

# Helen Abbott and Marie Rolf

## Master Class

Friday, April 12, 2019

3:30-5:00 P.M.

ESM 305

From *Cinq poèmes de Charles Baudelaire*

1. Le balcon
3. Le jet d'eau
5. La mort des amants

Claude Debussy

Virginia Sheffield, soprano  
Brian Wong, piano

*Trois chansons de Bilitis* (Pierre Louÿs) (complete)

1. La flûte de Pan
2. La chevelure
3. Le tombeau des Nâïades

Claude Debussy

Kyrsten Chambers-Jones, mezzo-soprano  
Jesslyn Gunawan, piano



## **Helen Abbott**

Professor Helen Abbott is a specialist in nineteenth-century French poetry and music at the University of Birmingham UK. She explores ways of writing about word-music relationships in poetic language, in critical theories, and using digital methodologies. She directs the *Baudelaire Song Project* which has just launched its database of 1,600 songs in 25 languages, and 40 different musical genres [www.baudelaire song.org/search](http://www.baudelaire song.org/search), and offers a new networked model for analysing and visualising word/music relations in songs (AHRC-funded 2015–2019). She is author of three books: *Baudelaire in Song 1880–1930* (OUP, 2017); *Parisian Intersections* (Peter Lang, 2012); *Between Baudelaire and Mallarmé* (Ashgate, 2009). A classically-trained soprano, Professor Abbott is also in demand as a specialist language coach for professional and early career classical musicians working on French repertoire, and was recently consultant and language coach on a Gramophone Classical Music Awards 2018 nominated album *Voyages* (Signum, 2017) with Mary Bevan (soprano) and Joseph Middleton (piano).