



CHARLIE REES

SAXOPHONIST | ARRANGER | MUSIC COPYIST | WRITER & EDITOR

British jazz musician based in Southwest Germany

Website: www.charliereesmusic.com

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Award-winning British jazz musician and arranger with professional experience spanning performance, orchestration, music preparation, editorial work and arts journalism.

I graduated from the Royal Academy of Music with First Class Honours in Jazz Saxophone and have developed a portfolio career encompassing live performance, large ensemble arranging, professional music copying, publishing and specialist music writing.

Alongside an active performing career in the UK and Germany, I have served as Assistant Editor of UKJazz News since 2022, contributing more than 100 published articles, interviews and feature-length essays. My arranging work has been performed by the London Jazz Orchestra and commissioned for professional artists, while my freelance music preparation work has included score preparation and copyist services for professional ensembles and faculty members at leading UK conservatoires across both the jazz and classical disciplines.

I am seeking opportunities in higher education, music publishing, arts administration, arranging, editorial work and specialist music education alongside my performing career.

EDUCATION

Royal Academy of Music, London
Bachelor of Music (Jazz Saxophone) 2020–2024
First Class Honours

Principal Study:

- Stan Sulzmann
- Martin Speake

Modules included jazz composition, large ensemble arranging and orchestration.

Chetham's School of Music
Specialist Music School 2012–2020

Specialist studies in saxophone, jazz composition and arranging.

SELECTED CAREER HIGHLIGHTS

- Winner, Eddie Harvey Jazz Arranger Award (2025)
- Arranger and producer for *Hidden Vision: The Arrangements of Charlie Rees*, recorded by the Martin Speake Big Band featuring Mark Nightingale, Louis Dowdeswell, Emil Viklický and other leading international jazz musicians
- String arranger for the UK-wide Woman to Woman tour featuring Beverley Craven, Judie Tzuke and Julia Fordham
- Arrangements performed by the London Jazz Orchestra
- Conducted the London Jazz Orchestra in concert
- Performed alongside Richie Beirach, Adam Nussbaum, Alex Sipiagin, Jeff Williams and the Sirius String Quartet
- Regular collaborator with pianist Regina Litvinova in Germany
- Semi-finalist, BBC Young Jazz Musician (2020)

SELECTED COLLABORATORS

Performance & Artistic Collaboration

Richie Beirach • Adam Nussbaum • Alex Sipiagin • Jeff Williams • Regina Litvinova • Emil Viklický • Martin Speake Big Band • Sirius String Quartet

Artistic Study & Mentorship

Dave Liebman • Richie Beirach • Jeff Williams • Stan Sulzmann

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Alongside formal study at the Royal Academy of Music, I have pursued ongoing artistic development through private study, mentorship and collaborative performance with internationally recognised jazz musicians. These experiences have informed my work as a performer.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Freelance Jazz Musician, Arranger & Music Copyist 2024–Present

Working throughout the UK and Germany as a freelance performer, arranger and music copyist.

Current activities include:

- Jazz performance
- Large ensemble arranging
- String arranging
- Professional Sibelius music preparation
- Professional music copying and score preparation
- Parts extraction
- Private arranging commissions
- Music transcription

Assistant Editor 2022–Present

UKJazz News

- Assistant Editor of one of the UK's leading jazz publications
- Author of more than 100 published articles
- Feature writer, interviewer and reviewer
- Commissioned to produce sponsored editorial content
- Conduct interviews with leading international jazz musicians
- Research and write historical features on significant jazz figures
- Contribute editorial content covering concerts, recordings and contemporary jazz

ARRANGING & MUSIC PREPARATION

Professional services include:

- Big band arranging
- String arranging
- Small ensemble arranging
- Jazz orchestration
- Professional score preparation
- Parts extraction
- Music transcription (large ensemble, small ensemble and improvised solos)
- Sibelius notation (expert level)
- Professional music copying
- Preparation of publication- and performance-ready scores

Portfolio of scores and recordings available upon request.

PUBLICATIONS

Assistant Editor – UKJazz News (2022–Present)

Selected editorial work includes:

- More than 100 published articles
- Five-part interview series examining the life and music of Steve Grossman
- Three-part memorial series celebrating Richie Beirach
- Interviews with Christian McBride, Chuck Israels, Bob Mintzer, Curtis Stigers and numerous other internationally recognised jazz artists

Selected writing portfolio available upon request.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Musical

- Tenor, soprano, alto and baritone saxophones
- Sibelius (expert)
- Jazz orchestration
- Professional score preparation
- Music copying
- Parts extraction
- Music transcription
- Large ensemble arranging

Editorial & Digital

- Long-form music journalism
- Artist interviews
- Copy editing
- Editorial planning
- Social media management
- Content creation

LANGUAGES

- English – Native
- German – A1 (actively studying towards B1)

PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

Higher education • Jazz performance • Large ensemble arranging • Music publishing • Music notation • Arts journalism • Artist development • Jazz history

REFERENCES

Available upon request.