

Karen Walwyn, Piano

Karen Walwyn, Concert Pianist, Composer, and a Florence Price Champion is the first female African American pianist/ composer to receive the Steinway Artist Award.

A native of New York, Concert Pianist Karen Walwyn made her New York solo piano debut at Merkin Hall as a follow-up to her two-album series for Albany Records entitled *Dark Fires*, offering premiere recordings of works by American composers of African descent. Bill Faucett from *The American Record Guide* said “Walwyn’s pianism is superb”, and Peter Burwasser from *Fanfare Magazine* said “Walwyn gets through this technically demanding program with aplomb. Her rhythmic nimbleness is especially notable.”

As a Champion of Florence Price, Walwyn did the premiere performance of the Florence Price Piano Concerto in One Movement with the New Black Music Repertory Ensemble. Noted music critic, Bob McQuiston, wrote: “Walwyn provides a magnificent account of the concerto displaying her considerable technical skills” of the Albany Records album. A new premiere recording of the Concert in One Movement with the newly made

