

COMPOSERS

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHORUS OF NEW YORK CITY™ AND SAN FRANCISCO GIRLS CHORUS IN CONCERT



Gabriela Lena Frank

Identity has always been at the center of **GABRIELA LENA FRANK**'s music. Born in Berkeley, California to a mother of mixed Peruvian/Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian/Jewish descent, Ms. Frank explores her multicultural heritage through her compositions inspired by the works of Bela Bartók and Alberto Ginastera. As a musical anthropologist, she has traveled extensively throughout South America and her pieces reflect and refract her studies of Latin-American folklore, incorporating poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into a western classical framework that is uniquely her own. She is known for writing challenging idiomatic parts for solo instrumentalists, vocalists, chamber ensembles, and orchestras.



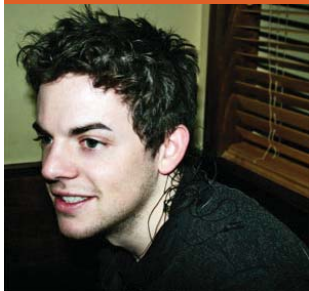
Toshiko Akiyoshi

TOSHIKO AKIYOSHI, a Japanese American jazz pianist, composer/arranger and bandleader, was discovered by Oscar Peterson and is among the very few successful female jazz instrumentalists of her generation. She is also recognized as a major figure in jazz composition, her works noted for their distinctive textures and Japanese influences. Ms. Akiyoshi has received 14 Grammy nominations and was the first woman to win the Best Arranger and Composer awards in Down Beat magazine's Readers Poll. Her biography, *Life with Jazz* was published in 1996, and in 2007 she was named an NEA Jazz Master by the U.S. National Endowment for the Arts.



Meredith Monk

MEREDITH MONK is a composer, singer, director/choreographer and creator of new opera, music theater works, films and installations. A pioneer in what is now called "extended vocal technique" and "interdisciplinary performance," Monk creates works that thrive at the intersection of music and movement, image and object, light and sound in an effort to discover and weave together new modes of perception. Her groundbreaking exploration of the voice as an instrument, as an eloquent language in and of itself, expands the boundaries of musical composition, creating landscapes of sound that unearth feelings, energies, and memories for which we have no words. During a career that spans more than 40 years, the MacArthur "Genius" Award recipient has been acclaimed by audiences and critics as a major creative force in the performing arts.



Nico Muhly

A contemporary classical composer and conductor, **NICO MUHLY** was born in Vermont in 1981. After graduating from Columbia University and earning a Masters Degree in Music from Juilliard, he worked on various composing and film scoring projects. His abilities to move from genre to genre led to his working with such well known names in the music world as Philip Glass, Björk, Antony (of Antony & the Johnsons), Bonnie "Prince" Billy, and most recently Stephen Petronio. In 2006, his debut recording *Speaks Volumes* was released followed in 2008 by a collection of his collaborations with other artists titled *Ekvilibrium*.



Augusta Read Thomas

AUGUSTA READ THOMAS's deeply personal music is guided by her particular sense of musical form, rhythm, timbre, and harmony. But given this individuality, her music is affected by history—in Thomas' words, "Old music deserves new music and new music needs old music." For Thomas, this means cherishing her place within the musical tradition and giving credit to those who have forged the musical paths she follows and from which she innovates. Thomas was the Mead Composer-in-Residence with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra from May 1997 through June 2006, a residency that encompassed nine world premieres, culminating in the premiere of "Astral Canticle"—one of two finalists for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in Music. She currently devotes her time exclusively to composition.