



credit: John Elder

Alison Mitchell - Flute

Hailing originally from Melbourne, Alison Mitchell was appointed Principal Flute of the Scottish Chamber Orchestra in 2003.

Since leaving Australia to continue her studies in Basle with the renowned Swiss Flautist, Peter-Lukas Graf she has maintained a very successful professional career between Europe and Australia playing with many major orchestras on both continents.

Shortly after arriving in the UK, Alison was appointed to the position of Principal Flute with the Orchestra of Scottish Opera with whom she performed for 5 years before embarking on a freelance career dedicated to solo and chamber music performances.

From there, an opportunity arose for her to return to Australia to take up the position of Associate Principal

Flute with the Sydney Symphony. During this seven year period with the Symphony, Alison also regularly performed as guest principal flute with the highly regarded Australian Chamber Orchestra and pursued a varied mix of chamber music, recordings, broadcasts for the ABC and solo recitals.

Since her return to Scotland as Principal Flute with the Scottish Chamber Orchestra, Alison performs and records regularly with SCO chamber ensembles and as a concerto soloist. Her performances have included Mozart's Concertos in G and D, the Poulenc Sonata (orch. Berkeley), Concerto for Flute (1980) by Nigel Osborne, Cimarosa's Concerto for 2 Flutes, Honegger's Concerto da Camera for Flute and Cor anglais and Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.4. Alison's recording of Mozart's Flute Concerto in G major with the SCO was released in 2006 on Linn records receiving glowing reviews. "Mitchell's sound... is light, clear and freshly coloured with transparent precision and agility and refined musical grace."(SydneyMorningHerald).

This summer, Alison will perform Poulenc's Sonata for flute and orchestra in the SCO's Second Highland tour with Robin Ticciati directing, visiting Findhorn, Strathpeffer and Pitlochry.

As well as her work in Scotland, Alison has a continuing relationship with the Australian Chamber Orchestra as guest Principal Flute and tours with them regularly throughout Australia. In 2005 she joined with Angela Hewitt and the ACO to produce recordings and performances throughout Australia of Bach's Brandenburg Concerto No.5 and the Triple Concerto for flute, violin and piano. The highly acclaimed recording subsequently won many awards including Gramophone CD of the Month. She will be joining them again in November '09 for a tour of Australia.

Alongside her busy SCO schedule Alison performs as soloist and chamber musician, most notably, with Mr McFall's Chamber and the Hebrides Ensemble, at the East Neuk festival where in 2009 she will perform with Christian Zacharias, as guest soloist at the *Bang on a Can* Marathon at the Perth Concert Hall and more recently in recital at the RSAMD with pianist, Scott Mitchell.

She is also a lecturer in Flute at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and will be on

the faculty of the Baltic Youth Philharmonic for their 2009 concert season.