

Kari Medina



Seattle composer and pianist, Kari Cruver Medina, recently premiered *Völuspá; Song of the Seeress*, with the Northwest Symphony Orchestra, in Seattle, Washington. Written in Old Norse and based on the Viking Sagas, this 2016 work was commissioned by the NWSO for the acclaimed soprano, Alexandra Piccard. In May, she introduced a series titled *Sister's From Across the Sea*, for soprano and piano, which featured two multi-media Art-Music Salons based on the poetry of Emily Dickinson and Christina Rossetti.

Other performances include a premiere by the Boston-based vocal ensemble, Calliope's Call, and the American debut of a SATB a cappella work, *Message of the Wind*, which was featured at the *International Alliance of Women in Music's* Annual Concert at the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, October 1016. (This work was also selected by the *The Music Makers of London's* Nicola Dando Choral Competition to be premiered in the U.K.'s 2014 "Voices of London" festival.) Medina's Chamber work, *The Meadow's Wide*, was recognized as a semi-finalist in 2015's American Prize. In addition, her Emmy-nominated scores have accompanied various PBS Television and video productions, including Rick Steve's "Travels through Europe" and KCTS's "Over" Series.

Prior to full time work as a composer and performer, Kari Medina served as Music Director at University Presbyterian Church, in Seattle, where she composed weekly for a wide variety of musical genres, amassing a large body of sacred music that blends classical and popular vocal and instrumental traditions. A Washington State native, her graduate and undergraduate training were at University of Washington and Washington State University, where she studied with William Bergsma and Loran Olsen. She and her husband, John, have two sons.

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