SOPHIE WEBBER, CELLIST

Cellist · Educator · Cross-Disciplinary Collaborator



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MUSIC ALBUMS

***Escape*: Bach's Six Suites for Solo Cello:**
open.spotify.com/album/5vKOdEu4ZrxCd8XLYyA70n?si=sfuxBJUCSASw6MsUvLEmBQ

***B2C*: Bach to Choir:** open.spotify.com/album/6ezlyYjeBj843llUP8lxXe?si=mlUtbpbxTOmXWGeIMoaJBQ

***Roots*: Transcriptions of Romantic Works for Cello and Piano:**
open.spotify.com/album/1grB7iqdfUj28Fdok0T2QM?si=3i344WPcRzW5R6qb7Qofhw

MUSIC VIDEOS

~LIVE PERFORMANCES

- **Britten — Suite No. 3, Op. 87 — closing Kontakion** (live, Southern Utah Cello Festival, 2026): https://youtu.be/5RNEi3GZNCQ *Full movement available on request.*
- **De Falla — Suite Populaire Espagnole** (live, with pianist Ines Irawati): https://youtu.be/crBOFi4Bv8s

~ALBUM TEASERS

- ***Escape*** Album Teaser: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uNF7B4uR6A
- ***B2C*** Album Teaser: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gisBJlQ_d_c

BIO

> *"outstanding... every note has meaning rather as a look or a touch does; the resulting conversations she has with the music are endlessly absorbing... Her subjective narrative suggests the freedom with which Pablo Casals brought the music back to life a century ago."*

~LAURENCE VITTES | GRAMOPHONE

Cellist Dr. Sophie Webber, whose *"every note has meaning rather as a look or a touch does"* (Gramophone), is an internationally acclaimed soloist, chamber musician, arts activist, and educator. She has released three critically acclaimed albums: ***Escape*: Bach's Six Suites for Solo Cello** (2018), ***B2C*: Bach to Choir** (2020, featuring Bach's Cello Suites Nos. 1 and 3 with Sophie's original choral arrangements), and ***Roots*: Transcriptions of Romantic Works for Cello and Piano** with pianist Ines Irawati (2022).

Sophie completed her Doctorate studies with Janos Starker, Tsuyoshi Tsutsumi, and Helga Winold at Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. Formerly, she studied with Richard Markson at Trinity College of Music, London, where she earned a First Class Honors degree as well as the Sir John Barbirolli memorial prize.

A dedicated and passionate educator, Sophie has served as cello faculty at Southeast Missouri State University, Trinity College of Music Junior Department (London), the Music Institute of Chicago, and Lake Forest College, among others. She is a keen music theorist and pianist, and held a position as Music Theory Instructor at Indiana University for four years. She has taught university-level courses and given guest masterclasses at universities across the US and in Mexico. In 2024, she created *"Dr Sophie Cello Lab,"* an online cello course including group and individual instruction, international guest cellist clinicians, and a strong community component.

Her students have served as principals in the Chicago and San Diego Youth Symphony Orchestras, placed in regional and national competitions, and gone on to study at top music schools nationwide.

In 2009, Sophie founded **Fused Muse Ensemble**, a nonprofit with a mission to amplify voices too often left unheard through music and mixed media, with recent projects including *Breaking Ice*, exploring the intersections of music and science. Alongside her ensemble work, she has developed a rich body of independent cross-disciplinary collaborations — including a solo-cello-and-dance program premiered at the FIV León Cello Festival in Mexico (2026), a two-hour improvisation with contemporary dancers, ongoing improvisation partnerships across genres, and a Northwestern University neurology research project supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, on which she serves as a contributing musician, collecting data on music's measurable power to reduce anxiety through lowered heart rate and blood pressure in patients with anxiety and dementia. Sophie also regularly performs in hospices and assisted-living communities in San Diego, carrying the cello into places where it is most needed, and most deeply received.

Sophie's music has been featured on BBC Radio 3, Los Angeles's KUSC 91.5, Chicago's WFMT 98.7, Seattle's King FM 98.1, and classical stations across the US.

PRESS REVIEWS

"outstanding... every note has meaning rather as a look or a touch does; the resulting conversations she has with the music are endlessly absorbing... Her subjective narrative suggests the freedom with which Pablo Casals brought the music back to life a century ago."

~LAURENCE VITTES | GRAMOPHONE

"exceptional and creative musician"

~MAUREEN BUJA | *INTERLUDE* Classical Music Magazine

"Given that every cellist who has ever lived during the age of recordings has already made an album of the Bach suites, including Ms. Webber herself, the novelty (and beauty) of offering them with vocal augmentation seems inspired. The results are lovely."

~JOHN J. PUCCIO | *CLASSICAL CANDOR* Classical Music News & Reviews Blog

"Sophie Webber is an extraordinary musician and a first-rate cellist. Her spirit is always warm and engaging and her playing is consistently compelling."

~DALE WARLAND (founder of the *DALE WARLAND SINGERS*)

"Sophie makes her cello speak, sing and articulate clearly in a seemingly effortless way. Added to this she has the ability to communicate the essence of the music, be it old, more recent or very new."

~JOHN POOLE (Former Director of the *B.B.C SINGERS*, guest conductor of the *B.B.C SYMPHONY*)

"Sophie Webber takes the Casals route and does not shy away from a big, vibrant sound. There is a wonderful amplitude to her performance, no self indulgence but a real feeling for strong tone colours."

~ROBERT HUGILL | PLANET HUGILL - A WORLD OF CLASSICAL MUSIC Classical Music Blog

"There is a kind of fragility to the playing which, combined with the deep acoustic reverberation, creates a sense of downlit drama to the end product that's compelling…"

~JON JACOB | *THOROUGHLY GOOD* UK Classical Music Blog

"Passionate yet thoughtful… sublime to hear."

~TIME OUT CHICAGO

"Bach's Cello Suites have been arranged for almost every instrument imaginable, but this is the first time I know of that they have been performed by a cellist with a choir. Sophie Webber's own very tasteful choral arrangements give Bach's suites an added dimension."

~RIK MALONE | Music Director for *LOS ANGELES KUSC*, 91.5 FM

"A must for every lover of the romantic cello"

~JANET HORVATH | *INTERLUDE* Classical Music Magazine