



MEDIA KIT

MELANIE HOLM

SOPRANO
DANCER
CREATOR

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Photo: Christopher Boudewyns

ABOUT



Melanie Holm is a soprano, dancer, and choreographer reframing standard opera repertory through a movement-driven lens. Recently, Melanie completed artist residencies with Bearnstow (Mount Vernon, Maine) and Moulin Belle (Mareuil en Périgord, France), and premiered her dance opera fusion project *Three Women/One Body* at The Tank. This past season, Melanie also presented choreographed operatic works with Spoke the Hub Dance and Borne Dance Company, and had the New York premiere of her choreographed take on Jake Heggie's *Eve Song* as a Featured Artist with Take Root at Green Space.

In addition to her dance/opera work, Melanie has written material and performed with the experimental theatre company *Your Faithful Reader*, is completing prerequisite courses for the Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies through a Work/Study Internship with Alexandra Beller/Dances, and was a member of the 23/24 Maestra Music Mentorship Program, an initiative pairing emerging artists pursuing careers in music making with established female or non-binary artists.

Recent performances include premiering choreographed arias at National Sawdust, Triskelion Arts, Fertile Ground at GreenSpace, and in guest appearances with Reaction Dance Company and Borne Dance Company. Melanie has also collaborated with multimedia artist ONOH as 2021 SEED Residency Artists with [nueBOX], premiered new works with the Arizona Women's Collaborative, and joined the 2022 Teaching Artist Training Cohort with Mark Morris Dance Group. She is an alum of Opera in the Ozarks, AIMS in Graz, and is a former Education Artist with Arizona Opera.

Melanie holds degrees from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (BM/Voice with a Dance Minor) and Arizona State University (DMA/Voice & MM/Opera Performance), where her research focused on using Gaga Movement Language and Bartenieff Fundamentals to help singers develop deeper kinesthetic connections to their vocal technique. She is currently based in New York City.

ARTIST STATEMENT

I am an operatic soprano and dancer using movement to reframe standard opera repertory through a movement-driven lens. Breaking from of the traditional “singer” role has led me to explore both opera and dance in unique ways, and to seek out innovative methods to fusing these disciplines together.

I believe harnessing the body’s full capacity for movement is inherently possible for performers of all shapes and sizes, in ways that enhance what makes each artist’s unique voice, body, and soul their own. My creative work is a vision for crafting a more diverse and story-driven space where both opera and dance are for anyone and any body.



MEDIA

[Melanie’s Website](#)

[Melanie’s YouTube Channel](#)

[Melanie’s Blog](#)

[Melanie’s Instagram @melanieholmsoprano](#)

Three Women/One Body, A Dance/Opera Fusion of Mozart, Handel, and Bellini Arias

Eve Song, Jake Heggie, with Sophie Delphis & Yura Jang

O Quante Volte (How Long Must I Wait), Vincenzo Bellini

WORKSHOPS

Dance and singing are for anyone and any body! One of my favorite ways to fuse these worlds together is through Bartenieff Fundamentals, a somatic movement practice focused on functional and accessible movement that builds awareness of one's own unique mind/body connections. If you like yoga, pilates, and feeling good in your body, then you will love Bartenieff Fundamentals!

To this end, I've designed a workshop for advanced high school and adult musicians using Bartenieff Fundamentals to unlock kinesthetic pathways between body and voice. Workshop participants will leave with a few key tools to help reduce unnecessary tension in their body and voice, and gain an increased awareness and compassion towards their own individual body and voice connections.

A workshop with me:

- Begins with a Bartenieff Fundamentals warm-up, where we lay on the floor and work through a series of gentle movements that promote breath, efficiency, and fluidity.
- Then, we begin incorporating vocal warm-ups with these gentle movements, slowly integrating body and voice into one entity
- From there, we'll transition to applying these concepts to musical pieces, working one on one in an open "masterclass" setting, Bring a piece of music you love to sing - all genres are welcome!
- The workshop concludes with an informal "in process" performance, where all performers can showcase their talents for friends and family.
- This format is designed for advanced high school and adult musicians. However, I am well versed in working with all ages and abilities, from little kids to senior citizens, and would love to tailor a workshop to meet your community's specific needs!

Click [HERE](#) to access to free or low-cost Bartenieff Fundamentals resources via Alexandra Beller and Alexandra Beller/Dances.

