



JUMP

A musical interpretation of insect and amphibian sounds and rhythms that will transport audiences to a riverbank bursting with life

"JUMP is a marvellous musical rendition of the sounds of nature. Karen's performance masterfully captures the essence of the organisms each piece represents."

Charlie Woodrow (Biophysics & Biomechanics at ENTO 2022)

Composed and performed by
Karen Wimhurst



Once upon a time in a meadow far away...
the joint was jumping with life. Insects were calling and frogs were croaking, filling the riverside with the sounds of summer. This symphony of small voices is now being silenced - let's make some noise about it!



JUMP



A multilayered interplay of insect and amphibian sounds and rhythms with recorded and live clarinet music; a truly magical piece that perfectly emulates the curious creatures of the insect and amphibian world, bringing to life their musicality and the essential part they play in the orchestra of life on Earth.

Karen takes you on an enchanting journey on lyrical woodwind breezes, jagged rhythms and improvisation, into a world where we can all trill, whirr, croak, buzz, chirp, squeak, chirrup and jump for joy with the best of them.

**Let the music tell the story that "precious voices across the globe are vanishing fast".
Let's all JUMP before it is too late.**

This performance is at home on a concert stage, as part of a festival, or as a gallery installation piece with repeat performances throughout the day.

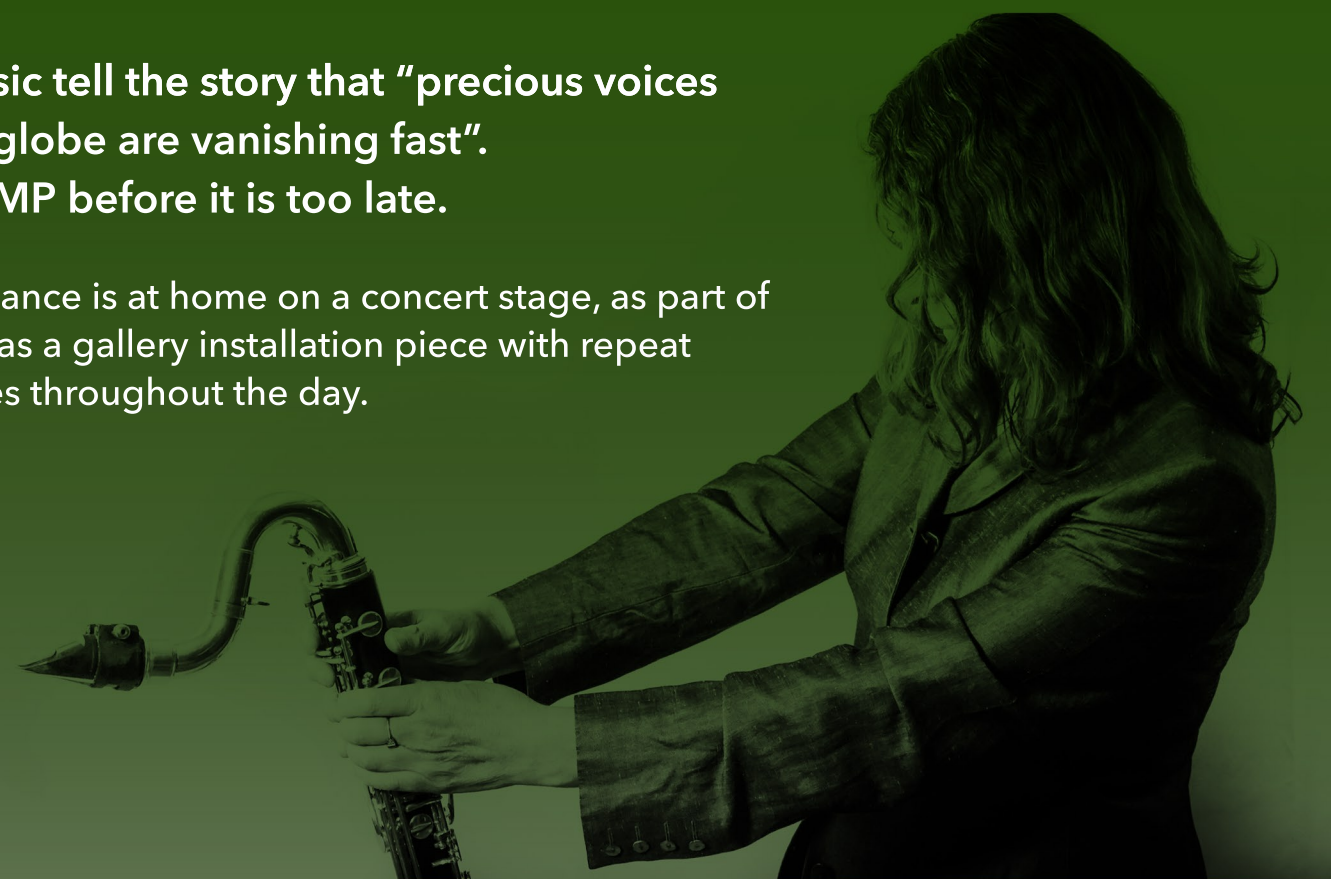


JUMP is a collaboration between composer Karen Wimhurst, entomologist Peter Smithers hon.FRES and Charlie Woodrow from the Bioacoustics Lab at Lincoln University.

To add an extra layer to the music, Karen's performance can be accompanied (by arrangement) by a talk from Peter Smithers.

With his expert knowledge of the insect world, Peter will outline its vital role in our natural systems and explore its decline in numbers, illustrated with excerpts from his new book 'Small Game Hunter'.

The amazing creatures featured in JUMP produce sound in many different ways, the methods are as diverse as the songs that they create. We are delighted to introduce a few of the musical stars below, a full cast list plus audio sample of the compositions, can be found on: <https://www.karenwimhurst.co.uk/jump>



Pool frog - *Pelophylax lessonae*

This frog occurs in south eastern England, in small ponds in open woodland. Frogs and toads have vocal chords in their throats and a vocal sac under their chin or at the side of their mouth. They force air from their lungs over the vocal chords into the sac which amplifies the sound. The air is then forced back into the lungs repeating the call and repeated many times.



Cicada - *Neotibicen winnemanna*

Known as Dog Day cicadas, this North American species lives in deciduous woodland. Cicadas have a circular domed membrane with raised ribs running across it. A muscle pulls the membrane inwards causing the ribs to buckle, generating a click. When the muscle relaxes the membrane springs back. This can occur between 100 and 300 times a second.

Bog Bush Cricket - *Metrioptera brachyptera*

This cricket is most abundant in southern areas of the UK and is found in damp habitats in lowland areas. It creates sound by friction of its wings, with vibrations amplified by a membrane.



Technical Information

JUMP is suitable for all ages and for both indoor and outdoor performances (weather permitting). The performance lasts approximately 45 minutes.

Performance Space: 3m x 3m performance area required and ideally a stool (50-55cm high).

Set up/take down: 30 minutes. Assistance appreciated but not essential.

Sound: Own battery PA used - ideal for smaller internal or external locations, up to 100 people. Full technical requirements when working with venue sound team available on the website (see bottom of page).

Safety and Insurance: Risk assessment, public liability (£10m) and equipment insurance documents available on request. If performing more than one session security cover for equipment between sessions requested.

Booking and Contact Details

Karen is available for performances during 2023-24, please enquire for specific dates.

Pricing;

£295* for up to 2 x 45 minute performances within one session.

Additional performances within a day, or performances over consecutive days can be arranged to suit, prices on request.

*plus travel and accommodation where required.



For further information and booking please contact

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Talk on the Insect World by Peter Smithers hon FRES.

This is offered **free of charge** (travel/accommodation expenses apply) by arrangement (subject to availability) through White Sheep Projects. Talk approx 30 mins. Powerpoint presentation - screen and projector required.

With thanks to the following for permission to use insect and amphibian calls and for sound recordings:

Bush Crickets - Charlie Woodrow and Fernando Montealegre-Z (University of Lincoln, UK)

Cicada Song - Dr David C Marshall (University of Connecticut, USA)

Orthoptera Song - Dr Peter Sutton & Dr Bjorn Beckmann (UK Orthoptera recording scheme)

Amphibian Songs - Kathy Wormald, CEO Froglife

Full acknowledgements on the website: <https://www.karenwimhurst.co.uk/jump>