

Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Music Center

"The most bracing combinations of adventurous, fulfilling music in recent memory."

- National Public Radio

Merkin Concert Hall's innovative programming, intimate scale and near perfect acoustics have earned it a reputation as one of New York City's finest concert venues. Noted in the *New York Times* for its "reputation for avant-gardism of a cool and cerebral nature," Merkin presents adventurous work—including many world premieres—by contemporary composers and some of today's most acclaimed and inspiring performers.

In addition to cutting-edge new music, Merkin Concert Hall presents some of the best new talents in the classical world, celebrations of musical theater with some of Broadway's top performers, and lively musical reviews for children and families. Merkin is also a sought-after rental venue for guest artists and organizations producing a wide range of events.

Concert Series Presented by Kaufman Music Center

- Launched in 2011 to great critical acclaim, the **Ecstatic Music Festival** features adventurous collaborative concerts bringing together performers and composers from across the sonic spectrum for highly unique and original collaborations. The festival includes the popular **New Sounds Live** concerts hosted by **John Schaefer** that are live streamed on WQXR/Q2 and broadcast on WNYC.
- **Tuesday Matinees**, Merkin's longest-running series, introduces extraordinary young classical performers to audiences in a concert hall known for its near perfect acoustics and intimate connection between performer and audience.
- Merkin Concert Hall celebrates American musical theater old and new with **Broadway Close Up**, which takes audiences behind the scenes of musicals old and new with eye-opening interviews and inspiring performances by some of Broadway's greatest talents. The series has featured artists such as **Karen Ziemba, Chita Rivera** and **David Hyde Pierce**.
- Musical reviews for children and families include **Broadway Playhouse** presentations, which introduce children to the masterpieces of American musical theater, and **Musical Adventures with the Poppy Seed Players**, musical plays for families about Jewish history and heritage.
- Other popular long-running series including **The New York Festival of Song** and **The New York Guitar Festival**.

Kaufman Music Center is New York's go-to place for music education and performance.

It's where music lovers, from curious fans to renowned performers, come together to explore their musical passions. Founded in 1952 as a community music school, today's Kaufman Music Center is one of the city's most vibrant cultural organizations, combining world-class teaching with electrifying performances featuring rising young classical stars, Broadway icons and cutting-edge performer/composers who are re-defining contemporary music. Kaufman Music Center is home to **Merkin Concert Hall**; **Lucy Moses School**, New York's largest community arts school; and **Special Music School**, New York's only K-12 public school for musically gifted children.

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