

# NIKA LEONI

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## MEMBERSHIPS AND PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

ASCAP | Chamber Music America | American Composers Forum | Society of Composers | National Opera Association  
New York Women Composers | International Alliance for Women in Music

## PROFILE

FULL BIO: [www.nikaleoni.com/bio.html](http://www.nikaleoni.com/bio.html)

**Nika Leoni** has been characterized by critics as “exceptionally talented...with triumphant femininity manifest in her music,” and with “a distinctive talent of drawing profound musical expression from dramatic context.” Nika’s diverse cultural and musical background empowers her versatility as a creative composer in numerous musical genres, including vocal music, opera, chamber, and orchestral music, as well as in scoring for theater, dance, and film. Her song cycles and chamber compositions have been recently performed in Brussels (Belgium), New York, Boston, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Starkville (MS), and her operatic soliloquy “Euridice” was broadcast on WCNY radio (New York), KNVC (Nevada), and DelMarVa Public Radio (Maryland) as part of Foxtales and Fables on Feminine Fusion show.



## PERFORMANCES OF COMPOSITIONS

FULL CALENDAR: [www.nikaleoni.com/performances.html](http://www.nikaleoni.com/performances.html)

March 8, 2024 The Ethical Society of St. Louis St. Louis, MO	IN HER SOUND "Reclaiming the Muse"	<i>Prelude in the Steps of Rachmaninov</i> Performers: Stephanie Hunt (cello), Johanna Ballou (piano) <i>Dance Suite for Two Flutes</i> Performers: Paula Bernhardt and Shelly Monier
November 26, 2023 Espace Toots Brussels, Belgium	FESTIVAL OSMOSE 2024 "In the Steps of Rachmaninov"	<i>Prelude in the Steps of Rachmaninov</i> Performers: Guillaume Lagravière (cello), Gauvain de Morant (piano)
November 2, 2021 AddAMovie Film Festival New York, NY	ADDAMOVIE FILM FESTIVAL "Day of the Dead"	The video of the Death Scene from the opera-in-progress "Flame and Shadow" was chosen to be screened at the AddAMovie Film Festival in New York City as part of the "Day of the Dead" program
November 2, 2021 AddAMovie Film Festival New York, NY	ADDAMOVIE FILM FESTIVAL "Day of the Dead"	The video of the Death Scene from the opera-in-progress "Flame and Shadow" was chosen to be screened at the AddAMovie Film Festival in New York City as part of the "Day of the Dead" program
August 12-15, 2021 St. Lou Fringe Festival St. Louis, MO	LOCAL HEADLINE ACT	An updated virtual presentation of the introduction video <i>The Making of Flame and Shadow: The Passion and Pain of Sara Teasdale</i> showing the opera as a work-in-progress, featuring new scenes and music.
August 21-23, 2020 2020 Virtual St. Lou Fringe Festival St. Louis, MO	LOCAL HEADLINE ACT	A virtual presentation of the original introduction video <i>The Making of Flame and Shadow: The Passion and Pain of Sara Teasdale</i> featuring performers' interviews, and the background stories from the creators Nika Leoni and Kathryn Favazza.
March 16, 2019 WCNY (New York) KNVC (Nevada) March 23, 2019 DelMarVa Public Radio (MD)	**RADIO PLAY PREMIER** FOLKTALES AND FABLES on Feminine Fusion: Featuring music by female composers with Diane Jones	<i>Euridice</i> , Scene I Performers: Nika Leoni (soprano), Violetta Zabbi (piano)

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## PERFORMANCES (cont.)

February 12, 2019 Mississippi State University Mississippi State, MS	POETRY AND SONG PROGRAM at Mississippi State University	<i>Six Love Songs by Sara Teasdale</i> Performers: Payton Tanner (soprano), Karen Murphy (piano)
December 2, 2017 St. Ambrose Church, St. Louis, MO	CHRISTMAS ON THE HILL CONCERT with The Women's HOPE Chorale of St. Louis	<i>Two Italian Christmas Carols</i> Performers: Nika Leoni (soprano), Kathy Favazza (soprano), Sandra Geary (piano), and The Women's HOPE Chorale of St. Louis
August 4, 2017 St. Mary's Episcopal Church Kansas City, MO	KC VITAs SUMMER SERIES 2017 Vocal music by living composers	<i>Six Love Songs by Sara Teasdale</i> Performers: Jennifer White (soprano), Elizabeth Birger (soprano), Charles Dickinson (piano)
October 22-23 PM Boston, MA	NEW ENGLAND PREMIERE! In Her Words by Calliope's Call - Women's Voices in Verse and Song	<i>Six Love Songs by Sara Teasdale</i> Performers: Maggie Finnegan (soprano), Clare Longendyke (piano)
October 2, 2016 Opera America Scorca Hall, New York	LADIES FIRST CONCERT We Are All Immigrants	<i>Euridice, Part II</i> Performers: Nika Leoni (soprano), Marija Ilic (piano)
May 13, 2016 Turtle Bay Music School New York	ARTIST SERIES CONCERT Presenting Women Composers/Performers	<i>Euridice, Part II</i> Performers: Nika Leoni (soprano), Dina Pruzhansky (piano)

## COMPOSITIONS

AUDIO SAMPLES: [www.nikaleonimusic.com](http://www.nikaleonimusic.com)

### VOCAL | CHAMBER

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<i>Euridice: Operatic Soliloquy (in Two Scenes)</i>	for Soprano with Piano / in Italian
<i>Floral Impressions (song cycle)</i>	for Voice with Piano / in English
<i>Six Love Songs by Sara Teasdale (song cycle)</i>	for Voice with Piano / poems by W. Blake / in English
<i>Never Seek to Tell Thy Love (song cycle)</i>	for Soprano, Viola, and Clarinet / in English
<i>Awakening</i>	for Voice with Piano / poem by A. Pushkin / in Russian and English
<i>Elegy</i>	for Voice with Piano / for film or theater / in Russian and English

### CHORAL

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<i>Sentimental Haiku Songs</i>	for SATB choir with Piano / in English
<i>Two Italian Christmas Carols</i>	for Soprano Solo and SSAA Choir with Piano / in Italian
<i>Three Ester Liturgy Chorales</i>	SATB Choir / a cappella & with Piano / in English and Russian
<i>School Anthem</i>	for School Choir / La Scuola d'Italia, New York City / in Italian

### INSTRUMENTAL

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<i>Prelude</i>	for Cello and Piano
<i>Dance Suite</i>	for two Flutes / three movements
<i>Traditional Christmas Carols in Non-Traditional Arr.</i>	for Woodwind Quintet
<i>Questions</i>	for Flute and Piano
<i>A Walk on the Sunny Side</i>	Incidental music piece for Piano and Orchestra
<i>Tango</i>	for String Quartet
<i>Etude</i>	Etude for Solo Cello

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## COMPOSITIONS (cont.)

### FILM

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*Killer Contract* (2013)  
*Killer's Song*

Full music score for an independent feature film *Killer Contract*  
Featured song in the film *Killer Contract*

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### EDUCATION

San Francisco Conservatory of Music  
Hunter College, New York

Bachelor's Degree (Voice)  
Master's Degree (Voice & Composition)

### ADVOCACY WORK

In Her Sound, Inc.

Co-Founder of the non-profit organization devoted to promotion and representation of women composers and performers.