

Hazel Leach

Born in 1956 in Northumberland, England, Hazel studied flute, saxophone, arranging and conducting in England and The Netherlands. From 1985 to 2010 she was lecturer in music at the Arnhem Conservatorium (NL), teaching arranging, songwriting and a wide range of jazz theory-related subjects.

From 1992 to 2009 she was bandleader and composer for The United Women's Orchestra, an international big band based in Germany. With the UWO she has produced 3 CDs, and several of her pieces for concert bigband have won international awards.

As a 'teacher/composer' she was both participant (2002) and curator (2005) of the Omi International Music Residency in New York, and has given lectures and workshops at Harvard & Columbia (NYC). In 2006 she was invited as 'Artist-in-residence' to the Berklee College of Music in Boston USA.

In 2009/2010 she was composer for the award-winning "Paradies 2" project, organised by the IBA (Internationale Bauausstellung) in Germany.

In January 2010 her "Songs from the Edge" were recorded by the German/Dutch quartet "Plots". CD release (JHM 208) in 2012.

Since September 2011 she is artistic leader of the Composers' Orchestra Berlin. Two CDs featuring the COB were released in 2014 "Free Range Music" and "Spazieren in Berlin".

Hazel Leach is a prolific composer in a wide variety of forms. Much of her music has been written to commission and includes music for choir, as well as a wide range of small and large ensembles.

Complete listings, recordings and examples can be found on the following websites:

www.hazelleach.com

www.composersorchestraberlin.com