



DR. KAREN WALWYN

Steinway Artist
Concert Pianist, Composer, Educator,
Carnegie Mellon Faculty Scholar
and Albany Recording Artist

K A R E N W A L W Y N

Pianist

Composer

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Karen Walwyn, Concert Pianist, Composer, Recording Artist and a Florence Price scholar, is the first female African American pianist/ composer to receive the International Steinway Artist Award.

A native of New York, **Concert Pianist** Karen Walwyn made her New York solo piano debut at Merkin Hall as a follow-up to her two-album series for Albany Records entitled [Dark Fires](#), offering premiere recordings of works by American composers of African descent. Bill Faucett from The American Record Guide said “Walwyn's pianism is superb”, and Peter Burwasser from Fanfare Magazine said “Walwyn gets through this technically demanding program with aplomb. Her rhythmic nimbleness is especially notable.”

As a **Champion of Florence Price**, Walwyn began her journey with Florence Price when she was invited to perform and record the world premiere of the [Concerto in One Movement](#) by Florence Price with the New Black Music Repertory Ensemble by the Center of Black Music Research.

Continuing the journey, Walwyn just released her [Florence Price](#) solo piano music including a number of world premieres on the birthday of Price on April 9, 2022. Soon to be released as well is the world premiere of Price's authentic version of the [Concerto in One Movement](#) performed with the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. On April 15, 2022, Walwyn was a guest artist on [PBS: Now Hear This](#) with Scott Yoo: “Florence Price and the American Migration”. Walwyn also appeared in the Emmy nominated [The Caged Bird by James Greeson](#). She has been featured on [NPR with John Banther](#) in addition to numerous interviews and lectures on the life and music by Florence Price. Of a recent recital at Florida International University, critic Laurence Budman wrote [Walwyn provides superb advocacy for Florence Price's music](#).

As a **Composer**, she received the Global Award: *Gold Medal -Award of Excellence* for her recording of her composition entitled [Reflections on 9/11](#). Robert Schulsinger of Fanfare Magazine wrote: “Imaginatively conceived and executed, it both disturbingly transposes the catastrophe into appropriately cataclysmic sound and artistically suggests the aftermath's lingering sense of numbing devastation.” A **Mellon Faculty Fellow**, Walwyn continuously receives numerous commissions for solo, chamber and orchestral works.

Dr. Walwyn, **Area Coordinator of Keyboard Studies at Howard University**, is in constant concert demand nationally and internationally for both her repertoire from Frédéric Chopin to Florence Price, as well as for performances of her own works. She was a student of Dr. James R. Floyd, Dr. Arthur Greene, Ms. Rosalie Gregory, and Ms. Susan Starr.

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