



COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

**GABRIELA LENA FRANK**

BORN: September 26, 1972 ERA/STYLE: Contemporary Classical

HOMETOWN: Berkeley, California

Born in Berkeley, California in 1972 to a mother of mixed Peruvian/Chinese ancestry and a father of Lithuanian/Jewish descent, identity has always been at the center of composer/pianist Gabriela Lena Frank's music. Inspired by the works of composers Bela Bartók and Alberto Ginastera, Gabriela has traveled extensively throughout South America in creative exploration, and examines her multi-cultural heritage through her compositions. Her music often reflects not only her own personal experience as a multi-racial Latina, but also her studies of Latin American cultures, incorporating poetry, mythology, and native musical styles into her own unique works.

Gabriela has composed works for many of the world's greatest orchestras, opera companies, and chamber groups. In 2017, she was included in the *Washington Post's* list of the 35 most significant women composers in history; during that same year, she founded her own school, the Gabriela Lena Frank Creative Academy of Music for emerging composers to work with renowned performers.

Civic outreach is also an essential part of Gabriela's work. She has volunteered extensively in hospitals and prisons, with her current focus on developing the music school program at Anderson Valley High School, a rural public school of modest means with a large Latino population in Boonville, California, a small rural town in the Anderson Valley.

Gabriela attended Rice University in Houston, Texas, where she earned a B.A. (1994) and M.A. (1996). She currently resides in Boonville, California with her husband Jeremy on their mountain farm.