

Marisa Michelson

Constellation Chor

An immersion in voice, movement, and spirit
Founder, Director & Composer (2015 - 2024)

ENSEMBLE LEADERSHIP & PROJECTS

Major Performances & Commissions:

***Filament*, David Geffen Hall, Lincoln Center (2018)**

World premiere with New York Philharmonic, composed by Ash Fure for *Constellation Chor*, conducted by Jaap van Zweden

***Desire | Divinity Project Parts I & II*, Judson Memorial Church, NYC (2018)**

Song of Song of Songs and *Sappho Fragments*; awarded inaugural Eric Salzman Award for Music Theatre

***Beneath the Surface*, National Sawdust, Brooklyn, NY (2021)**

Short film/installation co-created with Miriam Parker; performed by *Constellation Chor*

***Tree of 40 Fruit*, Pioneer Works, Brooklyn, NY (2020)**

Music by Paola Prestini; performed by Constellation Chor, initiated and produced by Maria Popova

***Reservoir 2: Intrusion*, The Kitchen, NYC (2019)**

Sarah Hennies composition for Claire Chase's *Density 2036*

Residencies & Institutional Collaborations:

Judson Memorial Church Residency, NYC (2016 - 2024)

Ongoing residency supporting ensemble research, rehearsal, and performance.

Porches at Mass Moca Residency, North Adams, MA (2023)

Development of EP and site-specific installation; produced with William Britelle.

Pioneer Works Residency, Brooklyn, NY (2021)

Ensemble residency supporting collaborative creation and experimental vocal performance.

Modern Accord Depot Residency, Accord, NY (2021)

Focused on recording and improvisation.

Spectrum Residency, Brooklyn, NY (2019)

Multi-month residency featuring numerous public performances and interdisciplinary collaboration.

SELECTED COMPOSITIONS & MUSIC-THEATRE WORKS

Naamah's Ark - Oratorio for 200 singers and chamber orchestra
Commissioned by *MasterVoices* (Ted Sperling)
Music & Additional Text: Marisa Michelson | Text: Royce Vavrek
Performances: Anche Chesed Synagogue, NYC (2016); River to River Festival, NYC (2018); National Opera Association, Salt Lake City (2019)

One Thousand Nights and One Day, Prospect Theatre Company, NYC (2018)
Book and Lyrics: Jason Grote | Music: Marisa Michelson
Off-Broadway run starring Sepideh Moafi

Tamar of the River, Prospect Theater Company, NYC (2013)
Conception, Music, and Book: Marisa Michelson | Book and Lyrics: Joshua H. Cohen
Two Drama Desk nominations

The Other Room - one-woman opera
Libretto: Mark Campbell | Music: Marisa Michelson
Productions: The Studios of Key West (2020); Arbeit Opera Theatre, Minneapolis (2019); Inner Voices, NYC (2014)

Still Life with Toe Shoes
Music and Co-Book by Marisa Michelson; Lyrics and Co-Book by Joshua H. Cohen
Productions: Old Deerfield Productions, MA (2008); Emerson College (2011)
Licensed with *Plays for New Audiences*

SELECTED PERFORMANCE PROJECTS

Meredith Monk's Songs of Ascension - Brooklyn Academy of Music (2009)
Chorus Section Leader and Singer

Edith Stein, an opera based on Arthur Giron's play, St. Peter's Church, NYC (2007)
Music: John Andrew Tarbet | Words: Jonathan Gilbert
Role: Edith Stein

***Voice Becoming* (2012)**
Co-creator and Performer
Performances: Basilica, Hudson, NY (2011); Goetheanum, Switzerland (2012)

AWARDS & GRANTS

Jonathan Larson Award (2011)
Eric Salzman Award for New Music-Theater Composition (2018)
Virginia B. Toulmin Fellow, National Sawdust x Center for Ballet Arts (2021)
Creative Engagement Award, Lower Manhattan Cultural Council (2017)
National Endowment for the Arts Grant (2018)
American Musical Voices Project: the Next Generation (2009)

INDIVIDUAL RESIDENCIES

MacDowell Colony (2015)
Ucross Foundation (2015)

DISCOGRAPHY

Tamar of the River - Original Cast Recording (2014)
Music: Marisa Michelson | Words: Joshua H. Cohen

The Other Room (Upcoming 2026)
Music: Marisa Michelson | Libretto: Mark Campbell

Constellation Chor at Modern Accord Depot (2025)
Composer & Performer

Sappho Fragments (2025)
Composer & Performer

Tree of 40 Fruit (from *Con Alma* — 2019)
Performer | Music: Paola Prestini

Reservoir II (from *Density 2036, Part VI* — 2019)
Performer | Music: Sarah Hennies

EDUCATION & CERTIFICATIONS

Highest Level Diploma, [Libero Canto School for Singing](#) (2023)
Relateful Coaching Certification (2026)
Certificate in Integrative Somatic Trauma Therapy, Embody Lab (2021)
Composer-Librettist Studio, New Dramatists (2008)
BFA, Musical Theatre, NYU Tisch School of the Arts (2004)