

GAIL ARCHER



CONCERT ORGANIST

Ms. Gail Archer is college organist at Vassar College, and director of the music program at Barnard College, Columbia University, where she conducts the Barnard-Columbia Chorus. She serves as director of the artist and young organ artist recitals at historic Central Synagogue, New York City. She is a GRAMMY-nominated, international concert organist, recording artist, choral conductor and lecturer. She is the founder of Musforum, www.musforum.org a professional network for women organists which celebrates and promotes their accomplishments. Ms. Archer's advocacy for women organists and composers inspired her most recent CD, *The Muse's Voice* on Meyer Media. During the 2012-2013 season, Ms. Archer promoted her recording, *Franz Liszt, A Hungarian Rhapsody* with recitals throughout the U.S. and was featured by the philharmonic societies in Irkutsk, Krasnoyarsk, Tomsk and Perm, Russia, and played in festivals in Alessandria, Grondona and Scopello, Italy, Tübingen and Hamburg, Germany, and Copenhagen, Denmark. Her 2011 New York City series was dedicated entirely to the organ works of Liszt. Ms. Archer was the first American woman to play the complete works of Olivier Messiaen for the centennial of the composer's birth in 2008. The New York Times declared, "Ms. Archer's well-paced interpretation had a compelling authority. She played with a bracing physicality in the work's more driven passages and endowed humbler ruminations with a sense of vulnerability and awe." Time-Out New York recognized the Messiaen cycle as "Best of 2008" in Classical music and opera.

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