Saffron Burrows (Cynthia)

What changes do we see for Cynthia this season?

At the end of last season, the long-standing relationship that my character has had with Malcolm McDowell's character, Thomas, has come to an end but they still love each other. There's an opening for new things to happen and that's a development this season; Cynthia embarks on an affair, the beginning of a relationship with someone.

What do you think of the changes in Cynthia's life?

It's fun to play. There are a lot of question marks for her this season and she's very involved in the union negotiating. There's a lot on the line regarding the orchestra: if they're going to shut down and whether people are going to lose their jobs.

What is an interesting result of being on the show?

I didn't know much about the classical music world before we began.

How would you describe the characters?

The show is about a group of people who have been together for a long time, some love each other, some dislike each other and some are indifferent but they are all spending a huge part of their lives together. That's just interesting to watch; how those people react and how they develop.

What has been your most memorable fan encounter?

When I took my son to preschool on the first day and we were kind of nervous because he was sobbing and I thought "I've got to settle him in." This really friendly mum came up to me and said: "I love your show!" It's such a nice feeling and it's such a lovely show to be appreciated for.

What have you heard from music professionals?

On social media a lot of musicians write: "Thank you for bringing this to the screen it's so lovely to see our lives reflected."

How would you describe the show to someone who hasn't seen it yet?

It's clever and surprising and a lot like life; life is often stranger than fiction.