

## Merkin Concert Hall at Kaufman Center

**Kaufman Center**  
Merkin Concert Hall  
Lucy Moses School  
Special Music School

*" . . . the sound here has become truly superb . . . Programming is diverse and imaginative, running the gamut from various classical styles to jazz, world and sometimes folk music. "*

– Lucidculture.com

*"A singer could not imagine a more perfect space . . . like a living room and recital hall in one."*

– mezzo-soprano Sasha Cooke

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. Merkin "plays a critical role because it features music that's about the 21<sup>st</sup> century—about right now," says Michael Gordon, co-founder and co-artistic director of the Bang on A Can ensemble.

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[www.kaufman-center.org](http://www.kaufman-center.org)

In addition to cutting-edge new music, Merkin presents some of the best new talents in the classical world, celebrations of musical theater with Broadway's top professionals, and lively musical reviews for children and families. Merkin also fills a vital need in the New York City musical landscape by providing a welcoming venue for a wide range of performances produced by other artists.

### Concert Series

- Launched in 2011 to great critical acclaim, the annual ***Ecstatic Music Festival*** features world premieres of collaborations by artists who are re-defining contemporary music. 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, presents exceptional young classical artists in the early stages of what are sure to be long and successful careers.
- Merkin Concert Hall celebrates American musical theater old and new with the ***Broadway Close Up*** series, an inside look at the world of musical theater that offers backstage insights from Broadway legends. The series has featured artists such as **Chita Rivera, David Hyde Pierce** and **John Kander**.
- Musical reviews for children and families include ***Broadway Playhouse*** presentations, which introduce children to America's great musicals, and ***Musical Adventures with the Poppy Seed Players***, interactive musical plays for families about the Jewish heritage.

- Other popular long-running series including The **New York Festival of Song** and **The New York Guitar Festival**.

### **Kaufman Center**

Kaufman Center is New York's creative home for listeners, learners and performers. Founded in 1952 as a community school for pre-conservatory music training, today's Kaufman Center provides entertainment, education and inspiration for more than 75,000 New Yorkers each year. In addition to **Merkin Concert Hall**, it is home to **Lucy Moses School**, New York's largest community arts school, and the **Special Music School**, a public school for musically gifted children.