

# Emma Johnson's Clarinet Goes to Town



*“Emma Johnson as revealed at the Jazz Café was dynamic, surprising and downright funky. With her instrument’s rich chalumeau register and her brilliant sense of timing and vocal nuance Emma had the audience on their feet.”*

– Jewish  
Chronicle

SWING HAS ALWAYS FASCINATED EMMA JOHNSON because it’s such exciting music to play on the clarinet. She grew up admiring the recordings of Benny Goodman and Artie Shaw and as a young musician Emma was lucky to collaborate many times with the great jazz duo, Sir John Dankworth and Dame Cleo Laine.

*“Overall, this is a fabulous experience, a trio par excellence – ebullient, reflective, historical and unquestionably uplifting. Quite brilliant.”*

– PHILIP DUKES,  
Director of Music,  
Marlborough College



In ‘Clarinet Goes to Town’ Emma collaborates with JOHN LENEHAN (piano) and PAUL CLARVIS (percussion) to explore some of the elements - ragtime, cakewalks, popular song, habanera, Negro Spirituals - which fused together to create jazz at the beginning of the 20th century, reaching an apotheosis in the music of the King of Swing, BENNY GOODMAN.



*“What a fabulous evening! The audience was captivated by the energy, the musicianship and the rapport both between the band members and with the audience.”*

*– GRAHAM QUINLIVAN,  
Hagley Music Festival*

**Hermann** – Clarinet on the Town

**MacDowell** – To a Wild Rose

**Dankworth** – Dream of Jeanie

**Dvorak** – Indian Lament

**Gershwin** – I Got Rhythm

**Debussy** – Cakewalk

**Joplin** – The Entertainer

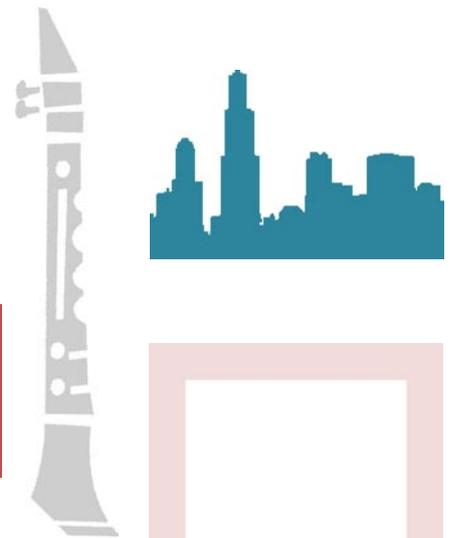
**Gershwin** – Walking the Dog

**Johnson/Busse/Muller** – Wang Wang Blues

**Hudson/Mills** – Moonglow

**Layton/Creamer** – After You’ve Gone

**Prima** – Sing! Sing! Sing!



..INTERVAL..



**Templeton** – Bach Goes to Town

**Bernstein** – Riffs

**Artie Shaw** – Concerto

**Ravel** – Habanera

**Abreu** – Tico Tico

**Razaf/Blake** – Memories of You

**Trad. Arr. Johnson** – Sometimes I feel like a Motherless Child

**Trad** – St. James Infirmary Blues

**Bechet** – Petite Fleur

**Comfrey** – Dizzy fingers

**Chaplin** – Smile

**Goodman** – China Boy – Sheik of Araby

## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK FROM 1ST PERFORMANCE AT ST GEORGE'S BRISTOL, MARCH 2015:

*“A delightful evening! Wonderful musicianship and such enthusiasm and joy in playing . . . and so for us as listeners! We also loved the way Emma introduced the pieces and talked about the influences and significance of the development of jazz.”*

*“We had a terrific time! Emma Johnson’s performance was sparkling in every way. The mix of informative contextual history and consummate performances from all three musicians was unforgettable.”*

*“An outstanding performance - how has she managed to reinvent herself as a top class jazz musician as well as a top class classical performer?”*



*“My husband and I had a fabulous evening! What a real treat. Superb programme of music, loved Emma’s narrative. Incomparable musicianship, performers and audience created a wonderful “session” type atmosphere. A concert to remember.”*



## AUDIENCE FEEDBACK FROM PERFORMANCE AT MARLBOROUGH COLLEGE, OCT 2015:

*“Excellent concert. She is a very engaging personality, and the musicians with her were also first class.”*

*“The show was extremely well presented by Emma Johnson and was full of life, enthusiasm, and wonderful music from all three musicians. They looked as if they were enjoying the evening as much as the audience did.”*

*“I would give it more than five stars if possible! Hard to believe this was the trio’s debut as they were fantastic – all three of them. Emma was outstanding! Her explanation of the tour through the history of American music was very informative. When are they coming back”*



*“Tonight at the Aldborough Festival was simply fantastic. You and your fellow professionals were wonderful and the evening was worth every penny. Sincere congratulations and thanks.”*

*“The performance itself and the spoken introductions were very involving and the virtuosity on display stunning and so many audience members have told me how thrilled they were by the evening.”*

ROBERT OGDEN,  
Northern Aldborough Festival Director

# ..TOUR DATES..

- St George's Bristol (March 2015)**
- Pinner Music Festival (June 2015)**
- Mananan Festival (June 2015)**
- Sevenoaks Summer Festival (July 2015)**
- Marlborough College Concerts Society (October 2015)**
- Solway Hall, Whitehaven (January 2016)**
- Bradfield Festival (June 2016)**
- Three Choirs Festival, Gloucester (July 2016)**
- BBC Radio 3 In Tune (October 2016)**
- Halesworth Festival (October 2016)**
- Sherborne Abbey Festival (April 2017)**
- Hagley Music Festival (May 2017)**
- The Stables, Wavendon (May 2017)**
- Northern Aldborough Festival (June 2017)**
- Llandeilo Fawr Festival (July 2017)**
- Frant Music Festival (September 2017)**





*“We attended the Jazz comes to Town concert at Marlborough College on Sunday 11 October. It was spectacular and your rapport with the audience and the pianist (with six hands!) and the percussionist (genius playing the spoons!) was so relaxed and natural. Thank you so much for a truly memorable concert. We were spellbound. Never to be forgotten.”*



The trio's debut album is available on the Nimbus label and did well in the cd charts in December 2016



*“A winning disc.....”* Musicweb International

