

# SCHERZO

Interviews with the notable musicians & fascinating personalities of our day

with WESLEY FERREIRA

## ANNELIEN VAN WAUWE

*Belgian clarinetist Annelien Van Wauwe is forging a reputation as one of the most exciting and original clarinetists of her generation. She is a multifaceted musician with a career which has her collaborating and performing worldwide. Annelien sits down and answers some questions.*

**What's the best part of being a musician?** The freedom.

**What advice are you glad you ignored?** That being an orchestra musician is the only way to make a successful and secure living.

**What motivates you?** New projects that I truly believe in.

**What's the craziest or most adventurous thing you've ever done?** Recording at the very end of my first pregnancy. And guess what? I will do it again.

**What worries you about the world?** Selfishness.

**What's the one thing that people would be surprised to find out about you?**

I hate doing the dishes.

**What really makes you laugh?** A good joke surrounded by friends.

**Do you have an interesting way of looking at the world?** I like to see the positive side of things.

**What's something that made you smile recently?** A special butterfly in a bouquet after a concert.

**What phone app do you love to use?**

Asana, a scheduling/organisation app.

**What is your favorite form of exercise?** Yoga.

**What do you listen to while exercising?** My breath.

**What's your favorite city in the world?** Bruges.

**What is your favorite vegetable?** Pak choi.

**What is your cocktail or adult beverage of choice?** A Hugo spritz cocktail.

**In what ways do you ensure creativity in your life?** Making physical and mental space for it to appear.

**What do you do when you're creatively stuck?** I do yoga to feel more free and think less.

**Are you a morning practitioner or an evening practitioner? How early do you start/end?**

I'm both. I practice between 9:00am and 10:00pm.

**How do you know when you're finished with a practice session?**

I see the long run and don't even ask myself when I'm finished. It's a process.

**What type of music (other than "classical") are you a fan of?**

Fado and bossa nova.

**What other art form resonates with you?**

Dance.

**What's the one thing you would recommend doing or seeing if you're in Belgium?**

Visit Art Nouveau houses.

**What was your most meaningful performance?**

Performing the Mozart Concerto at the BBC Proms in 2018.

**What's the worst performance experience you've ever had?**

A recording of a Mozart Concerto, cut into pieces by a contemporary artist for an art installation in Sydney.



# CODA

If you weren't a clarinet player, what would be your profession?

**Yoga teacher, music manager, decorator, designer.**

If you could cast someone to play you in a movie, who would it be?

**I would leave that up to a casting agent.**

If you had to describe yourself in three words, which ones would you choose?

**Energetic, loving, fun.**

If you could sing a duet with any artist, living or dead, who would it be and what song?

**A song with and from Björk.**

If you could take back one sentence you've uttered in your past, what would it be?

**I cannot do that.**

If you joined the circus, what would you be doing?

**Presenting.**