

# joanne metcalf

COMPOSER

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## BRIEF BIO [150 words]

The music of Joanne Metcalf, critically acclaimed as “music of great beauty” (*Klassik-Heute*) and “extraordinarily beautiful” (*International Record Review*), is known for its evocative lyricism, rhythmic extravagance, and “beautiful use of vocal colours and texture” (*Glasgow Herald*). Ms. Metcalf has received commissions from the Hilliard Ensemble; Singer Pur, Germany’s pre-eminent vocal ensemble; amarcord; ACDA Women’s Choir Consortium; Cappella Nova; and Canty, Scotland’s premiere vocal quartet. Her choral compositions have also been performed by Gothic Voices and The Crossing. Her music has been heard at such venues as Europa Cantat, Three Choirs Festival, International Festival for Vocal Music “a cappella,” and the Ravenna Festival. A former Fulbright fellow, she has also received awards from the North Carolina Arts Council, Copland House, the MacDowell Colony, and the Netherland-America Foundation. Her compositions are recorded on the Linn Records, Oehms Classics, and ECM New Series labels.

## CONDENSED BIO [300 words]

The music of Joanne Metcalf, critically acclaimed as “music of great beauty” (*Klassik-Heute*) and “extraordinarily beautiful” (*International Record Review*), is known for its evocative lyricism, rhythmic extravagance, “beguiling yet subtly dissonant language” (*MusicWeb International*) and “beautiful use of vocal colours and texture” (*Glasgow Herald*). Drawing inspiration from medieval and Renaissance polyphony, ancient Georgian music, and contemporary extended vocal techniques, Ms. Metcalf has forged a musical voice that “evoke[s] earlier musical forms” (*The Globe and Mail, Montreal*) yet is “unmistakably contemporary” (*Glasgow Herald*).

Ms. Metcalf’s compositions have been performed and recorded by musicians across the world. Advocates of her music include Gothic Voices, The Crossing, Variant 6, amarcord, Canty, Cappella Nova, John Potter, Michael Mizrahi, and her longtime artistic collaborators, Singer Pur and the Hilliard Ensemble. Her music has been performed at Europa Cantat, Three Choirs Festival, International Festival for Vocal Music “a cappella,” Ravenna Festival, Schleswig-Holstein Musik Festival, Schwetzingen Festspiele, Hannover Biennale, Beethovenfest Bonn, and the Cheltenham International Festival of Music.

The legendary Gothic Voices recorded *Music for the Star of the Sea* and *Il nome del bel fior* on the group’s resplendent album of early and contemporary music, *Mary Star of the Sea*. The *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* praised Ms. Metcalf’s music for its “Italianate, flowing singability” while *Choir and Organ* praised the “glorious, delicately nuanced new works by the brilliant American Joanne Metcalf, including the magical *Music for the Star of the Sea*.”

Joanne Metcalf has received awards and fellowships from the MacDowell Colony, Copland House, North Carolina Arts Council, Fulbright Commission, Netherland-America Foundation, and the International Association of Women in Music. Her compositions are recorded on the Linn Records, Oehms Classics, ECM New Series, and National Sawdust Tracks labels.

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