

## [Miya Masaoka](#)



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**Miya Masaoka** is a Guggenheim and Rome Prize-winning composer, performer, and installation artist. Her work explores the natural world, bodily perception of vibration, movement and time while foregrounding complex timbre relationships. . Classically trained, her work operates at the intersection of spatialized sound, frequency and perception, performance, social and historical references. Whether recording inside physical objects or inside a plant or the human body, within architecturally resonant spaces or outdoor resonant canyons, she creates incongruencies that feed the paradox of the contemporary condition. She is a polyglot, and speaks six languages.

Her interconnected artistic practices include notated composition, alternative personas, hybrid acoustic-electronic performance on Japanese traditional string instruments such as the koto and ichigenkin. Her work includes writing new Noh music, instrument building, wearable computing, and sonifying the behavior of plants, brain activity and insect movement. Her work has been exhibited nationally and internationally, including the Venice Biennale, Park Avenue Armory, MoMA PS1, Kunstmuseum Bonn, Institute of Contemporary Art Philadelphia, Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago, and the Laboratorium for Contemporary Art Museum at Ujazdowski Castle and Siggraph. She was the keynote speaker for NIME (New Interfaces for Musical Expression) in Brisbane, Australia and a Fulbright Fellow to Japan in 2016. She has been the recipient of such grants and commissions as the Doris Duke

Artist Award, the Alpert Award in the Arts, The Gerbode Foundation, The Electronic Music Foundation, the MAP Fund, The NEA, The Montalvo Arts Center's Lucas Artists Residency, STEIM, Issue Project Room (Siloh), The Headlands, Harvestworks at Governors Island and others. Masaoka has taught composition at New York University and the Sound program at the Milton Avery School of the Arts at Bard College. She is named a Park Avenue Armory Studio Artist in 2019, as has a commission to create an outdoor sound installation for Sonic Innovations at the Caramoor in 2019.

The BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra and Glasgow Chamber Choir premiered her work in Glasgow, Scotland in 2018 (Ilan Volkov conducting), and the Bang On a Can Allstars, Either/Or (Richard Carrick conducting), So Percussion, Del Sol string quartet, MIVOS, Joan Jeanrenaud (formerly of Kronos), members of the Gugak National Orchestra (Seoul, Korea), Kathleen Supove, James Ilgenfritz, Olivia de Prato and the Jack Quartet in 2019. She has scored dance works for Movement Research at Judson Church and a full ballet for Alonzo King.

Composers Pauline Oliveros and Toshiko Akiyoshi have written pieces for her. Her teachers at Mills College include Alvin Curran, David Tudor and Maryanne Amacher. In improvised settings, she has performed and recorded in large groups with Cecil Taylor, Henry Brandt, Christian Wolfe, Dr. L. Subramaniam, and in smaller ensembles with Steve Coleman, Fred Frith, Ingrid Laubrock, Andrew Cyrille, Reggie Workman, Pharoah Sanders, Vijay Iyer, Gerry Hemmingway, Myra Melford and Zeena Parkins. She has recorded dozens of CD's, and a double duo CD with Anthony Braxton.