

Deemed “one of the more consistently inventive, surprising composers now working in New York” by The New York Times, and “Brooklyn’s post-millennial Mozart” by Time Out New York, Missy Mazzoli’s talent draws audiences equally into concert halls and rock clubs. Her unique music reflects a trend among composers of her generation who combine styles, writing music for the omnivorous audiences of the 21st century. She inhabits a gorgeous and mysterious soundworld that melds indie-rock sensibilities with formal training from Louis Andriessen, Martijn Padding, Richard Ayers, and others. Practically speaking, she amasses music in layers not normally found together but in ways that create matchless vertical harmonies.



Photo by Marylene Mey

Learn more about *Song from the Uproar* at [www.musicsalesclassical.com](http://www.musicsalesclassical.com). Photos from *Song from the Uproar* by Stephen Taylor.

G. Schirmer / AMP  
part of The Music Sales Group



For more information contact Peggy Monastra,  
[peggy.monastra@schirmer.com](mailto:peggy.monastra@schirmer.com), 212-254-2100.

## ORDERING INFORMATION

### Rental orders and fee quotations:

[Zinfonia.com](http://Zinfonia.com) or [MusicSalesClassical.com/licensing](http://MusicSalesClassical.com/licensing)

### Perusal scores:

[MusicSalesClassical.com/OnDemand](http://MusicSalesClassical.com/OnDemand)

### Sales materials:

[MusicDispatch.com](http://MusicDispatch.com) or [MusicRoom.com](http://MusicRoom.com) or your music dealer

### Publisher and Agency Representation for the Music Sales Group:

[MusicSalesClassical.com/rental](http://MusicSalesClassical.com/rental)

## The Music Sales Group of Companies

**USA:** G. Schirmer, Inc.  
Associated Music Publishers, Inc.  
[schirmer@schirmer.com](mailto:schirmer@schirmer.com)

**France:** Alphonse Leduc  
Chant du Monde  
Chester Music France  
Les Editions Choudens  
[chesterfrance@musicsales.co.uk](mailto:chesterfrance@musicsales.co.uk)

**Denmark:** Edition Wilhelm Hansen AS  
[ewh@ewh.dk](mailto:ewh@ewh.dk)

**UK:** Chester Music Ltd  
Novello & Co Ltd  
[promotion@musicsales.co.uk](mailto:promotion@musicsales.co.uk)

**Spain:** Unión Musical Ediciones  
[unionmusicalediciones@musicsales.co.uk](mailto:unionmusicalediciones@musicsales.co.uk)

**Australia:** G. Schirmer Pty Ltd  
[publishing@musicsales.com.au](mailto:publishing@musicsales.com.au)

**Germany:** Music Sales Classical Berlin  
[classical.berlin@musicsales.co.uk](mailto:classical.berlin@musicsales.co.uk)

# Missy Mazzoli

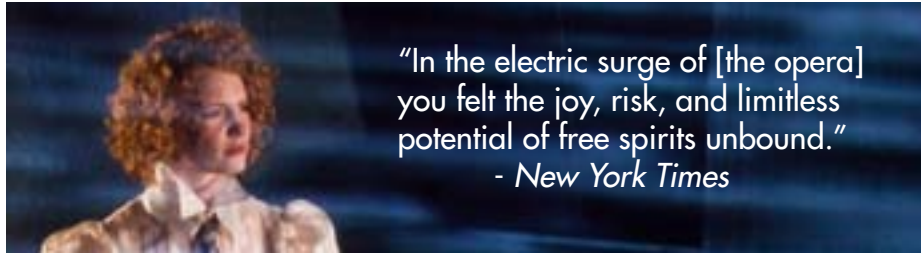
## Song from the Uproar

A chamber opera (2012)



# Song from the Uproar

A chamber opera (2012)



## World Premiere:

February 2012, The Kitchen, New York, NY  
Abigail Fischer, mezzo-soprano;  
NOW Ensemble; Steven Osgood, conductor

Duration: 1 hour 15 minutes

Libretto by Missy Mazzoli  
Royce Vavrek

## Instrumentation:

Mezzo-soprano  
SSATB Chorus  
fl(pic), cl(bcl), pf, egtr, db, electronics

## introduction

Isabelle Eberhardt (1877-1904) was an explorer, nomad, journalist, novelist, passionate romantic, Sufi, and one of the most unique and unusual women of her era. At age twenty, after the death of her mother, brother and father, she left her life in Switzerland for a nomadic and unfettered existence in the deserts of North Africa. She traveled extensively through the desert on horseback, often dressed as a man, relentlessly documenting her travels through detailed journals. At age twenty-seven Isabelle drowned in a flash flood in the desert. *Song from the Uproar* uses texts inspired by her writing to immerse the audience in the surreal landscapes of Isabelle's life; she describes the death of her family, the thrill of her arrival in Africa, her tentative joy at falling in love, the elation of self-discovery and the mystery of death.

"The music skillfully evoked that passion through minimalist-style repetition, haunting melody, rhythmic variety... It was both powerful and new."

- Heidi Waleson, *The Wall Street Journal*

## composer's note

In 2004, within hours of picking up a copy of her journals in a Boston bookstore, I officially became obsessed with Isabelle Eberhardt's strange and moving life story. Within two weeks I had read everything she had ever written and nearly everything written about her, but despite my compulsive reading habits, I still had more questions than answers.

I was struck by the universal themes of her story – how much her struggles, her questions, her passions, mirrored those of women throughout the 20th and 21st century. Isabelle made a great effort to define herself as an independent woman under extreme circumstances. She dressed as a man, seeing this as the only way to move freely and live the life of her choice. She let herself fall deeply in love but struggled to maintain her independent lifestyle.

I knew immediately that I wanted to create a largescale work about Isabelle, and I knew that I wanted it to be more of a personal response to her life than a detailed re-telling of her story. I needed to start answering my own questions, imagining how she felt, filling in the spaces between journal entries and exploring the universality that make her story so vibrant and relevant to me over one hundred years after her death.

In 2007, three years after discovering Isabelle, I began work on the libretto for *Song from the Uproar: The Lives and Deaths of Isabelle Eberhardt*, pulling phrases and ideas from her journals and creating singable texts that, over the following year, I set to music. Working in response to my score, Stephen Taylor started to create films using archival footage from the early 20th century, generating a collection of images that went beyond a mere depiction of Isabelle's story to reflect the emotional themes of each section. Early in 2009 Steve and I began our collaboration with director Gia Forakis, who worked with us to stage the work and bring together all the elements of the project.

I wrote this work for NOW Ensemble and Abigail Fischer, musicians whose virtuosic technique and adventurous spirit made them an ideal choice for what I envisioned.

- Missy Mazzoli



RECORDING AVAILABLE

Abigail Fischer, mezzo-soprano

NOW Ensemble

New Amsterdam Records, NWAM042