



COMPOSER BIOGRAPHY

**TESSA LARK**

BORN: June 8, 1989 HOMETOWN: Richmond, Kentucky

ERA/STYLE: Bluegrass/Americana/Contemporary Classical

Grammy®-nominated violinist Tessa Lark is a budding superstar in the realm of classical music, as well as a highly-acclaimed fiddler in the tradition of her native Kentucky. Performances have taken her to the most prestigious venues and musical festivals around the world, and her newest recording, *The Stradgrass Sessions*—which includes collaborations with composer-performers Jon Batiste, Edgar Meyer, Michael Cleveland, and Sierra Hull, and her own original works—is scheduled for release in 2022, joining a discography of four other albums.

Tessa's belief in using music to foster global connections and community across boundaries manifests in her genre-defying collaborations with other string players, composers, and a jazz guitarist. Her programs span from traditional classical music to Appalachian and bluegrass music to contemporary works written specifically for her. Tessa is a champion of young aspiring artists and supports the next generation of musicians through her work as co-host/creative director of NPR's *From the Top*, and as a mentor and board member for the Irving M. Klein International Strings Competition.

A graduate of the New England Conservatory, she completed her Artist Diploma at The Julliard School, received a Lincoln Center Emerging Artist Award, and is recipient of the 2018 Borletti-Buitoni Trust Fellowship, 2016 Avery Fisher Career Grant, silver medal in the 9th International Violin Competition of Indianapolis, and top prize in the 2012 Naumburg International Violin Competition. She plays a 1600 G. P. Maggini violin on loan from an anonymous donor through the Stradivari Society of Chicago.