

amy beth kirsten – 200 word bio

Amy Beth Kirsten, "...one of America's most innovative and visionary composers," (BBC Music Magazine, March 2019) is known primarily for her multi-year, multimedia theatrical collaborations. She has cast herself in roles as varied as composer, poet, filmmaker, vocalist, and director. Ms. Kirsten has been recognized with awards and fellowships from the American Academy of Arts and Letters (2020), John S. Guggenheim Foundation (2010) and the Rockefeller Foundation (2009) and has created works for her own ensemble HOWL, musicians of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the New World Symphony, Peak Performances, the multi-Grammy-winning eighth blackbird, among many others. An original story written by Ms. Kirsten and Timothy Leopold (trumpet) is the catalyst for her current project, *Jacob in Chains*, an evening-length work for Alarm Will Sound. *Jacob* is a present-day Christmas ghost story inspired by the character Jacob Marley, from Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. She was appointed to the composition faculty at the Juilliard School where she will maintain a private studio and teach a two-semester course called "Theatre Etudes." She teaches at the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, PA and is Director of The Artist Residency at Longy School of Music of Bard College in Cambridge, MA. www.amybethkirsten.com