

Gabriela Lena Frank

Composer and Pianist



Recently inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2025) and included in the Washington Post's list of the most significant women composers in history, identity has always been at the center of composer/pianist Gabriela Lena Frank's music. Her music often reflects not only her own personal experience as a multi-racial Latina and diaspora daughter, but also refract her studies of Latin American cultures, incorporating poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into a western classical framework that is uniquely her own.

Winner of a Latin Grammy and nominated for Grammys as both composer and pianist, Gabriela also holds a Guggenheim Fellowship and a USA Artist Fellowship given each year to fifty of the country's finest artists. Her work has been described as "crafted with unself-conscious mastery" (Washington Post), "brilliantly effective" (New York Times), "a knockout" (Chicago Tribune), "glorious" (Los Angeles Times) and "a magical world premiere" (Wall Street Journal). Gabriela is regularly commissioned by luminaries such as cellist Yo-Yo Ma, the King's Singers, the Cuarteto Latinoamericano with guitarist Manuel Barrueco, and conductors Marin Alsop and Yannick Nézet-Séguin. She has also received orchestral commissions and performances from leading American orchestras including the Chicago Symphony, the Boston Symphony, the Atlanta Symphony, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra and the San Francisco Symphony.

Gabriela is the subject of a multitude of doctoral theses, several scholarly books, and multiple PBS documentaries; she was recently featured in the documentary "Beethoven's Nine" with acclaimed filmmaker Larry Weinstein.

In 2017, Gabriela founded the award-winning Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music. She currently resides in Boonville, a small rural town in the Anderson Valley, where she works to enhance the local public school music program.

(Photo Credit: Mariah Tauger)