



# Celebrity Series of Boston

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **Celebrity Series of Boston**

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### **Presents**

### **Julia Bullock, soprano**

Wednesday, May 2, 2018, 8pm — Longy's Edward M. Pickman Hall

[Julia Bullock high-res photo](#) | [Celebrity Series Press Room](#)

(Boston) Celebrity Series of Boston will present [soprano Julia Bullock](#) on Wednesday, May 2, 2018, at 8pm at Longy's Edward M. Pickman Hall, Longy School of Music of Bard College, 27 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA. The Debut Series is generously sponsored by Harriet and David Griesinger and the Longy School of Music of Bard College.

Tickets are limited and start at \$25. They are available online at [www.celebrityseries.org](http://www.celebrityseries.org), by calling (617) 482-6661 Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

This concert marks the Celebrity Series debut performance for Julia Bullock.

**Soprano Julia Bullock** is recognized as an "impressive, fast-rising soprano... poised for a significant career" (*The New York Times*). Equally at home with opera and concert repertoire, she has captivated and inspired audiences through her versatile artistry, probing intellect, and commanding stage presence. *Opera News* extols, "Bullock's radiant soprano shines brightly and unfailingly... Most compellingly, however, she communicates intense, authentic feeling, as if she were singing right from her soul."

This season, Bullock makes a San Francisco Opera debut in the world premiere of *Girls of the Golden West* composed by John Adams to a libretto by Peter Sellars and she joins Dutch National Opera in a company premiere of Simon McBurney's production of *The Rake's Progress* under the direction of Ivor Bolton. The soprano makes a Santa Fe Opera debut as Kitty Oppenheimer in a new Peter Sellars production of *Doctor Atomic* by frequent collaborator John Adams and she tours North America in recital with performances under the auspices of Boston Celebrity Series, Cal Performances, Berkeley, University of California Santa Barbara Arts & Lectures, Carnegie Hall, Harriman Jewell Series, and Spivey Hall amongst others. No less impressive, Julia Bullock joins Andris Nelsons and the Boston Symphony Orchestra in a Bernstein Gala to launch the 2017-18 season and sings Pamina in concert performances of *Die Zauberflöte* with Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Highlights of the past season include Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* with David Robertson and the Sydney Symphony, Villa-Lobos' *Bachianas Brasileiras No. 5* with Marin Alsop leading the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, John Adams' *El Niño* with Grant Gershon and the Los Angeles Philharmonic, and John Adams' *Doctor Atomic*, with the composer conducting concert performances with the BBC Symphony Orchestra, recorded for future commercial release. Bullock brought light and life to the role of Anne Truelove in a new production of Stravinsky's *The Rake's Progress* at the Festival d'Aix-en-

(more)

Provence staged by Simon McBurney and conducted by Eivind Gullberg Jensen.

Shaped by artistic partner, Peter Sellars, truly inspired performances were achieved in the summer of 2016 at the Ojai Music Festival in collaboration with Roomful of Teeth and the International Contemporary Ensemble for Kaija Saariaho's *La passion de Simone*, in a new staging by Peter Sellars, and in the world premiere of *Josephine Baker: A Portrait*. Composed and arranged by Tyshawn Sorey with accompanying poetry by Claudia Rankine, this theater piece was called by The New York Times, "a ritual of mourning, not a gay-Paree nostalgia trip, and ...one of the most important works of art yet to emerge from the era of Black Lives Matter."

Other notable engagements include debuts with the Berliner Philharmoniker in Saariaho's *La passion de Simone*, with the London Symphony Orchestra with performances of Delage's *Quatre poèmes hindous* led by Sir Simon Rattle, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* with the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center, a program of Falla and Ravel with the New World Symphony Orchestra, and solo recitals at leading venues throughout North America including the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the Kennedy Center. The music of Leonard Bernstein served Julia Bullock's debuts both with Alan Gilbert and the New York Philharmonic and with Michael Tilson Thomas and the San Francisco Symphony.

Bullock sang the title role of Purcell's *The Indian Queen* at the Perm Opera House, The Bolshoi, and Teatro Real with Teodor Currentzis, and at English National Opera led by Laurence Cummings: the Peter Sellars production was captured and released commercially on DVD for Sony Classical, and winner of the 2017 Echo Klassik Award for Best Opera DVD. She has performed in South America as Pamina in Peter Brook's award-winning *Une flûte enchantée (A Magic Flute)* and her broad operatic repertoire also includes *Le nozze di Figaro*, *The Medium*, *Cendrillon*, *The Cunning Little Vixen*, and *L'enfant et les Sortilèges*.

Bullock earned her Bachelor's degree from the Eastman School of Music, and her Master's degree at Bard College's Graduate Vocal Arts Program. She received her Artist Diploma from the Juilliard School. Accolades include the 2016 Sphinx Medal of Excellence, a 2015 Leonore Annenberg Arts Fellowship, the 2015 Richard F. Gold Grant from the Shoshana Foundation, Lincoln Center's 2015 Martin E. Segal Award, First Prize at the 2014 Naumburg International Vocal Competition, and First Prize at the 2012 Young Concert Artists International Auditions.

Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Bullock integrates her musical life with community activism. She has organized and participated in benefit concerts in support of the FSH Society, which funds research for Muscular Dystrophy, the Medicine Initiative for New York's Weill Medical Center, and the Shropshire Music Foundation, a non-profit that serves war-affected children and adolescents through music education and performance programs in Kosovo, Northern Ireland, and Uganda.

**PROGRAM:**

<b>Franz Schubert</b> (1797-1828)	Suleika I Lachen und Weinen Wanderers Nachtlied II Seligkeit
<b>Samuel Barber</b> (1910-1981)	<i>Hermit Songs</i> At St. Patrick's Purgatory Church Bell at Night St. Ita's Vision The Heavenly Banquet The Crucifixion

Sea-Snatch  
Promiscuity  
The Monk and his Cat  
The Praises of God  
The Desire for Hermitage

**Gabriel Fauré** from *La chanson d'Eve*  
Prima verba  
Roses ardentes  
Comme dieu rayonne...  
Veilles-tu, ma senteur du soleil?  
Crépescule  
O mort, poussière d'étoiles

**Arrangements by Jeremy Siskin (b. 1986)**

<b>Spencer Williams</b>	Driftin'Tide
<b>Maceo Pinkard</b>	You Can't Tell the Difference After Dark
<b>Cora "Lovie" Austin and Alberta Hunter</b>	Downhearted Blues
<b>Jeremy Siskind</b>	<i>Lovie Austin Tribute</i>
<b>Billie Holiday and Sonny White</b>	Our Love is Different
<b>Nina Simone and Weldon Jonathan Irvine, Jr.</b>	Revolution
<b>Nina Simone</b>	Four Women

**About Celebrity Series of Boston**

Celebrity Series of Boston was founded in 1938 by pianist and impresario Aaron Richmond. From orchestras and chamber ensembles, vocal and piano music, to dance companies, jazz, spoken word, and more, Celebrity Series has been bringing great artists to Boston's major concert halls for nearly eight decades. The Celebrity Series of Boston believes in the power of excellence and innovation in the performing arts to enrich life experiences, transform lives and build better communities. Through its *Arts for All!* community programs, the Celebrity Series seeks to build a community of Greater Boston where the performing arts are a valued, lifelong, shared experience—on stages, in schools, at home—everywhere.

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