

Carol Barratt

Carol Barratt was born in the Midlands and educated at Ashby-de la-Zouch Grammar School for Girls. She subsequently trained at the Royal College of Music, London, where she quickly established herself as a composer and pianist, also studying the violin.

After graduating, she was awarded the prestigious Martin Musical Scholarship given by the Philharmonia (the first woman to be so honoured), enabling her to study composition with Elizabeth Lutyens CBE.

Her concert works include her Magnificat and Nunc dimittis, Piano Preludes, and her song cycles Love... a Strange Disease and Songs for Singing. She has devoted her life to music education and is acknowledged as a leading authority on the subject. She has over 70 publications in print including the renowned Chester Piano Books for Chester Music and the Bravo! series for Boosey & Hawkes. Her music has frequently been set for various examination boards, including the Associated Board.

In 1996 she received the Musical Industries award for the Educational Publication of the Year and in 1998 she was made an Honorary Member of the Royal College of Music. She is also a celebrated lyricist and has written texts for many works by Karl Jenkins, to whom she has been married for 34 years. As she often says, 'I'm handy and I'm cheap!'