



The Department of Pan African Studies, the Black Student Union, and the Black Alumni Association at California State University, Northridge are pleased to present:

OPERA

# BLACK LOVE

*Songs of Love*  
by  
*African American Composers*

## Jayme Allilaw, Soprano

Cypress Recital Hall

California State University, Northridge

February 14, 2013 at 12:30pm

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

## **JAYME ALILAW, SOPRANO**

Acclaimed for her lush and vibrant tone, California native Jayme Alilaw has performed roles from both soprano and mezzo-soprano repertoires. Roles performed include the title role of Suor Angelica, Mimi (*La Boheme*), Lauretta (*Gianni Schicchi*), Second Lady (*Die Zauberflöte*), Dido (*Dido and Aeneas*), Mrs. Jones (*Street Scene*), and two world premieres: Marketing Director in Paul Salerni's *Tony Caruso's Last Broadcast* and Laura Delano in Kenneth Wells' *The First Lady*. Jayme has sung with the Atlanta Opera chorus for three seasons and also sings community outreach for The Atlanta Opera and Capitol City Opera. A U.S. Army veteran, Ms. Alilaw has sung for military ceremonies throughout the U.S. and Middle East.

Driven by a deep passion for traditional Negro spirituals, Jayme premiered "An Afternoon of Spirituals", a concert collaboration of musicians she organized to present traditional Spirituals at the California African American Museum. As an advocate for the performance of works by African American composers, she has presented her research on African American art song and performed at academic and artistic conferences for organizations such as National Council of Black Studies, National Association of Negro Musicians, and African American Art Song Alliance. She has had her writings on African American composers published with the internet magazine Operagasm.

Her honors include being a Los Angeles District Winner in the Metropolitan Opera National Auditions, Second place and Audience Choice award for the Harlem Opera Vocal Competition, and finalist in the Palm Springs Opera Guild Competition. Ms. Alilaw was awarded the Performing Arts Award from the Fine Arts Club of Pasadena and she is the two time recipient of the Village Voices Chorale Scholarship. Jayme was inducted into Pi Kappa Lambda Musical Honor Fraternity in the spring of 2007. Ms. Alilaw has a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from California State University, Northridge where she studied with Judith Scott. Jayme currently lives in Atlanta, GA.



## **BLACK LOVE: SONGS OF LOVE BY AFRICAN AMERICAN COMPOSERS**

This performance will feature art songs that highlight the many facets of love from the African American composers' perspectives. The program will feature works by well-established composers, such as H.T. Burleigh and Florence Price, as well as those of less exposure, such as Lettie Beckon Alston and William Foster McDaniel. This recital will explore the black aesthetic in art song compositional techniques along with the perspectives of the African American art song composer as articulated through their employment of African American musical idioms, themes, language, and poetry.

With the exception of the classically arranged Spiritual, the works of African American art song composers have been regrettably underrepresented on the programs of vocal recitalists. Recital performance of African American art songs is essential for giving voice to the unique perspectives of African American art song composers. Having been shaped by African American sociological experiences, this music provides a keen point of view while also speaking to the universal human condition.