



T: (212) 969-1797 | info@uiatalent.com
850 7th Ave., Suite 1003
New York, NY 10019

NYC DCWP License N° 2082447

www.uiatalent.com

KAMALA SANKARAM

COMPOSER

Praised as “one of the most exciting opera composers in the country” (*The Washington Post*), composer Kamala Sankaram moves freely between the worlds of experimental music and contemporary opera. Sankaram’s recent work includes commissions for the Glimmerglass Festival, Washington National Opera, the PROTOTYPE Festival, Bronx Arts Ensemble, and Creative Time, among others.



Last season, Sankaram’s one-act opera ***The Infinite Energy of Ada Lovelace***, with a libretto by Rob Handel, was seen at Mannes School of Music and Oberlin Conservatory of Music; her family opera ***Jungle Book***, with a libretto by Kelley Rourke, joined Washington National Opera’s holiday programming; and her biographical opera ***Thumbprint***, with a libretto by Susan Yankowitz, made its European début, captivating German audiences at Oper Wuppertal. In addition, Sankaram composed an original piece for piano and voice for the Music Academy of the West. This season brings exciting new work including a chamber opera for the Kilkenny Arts Festival and a highly anticipated commission for Opera Philadelphia entitled ***Complications in Sue***. Future seasons bring a world premiere commissioned by Wolf Trap Opera, as well as a mainstage and chamber opera to premiere at Minnesota Opera through their New Works Initiative.

Known for her work pushing the boundaries of the operatic form, Sankaram’s notable works include ***The Last Stand***, a 10-hour opera created for the trees of Prospect Park, Brooklyn, ***Only You Will Recognize the Signal***, a serial space opera performed live over the internet, ***Looking at You***, a techno-noir featuring live data mining of the audience and a chorus of 25 singing tablet computers, ***all decisions will be made by consensus***, a short absurdist opera performed live over Zoom, and ***The Parkville Murders***, the world’s first virtual reality opera.

Kamala is the leader of Bombay Rickey, an operatic Bollywood surf ensemble whose accolades include two awards for Best Eclectic Album from the Independent Music Awards, the 2018 Mid-Atlantic touring grant, and appearances on WFMU and NPR.

Dr. Sankaram holds a PhD from the New School and is currently a member of the composition faculties at Mannes School of Music and SUNY Purchase.

Current as of July 30, 2025