Press Quotes, NADINA MACKIE JACKSON, bassoon

Updated March 24, 2026

From the moment Mackie walked on stage, she drew the audience in with her personable and often hilarious introductions, before dazzling us with her playing…Panizza got his moment to shine with a spellbinding performance . . .navigating the blisteringly fast passages with intensity and elegance…. beautifully written piece, elevated by the performers' extraordinary musicality.
Barrie Today, Alyssa Wright, March 24, 2026

*Soloist Nadina Mackie Jackson gives an especially rollicking performance and her strident solo line is met with stinging retorts from SUNY Fredonia Wind Ensemble...***May 7, 2024 Classical-Music.com https://www.classical-music.com › reviews › augusta-*read-thomas***

"The bassoon so perfectly expressed how resilient and capable this bird now understood itself to be. The strings quickened their pace to match the bird's flight and the chimes now sounded like joy. The piece ended with such a glowing, triumphant and satisfying flourish that the entire theatre leapt to their feet in applause." **Heidi Klepsch, letter to editor, Prince George Citizen [June 2, 2022] for Mathieu Lussier's Oddbird Concerto**

*"Virtuosic playing to the end drew the crowd to its feet and a chance to meet their Bassoon Heroine at intermission…"***Classic Concerts NS [September 2016]**

" true phenomenon…absolute virtuosity, Mackie Jackson imparted the depth, reach and importance of her beloved instrument" **blog review Margot Aldrich, Halifax, [October 30, 2015]**

"…Mackie Jackson tossed off rapid-fire runs during the short work's first movement before displaying her gorgeous singing tone and lightly executed ornamentation in the second …"**Holly Harris, Winnipeg Free Press, Manitoba Chamber Orchestra, Westminster United Church [March 12, 2014]**

"Jackson's brilliant artistry shines out like a jewel… sound is bold and full…gleeful abandon… deeply expressive…"**Phil Muse, Audio Society of Atlanta [March 2014]**

*"… the premiere of Mathieu Lussier's Double Concerto [Fort Coligny] for Bassoon and trumpet was spectacular and entrancing. Soloists Nadina Mackie Jackson and Guy few were mesmerizing."(***audience member review, George Weston Recital Hall at Toronto Centre for the Arts [February 16, 2014]**

"Together with pianist Karel Roessingh, Valdy & Nadina created an evening of musical wizardry that warms the heart and soul. This is one of those concerts you don't want to miss. Run - don't walk - to get your tickets to Valdy and Nadina Mackie Jackson."

Review, Bulkley Valley Concert Association [October 23, 2014]

"*With its top-notch soloist [Nadina Mackie Jackson] paired with some of the best baroque … players in North America … easily one of the finest recordings of Vivaldi on modern instruments out there."***IDRS Journal, Issue 36:1, [July 2013]**

"unalloyed delight, played with breathtaking virtuosity and an irresistible verve and

sparkle by Nadina Mackie Jackson and her seven cohorts…. Fasten your seatbelts."**George Chien, Issue 36:6, Fanfare [July/Aug 2013]**

"When Canadian bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson begins to play, the logic is revealed: she and McGegan turn these concertos into pure virtuoso vehicles"**James Manheim, AllMusic [July, 2013]**

" Nadina Mackie Jackson is a … testament to the spirit and soul of music. Nadina so clearly demonstrates the beautiful, joyful passion with which she plays… a perfect marriage between a keen technical understanding and a truly musical, creative and artistic soul"**blog review of Hummel Grand Concerto in F and Vivaldi RV 480 with Prince George Symphoy [November 2012]**

"…the most effective recording I have ever heard of this work is …by former Montreal Symphony bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson (Ball Media 1809). She hits all the corners at perfect speed, and the jaunty sound of the bassoon works very well here…"**Fanfare Magazine, from review for violinist Alexndre Gilman** Prokofiev Op 94

*"...it was Guy Few and Nadina Mackie Jackson who stole the show Tuesday. This duo is not what you expect of a virtuoso classical outfit…an example of cutting edge performance style"***Guelph Mercury, Joanne Shuttleworth, June 1, 2011**

*"..a spine-tingling performance (by Ian Bostridge) of the desperately grief-laden aria "Scherza infida," from Handel's "Ariodante," to which Nadina Mackie Jackson's unshakably solid bassoon tone added still more poignancy."***The Seattle Times - Bernard Jacobson, May 5, 2011**

*"Bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson and trumpeter/pianist Guy Few dazzled a rapt ... audience ... transported the listener in an eclectic programme. fierce displays of technique... a most satisfying afternoon. "***The Barrie Examiner, September 30, 2010**

*"superbly managed…the arresting Solo (Beckwith, 2008) arrestingly played by bassoonist Jackson"***The Globe and Mail, Ken Winters, September 20, 2010**

*"....completely engaging from the moment they walked on stage.... glorious. ..a fascinating and joyful concert. "***Oliver Chronicle, Val Friesen**, p. A12, Wednesday, **November 4, 2009**

*"...exquisite virtuosos... tossing melodies seamlessly between two instruments....amazing musicality... their duet is super-heroic. "***Vernon Morning Star, Lisa Talesnick, October 27, 2009**

*"...all the freshness and excitement...Jackson's chops are fantastic….saucy and supremely confident... delicious, heart-achingly sincere. "***Northwest Reverb, Lorin Wilkerson, April 4, 2009**

*"...lightning-quick parallel runs are breathtakingly exact…the immensely capable soloists constantly shine through the even texture. "***Northwest Reverb, Lorin**

Wilkerson, April 4, 2009

" exquisite double-tonguing.... equally exquisite lyricism... making us literally want to 'dance' to her interpretation... this recording is the very best of the Hummel Bassoon Concerto...a fabulous recording that I cannot recommend highly enough." **The Double Reed, Ron Klimko, December 2008**

"seductively and shimmeringly gorgeous..." **World Magazine, 2008**

"deeply expressive talent of each player... out-of-the-way musical offering of superlative quality... Duo Affinite -- Guy Few on trumpet, corno and piano, and Nadina Mackie Jackson bassoon -- created that irresistible combination of extraordinary musicianship and engaging showboating." **The Record (Kitchener-Waterloo), 2008**

"Mackie Jackson has a dark, burnished tone and a sensuous way of playing...Few and Jackson's remarkable virtuosity" **American Record Guide, Barry Kilpatrick, April 2008**

"Few and Jackson play with polished tone, immaculate intonation and infectious high spirits; its obvious they're having a blast" **All Music online review, Dec 2007**

"...every fine detail of Les Violons' small forces was immediately audible...proving once again that Les Violons is an alert, communicative group of musicians. Even the look of them screams vibrancy, bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson's shock of azure-blue hair providing a kind of visual centrepiece to the small stage." **The Montreal Gazette, 2007**

"...stunningly beautiful in every way... pure virtuosity... gorgeously together and breathtakingly in tune..." **The Double Reed, Ron Klimko, Spring 2007**

"...the solo bassoon playing of Nadina Mackie Jackson...couldn't be more refined, quicksilver or swashbuckling." **The Gramophone, August 2006**

"The Phoenix sounds gorgeous on this recording, with this instrumentation...this recording has [warmth and depth] in abundance..." **American Record Guide**, Aug 2006

"This is one of the most delightful recordings I have ever heard....interpretation, phrasing, ornamentation by consummate artist Nadina Mackie Jackson...she can make the music dance for your ears...an absolute thrill to hear." **Ron Klimko**, **The Double Reed, July 2006**

"Her bassoon advocacy is overshadowed by her artistry, expression and overall excellent musicianship." **The Record (Kitchener), June 2006**

"...[a] delightfully sprightly disc. The CD is cleanly recorded and the players are superb.

*The music has a welcome simplicity but plenty of élan. Highest recommendation!"***Audiophile Audition, John Sunier, June 2006**

"The performances are stunning... Nadina Mackie Jackson possessed of a particularly beautiful, singing tone... the standard of intonation is uncannily good resulting in many really gorgeous textures - delightful music played with consummate skill and recorded to perfection." **The Music , Gwynn Parry-Jones, June 2006**

*"The performances are light and transparent... fast movements wonderfully weightless...bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson handles adeptly and with clear relish... freedom with tempo and phrasing... deep feeling to the music...Tone throughout the bassoons' register is delicious... This is ensemble playing of great mutual respect and undeniable musicality."***WholeNote Magazine, Alex Baran, February 2006**

*"Former Montreal Symphony bassoonist Nadina Mackie Jackson has given the world two of the finest discs ever recorded. The first contains the best ever version of the Prokofiev flute sonata in D (sounding better than ever on bassoon), while the most recent is an awesome collection of 20th century works that should enter the repertory of every professional bassoonist−accessible and lovely."***American Record Guide, Steven Ritter, 2006**

*"...both Jackson and pianist David Swan seem to exult in its fiery romantic spirit...a rhapsody of tremendous emotion and turbulence...Ms Jackson is superb here, completely secure in her wide−ranging technique."***American Record Guide, Steven Ritter, Sept−Oct 2004**

*"...handled to perfection...the whole recital shows a real closeness to the human voice..."***La Scena Musicale, Réjean Beaucage,** Dec. **2004−Jan. 2005**

*"...awed by the gorgeous sound Nadina produces on the bassoon...favourite bassoon recording of all time...one of the finest independently produced CDs I have ever seen."***Wholenote Magazine, Merlin Williams, Sept−Oct 2004**

*"Jackson performs with effortless musicality and integrity, making the bassoon sound like a human voice...David Swan and aleks schurmer are the superb pianists."***National Post, Tamara Bernstein, September 10, 2004**

*"Nadina Mackie Jackson [is] a fantastic woman−artist−bassoonist of the highest order!... absolutely sparkling...an astounding surety and accuracy but still leaving plenty of room for expression and grace... beautiful, richly emotional expression... the performance, recording technique − everything − is so exquisitely done!... I am insanely jealous of Nadina Mackie Jackson's bassooning − technique, musicianship, artistry − the whole package! Buy this CD so that I won't be alone in my jealousy!"***International Double Reed Journal, Ronald Klimko, June, 2004**

*"...Ms Jackson and Mr Swan have a real feeling for how this music should resound, and I can't imagine a better performance."***American Record Guide, Steven Ritter, Oct 2003**

*"...by turns lyrical and rhetorical...Jackson's intense musicality...a memorably expressive performance."***National Post, Tamara Bernstein, Monday, June 2, 2003**

*"...incredible capacity for both virtuosity and poignancy...a brilliant mix of dazzling technique and gentle lyricism."***International Double Reed Journal, June, 2003**

*"...very expressive, phrasing especially lovely, technique excellent."***Music for a while, Danielle Charbonneau, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, May 7, 2003**

*"...a sparkling performance of Telemann's Twelve Fantasias...exquisite bassooning...and incredibly talented musician...I can't imagine them being played any better."*CD Review, **The Double Reed (International Double Reed Society magazine), Ron Klimko, Spring, 2002**

*"I love this recording!"***Music For A While, CBC Radio Two, Danielle Charbonneau, November, 2001**

"...exquisite playing...particularly from bassoonist Nadina Jackson." **Opera review, National Post, Tamara Bernstein, April 2, 2001**