

Biography: Rachel Calloway

As an internationally recognized leading interpreter of contemporary and modern music, mezzo-soprano Rachel Calloway brings versatility and compelling insight to stages worldwide. Her work has been praised by the *New York Times* for “penetrating clarity” and “considerable depth of expression” and by *Opera News* for her “adept musicianship and dramatic flair.”

This season’s highlights include a debut with the Orlando Philharmonic in Mahler’s *Das Lied von der Erde* and Schoenberg’s *Pierrot Lunaire* with Ensemble Signal at the Library of Congress. Ms. Calloway sings the music of John Zorn at November Music in the Netherlands, the Guggenheim Museum, and the Art Institute of Chicago, and continues her collaboration with the Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music. At the University of South Carolina, she will sing Ravel’s *Shéhérazade* with the USC Symphony and a world premiere by David Garner with the USC Wind Ensemble. Duo Cortona, Ms. Calloway’s duo alongside violinist Ari Streisfeld, appears in concerts and residencies at the University of South Carolina, Concerts at the Hammert and Kansas University, the University of Miami, and the Delaware Valley Community College New Music Concert Series.

Ms. Calloway recently sang Haydn’s *Lord Nelson Mass* with the Oratorio Society of New York in Carnegie Hall and Mahler’s *Symphony No. 2* with the Omaha Symphony. She debuted with Ensemble Modern in Frankfurt, Germany, singing Alban Berg’s *Der Wein* under the auspices of Alte Oper for a national radio broadcast by Heissicher Rundfunk. She was presented in concert at the Kennedy Center in collaborations with the Amernet Quartet and Pro Musica Hebraica and the Jukebox New Music Series. Ms. Calloway has covered Thomas Adès’ *Totentanz* with the New York Philharmonic, and appeared with the Los Angeles Philharmonic New Music Series (Green Umbrella), Berkeley Symphony, San Francisco Girls’ Chorus, BAM Next Wave Festival, Bridgehampton Chamber Music Festival, Cal Performances, Resonant Bodies Festival, SONiC Festival, Southern Exposure New Music Festival, and Lincoln Center Festival. She has performed with leading chamber ensembles including the Amernet Quartet, Third Coast Percussion, Ensemble Signal, Alarm Will Sound, Talea, JACK Quartet, Ekmeles, American Composers’ Orchestra and Continuum. In addition, she has collaborated with today’s foremost composers including: Gabriela Lena Frank, Georg Friederich Haas, Unsuk Chin, Oliver Knussen, Nico Muhly, Chris Cerrone, and Donnacha Dennehy.

Equally at home on the operatic stage, Ms. Calloway created the roles of “Dominant” and “Musicologist” in Steven Stucky and Jeremy Denk’s *The Classical Style* (Zankel Hall, Ojai Festival) with Robert Spano conducting which brought recognition from the *New York Times* praising her singing as “rich-voiced.” Through this engagement she became a finalist for the internationally recognized Warner Music Prize. She has created many other roles including

“Sister” in the American premiere of Vasco Mendonça’s *The House Taken Over* at National Sawdust, “Asakir” in Mohammed Fairouz’s *Sumeida’s Song* in the inaugural PROTOTYPE Festival in New York, and “Memory 2” in Lembit Beecher’s *I Have No Stories to Tell You* with Gotham Chamber Opera. She made her European operatic debut as Mrs. Grose in *The Turn of the Screw* at Opéra de Reims, Athénée Théâtre Louis-Jovet (Paris) and Opéra de Lille. She has performed with Opera Philadelphia, Lorin Maazel at the Castleton Festival in Virginia, Tulsa Opera, Central City Opera, Gotham Chamber Opera, and the Glimmerglass Festival.

Ms. Calloway holds degrees from The Juilliard School (BM) and Manhattan School of Music (MM). She joined the faculty of the Cortona Sessions for New Music (Italy) in 2014 and Summer Arts with Juilliard (Switzerland) in 2016. Ms. Calloway serves on the faculty of the University of South Carolina as Associate Director of SPARK: Carolina’s Music Leadership Laboratory and Instructor of Voice. She is a founding member of Shir Ami, an ensemble dedicated to the preservation and performance of lost and unknown Jewish art music. She can be heard on Albany Records, Tzadik Records, BCMF Records, and Toccata Classics.