

# Samantha Christopher: Biographical Programme Note

## Short

**Samantha** graduated her music studies with honours at **Colchester Institute**, working closely with British clarinettist **Charles Hine**, and composer **Jeffery Wilson**. In high demand, Samantha has established herself as a clarinet tutor and clarinettist. Founding **Da Capo Academy, Ltd** with her husband **Dylan Christopher**, Samantha has provided opportunities for learners over a wide range of ages and abilities, working together to explore music.

## Long

Samantha was a keen recorder player, starting lessons at the age of five, progressing to the clarinet just two years later at primary school with **Lynda Blackburn**. Samantha would later take part in regular music assemblies and concerts during her time at **Highfields Primary School** (Manningtree, Essex), inspired by her head teacher, **Hilary Cook**.

Whilst attending **Manningtree High School** (Manningtree, Essex), Samantha completed her secondary music studies with **Beverly Firth**, becoming a valued member of two clarinet choirs who would regularly compete in Colchester's **Rotary Club Festival of Music and Dance**, also frequently performing in the school bands and various ensembles at the school's bi-annual concerts. By the age of thirteen, Samantha had achieved her Grade 8, with Merit, joining **Essex Young People's Orchestra**. At sixteen, she was selected as the principal clarinettist of **Essex Youth Symphonic Wind Orchestra**, directed by, British clarinettist **Charles Hine**. Samantha would later continue her studies at **Colchester Sixth Form College**.

In 2009, Samantha graduated her music studies with honours at **Colchester Institute: Centre for Performing Arts**, working closely with **Charles Hine**, and composer **Jeffery Wilson**. Later, after graduating, Samantha continued her clarinet studies under the guidance of Wilson, performing regular lunchtime recitals at the **Cramphorn Theatre** (Chelmsford, Essex) with pianist and musical director, **Ian Ray**. More recently, Samantha has performed as soloist with **Clacton Concert Orchestra**, premiered works by the composer, **Peter Thorne** and performers regularly with Clarinettist David Chivers and Pianist Mary Blanchard giving recitals across Essex and Suffolk.

A passionate musician, Samantha obtained performance diplomas from **Trinity College London**, (LTCL), **Associate Board of the Royal Schools of Music** (DipABRSM) and **West London College of Music** (ALCM). In high demand, Samantha has established herself as a clarinet tutor, theory mentor and clarinettist in Colchester, founding **Da Capo Academy, Ltd** with her husband **Dylan Christopher**. Samantha continues to provide opportunities for learners over a wide range of ages and abilities, working together with them to explore music and share her passion. As an enthusiastic ensemble player, Samantha is a member of the **British Clarinet Ensemble** directed by **Charles Hine** and the **East Anglian Single Reed Choir** conducted by clarinettist and composer **Anthony Bailey**.

## Further Information;

Date of Birth: 4 July 1988

Place of birth: Colchester, Essex, UK