

Marie Schreer | Biography (July 2025)

“A champion of music of various genres” — The Strad

Marie Schreer is a violinist, improviser, and curator whose work explores the expressive edges of sound — through the violin, her voice, and the dynamic spaces between composition and spontaneity. Her practice grows from a deep curiosity about how music comes to life, how it moves beyond notation, and how it can communicate on levels both subtle and visceral.

Born in Germany, Marie began studying violin at the age of three with Ute Frenzel at Musikakademie Diapason. She later moved to London, continuing her studies with Berent Korfker, Daniel Rowland, and Yuri Zhislin (viola) at the Royal College of Music, followed by postgraduate study with Krzysztof Smietana and David Dolan (classical improvisation) at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, where she graduated with a Concert Recital Diploma, awarded for an outstanding final recital.

Marie’s artistic journey moves between precision and risk, structure and freedom — weaving exacting control with bursts of raw energy, and balancing intricate detail with spontaneous expression. Her performances bring together commissioned works, her own compositions, and improvisations, creating music that is as much about dialogue and connection as it is about sound itself.

Her playing has been featured on dozens of recordings, and she has premiered works at festivals including Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival and Nordic Music Days. She has performed and recorded with artists such as Lars Vogt, guitarist John Williams, Evan Parker, and Kate Williams.

Marie is violinist and co-Artistic Director of the Ernst von Siemens Ensemble Prize-winning Riot Ensemble, an internationally renowned group dedicated to the creation, exploration and presentation of great contemporary works and new music yet to be discovered. Together with pioneering musician John Garner, she was also a founding member of the contemporary violin duo Mainly Two, the Guastalla Quartet, and the cross-genre label and podcast project Turquoise Coconut — initiatives that reflected her passion for collaboration, experimentation, and exploring the intersections of different musical worlds.

At the heart of her artistry lies a search for articulating the unspoken, immediacy, and emotional truth. Whether performing in chamber ensembles, experimental groups, or as a soloist, Marie invites listeners into a shared space where the boundaries between performer, composer, and audience become fluid — a place alive with openness, risk, and possibility.