



**JESSICA RIVERA**  
**Soprano**  
**2025-2026 Full Biography**

Praised by the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* for her voice's "ravishing fullness," GRAMMY® Award-winning soprano Jessica Rivera "has established herself as a singer of uncommon vocal luster and musical intelligence" (*San Francisco Classical Review*). The dimension and spirituality with which she infuses her performances on international concert and opera stages has garnered Ms. Rivera unique artistic collaborations with many of today's most celebrated composers, including John Adams, Osvaldo Golijov, Gabriela Lena Frank, Jonathan Leshnoff, Nico Muhly, and Paola Prestini, and has brought her together with such esteemed conductors as Gustavo Dudamel, Sir Simon Rattle, Esa-Pekka Salonen, James Conlon, Robert Spano, Markus Stenz, Bernard Haitink, Teddy Abrams, and Michael Tilson Thomas.

A champion of new music, Rivera recently gave the world premiere of Nico Muhly's *The Right of Your Senses* alongside the National Children's Chorus and the American Youth Symphony at Walt Disney Concert Hall. A major voice in the rich culture of Latin American music and composers, Rivera also performed Antonio Lysy's *Te Amo Argentina* at the Broad Stage in Santa Monica in May 2023. She sang Gabriela Lena Frank's *Conquest Requiem* in its premiere with the Houston Symphony, and later with the Nashville Symphony and Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

Recent orchestral highlights include Golijov's *La Pasión según San Marcos* with the Minnesota Orchestra, Gabriela Lena Frank's *La Centinela y la Paloma* with the Aspen Philharmonic, Barber's *Knoxville: Summer of 1915* at the Grand Teton Music Festival, Detroit Symphony, and Rhode Island Philharmonic, and Mozart's *Requiem* with the Louisville Orchestra and San Diego Symphony. She has sung Mahler Symphony No. 4 with Colombia's Orquesta Filarmónica de Bogotá and Mahler Symphony No. 2 with the Columbus Symphony, Strauss's *Orchesterlieder* with Orquesta Sinfónica Portuguesa, the role of Eileen in Bernstein's *Wonderful Town* with Seattle Symphony, and Górecki's Symphony No. 3 with Gustavo Dudamel and the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

Rivera has worked closely with John Adams throughout her career and received international praise portraying Kumudha in the world premiere of *A Flowering Tree* directed by Peter Sellars at Vienna's New Crowned Hope Festival. Under Adams's baton, she subsequently sang the role with the San Francisco Symphony, Los Angeles Philharmonic, Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center, and London Symphony Orchestra. Rivera made her European operatic debut as Kitty Oppenheimer in Sellars's production of Adams's *Doctor Atomic* with the Netherlands Opera and joined the roster of the Metropolitan Opera for its production of *Doctor Atomic* under the direction of Alan Gilbert.

Ms. Rivera made her Santa Fe Opera debut in the summer of 2005 as Nuria in the world premiere of the revised edition of Osvaldo Golijov's *Ainadamar*. She reprised the role for the 2007 GRAMMY® Award-winning Deutsche Grammophon recording of the work with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra under Robert Spano, and bowed in the Peter Sellars staging at Lincoln Center and Opera Boston, as well as in performances at the Barbican Centre, the Adelaide Festival of Arts, and the Ojai, Ravinia, and New Zealand International Arts Festivals. Additional recent opera roles include Margarita Xirgu in *Ainadamar* with the Casals Festival and Donna Elvira in *Don Giovanni* with Cincinnati Opera.

Rivera's extensive discography includes releases on the Deutsche Grammophon, Nonesuch, Naxos, Telarc, Urtext, VIA Records, Opus Arte, CSO Resound, and ASO Media labels. Her most recent recording, *An Homage to Victoria de los Angeles*, was released in 2022 on Urtext. Ms. Rivera serves on the vocal faculty at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. [www.jessicarivera.com](http://www.jessicarivera.com)

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