensemble, performance at the Duke's Theatre.
- 2015 Commission: *Sloth Racket*. Jazz North East at Gateshead International Jazz Festival
For improvising quintet. Performance at The Sage (now The Glasshouse).

Selected discography

As project leader

- 2025 Sloth Racket - *Ten Years of Live Sloths* (Luminous)
- 2022 Sloth Racket - *Organising Space* (Luminous)
Cath Roberts - *Be unafraid to open things up* (Fractal Meat on a Spongy Bone)
- 2020 Sloth Racket - *Exabout: Live In Ramsgate* (Luminous)
- 2019 Sloth Racket - *Dismantle Yourself* (Luminous)
- 2018 Sloth Racket - *A Glorious Monster* (Luminous)
- 2017 Sloth Racket - *Shapeshifters* (Luminous)
Sloth Racket - *See The Looks On The Faces* (Tombed Visions)
Favourite Animals - *Favourite Animals* (Luminous)
- 2016 Sloth Racket - *Triptych* (Luminous)
- 2014 Quadraceratops - *Quadraceratops* (Efpi)

As collaborator

- 2024 Tullis Rennie - *Safe Operating Space* (Accidental Jnr)
Ripsaw Catfish - *Office Hours EP*
Colin Webster Large Ensemble - *Second Edition* (Raw Tonk)
- 2023 Colin Webster Large Ensemble - *First Meeting* (Raw Tonk)
MoonMot - *350 Million Herring* (Enja)
- 2022 Olie Brice Octet - *Fire Hills* (West Hill Records)
Spinningwork - *Spinningwork* (New Jazz And Improvised Music Recordings)
Ripsaw Catfish - *Carapace* (Raw Tonk)
Rennie/Roberts/Serries - *Translucence* (New Wave of Jazz)
Cath Roberts and Olie Brice - *Conduits* (Relative Pitch)
- 2021 Cath Roberts and Sam Andreae - *Miaow Argument* (Sound Holes)
cr-ow-tr-io - *Hold Music* (Luminous)
- 2020 Dee Byrne, Craig Scott, Cath Roberts - *Live at BRAKFest* (oem)
Ward/Verhoeven/Serries/Roberts - *Imaginary Junction* (New Wave Of Jazz)
Dee Byrne and Cath Roberts - *Disembark!* (Luminous)
Cath Roberts and Alex Bonney - *Live at HYG* (oem)
Anton Hunter / Article XI - *Live In Newcastle* (Discus)
MoonMot - *Going Down The Well* (Unit Records)
- 2019 Madwort's Menagerie - *Madwort's Menagerie* (Madwort Records)
Overground Collective - *Super Mario* (Babel)
- 2018 Alex Ward Item 10 - *Volition (Live At Cafe Oto)* (Copepod)

Anton Hunter - *Article XI* (Efpi)

- 2017 Far Rainbow feat. Cath Roberts, Tullis Rennie and Colin Webster - *Noon: 22nd Century* (Zero Wave)
Tullis Rennie and Cath Roberts - *Blurts/Growls* (Luminous)
Ripsaw Catfish - *Namaz* (Raw Tonk)
Madwort Saxophone Quartet - *Live at Hundred Years Gallery* (Efpi)
- 2015 Saxoctopus - *Saxoctopus* (Raw Tonk)
- 2014 Ripsaw Catfish - *For The Benefit Of The Tape* (Raw Tonk)

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Educational work

- 2024 - London College of Communication, University of the Arts London.
(Special Lecturer)
Leading guest sessions on improvisation as part of 'Collaborative Methods' class for MA students in 2024 and 2025.
- 2023 - City St Georges, University of London.
(Experimental Ensemble Leader: Visiting Lecturer)
Director of student ensemble working on exploratory sound-making through improvisation.
- 2023 Eastern Ear.
(Guest artist/workshop leader)
Leading a workshop on large group improvisation and conduction as part of 'The Plank' workshop series in Norwich.
- 2022 Aldeburgh Young Musicians, Britten Pears Arts.
(Guest Artist/Course Leader)
Designing and directing a week-long *Sound Explorations* course, leading the artist team and running workshop sessions.
- 2022 City St Georges, University of London.
(Experimental Ensemble Guest Leader)
Leading two sessions on conduction and large group improvisation.
- 2019-2021 City St Georges, University of London.
(Guest Lecturer, Composition)
Presenting lectures on my composition work and working with students on their compositions as part of an ensemble.
- 2019 Aldeburgh Young Musicians, Britten Pears Arts.
(Taster Day Workshop Leader)
Working in a team of artists to deliver taster days for prospective students.
- 2018, 2019 Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance.
(Guest Artist/Workshop Leader)
Working in a team of guest artists to deliver 'Young Women In Jazz' Open Days, leading sessions on graphic scores and free improvisation.

- 2018 Aldeburgh Young Musicians, Britten Pears Arts.
(Guest Artist)
Working in a team of guest artists to deliver a weekend course on improvisation and composition.
- 2017 City, University of London.
(Guest Artist, Experimental Ensemble)
Workshopping my compositions with the ensemble and joining them as a guest concert performer.
- 2015 London Jazz Festival.
(Workshop Leader)
Free improvisation workshop for 11-18 year olds.
- 2015 Gateshead International Jazz Festival.
(Workshop Leader)
Co-leading a public improvisation workshop with Rachel Musson.

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Organiser/producer

- 2023 - present *Ink-Paper-Sound*
Small press producing risograph-printed zines for and about music and sound, with launch event at Cafe Oto and micro-exhibition at Project DIVFUSE (both in 2024).
- 2017 - present *BRÅK*
Co-organiser with Tom Ward and Colin Webster; concert series.
- 2015 - present *Sloth Racket*
Organiser/producer and fundraiser for all the band's work to date:
- 2024: *Anthropods/Sloth Racket Tour*
(supported by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Arts, Culture, Civil Service and Sport)
Four double bill live dates with Austrian band, working with Mark Holub.
 - 2022: *Organising Space Tour*
Six live dates in the UK.
 - 2020 - 2021: *A Room Inside The Internet*
(Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant)
Five-month online R&D project with real-time remote rehearsals and broadcast.
 - 2019: *Dismantle Yourself Tour*
(Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant)
Nine-date UK tour.
 - 2018: *A Glorious Monster Tour*
(Arts Council England National Lottery Project Grant)
Eight-date UK tour.
 - 2017: *Shapeshifters Tour*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Six-date UK tour.

- 2016: *Triptych Tour*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
11-date UK tour.

2015 - 2025 *Luminous Label*
Co-organiser with Dee Byrne; record label releasing improvised/experimental music.
(See discography.)

2013 - 2025 *LUME*
Co-organiser with Dee Byrne of an ongoing concert series in London, as well as special projects:

- 2017: *LUME Festival*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Two-day festival in London.
- 2017: *LUME Lab*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Four micro-commissions and concert series.
- 2016: *LUME Festival*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
One-day festival in London.
- 2015: *LUME On Tour*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Nine-date double bill tour for Entropi and Quadraceratops.

2017 *Favourite Animals/Article XI UK Tour*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Organiser/producer, fundraiser (collaboration with Anton Hunter);
four-date double bill large ensembles tour.

2015 - 2017 *Out Front*
(Arts Council England Grants For The Arts)
Programming team member; concert series and week-long festival in Derby, UK.