2018 OGFC DISCOVERY GRANTEES
New Works Forum
Lisa Despain

Awarded for ‘That Hell Bound Train’

- Master of Music in Jazz Piano Performance from Manhattan School of
- **Hometown:** Orem, Utah
- **Residing:** New York, NY

"Improvise"
Alexa Dexa

Awarded for ‘Be A Doll’

• Bachelor of Music in Professional Music from Berklee College of Music
• Hometown: Long Island, NY
• Residing: Long Island, NY

“Nestling”
Germaine Franco

Awarded for ‘¡La Capitana!’

• Bachelor’s and Master’s degree in Percussion Performance from Rice University’s Shepherd School of Music

• **Hometown:** El Paso, Texas

• **Residing:** Los Angeles, CA

“El Latido De Mi Corazón”
(From COCO)
Elizabeth Kelly

*Awarded for ‘Losing Her Voice’*

- PhD in Music Composition, Eastman School of Music
- MM in Music Composition, University of Michigan School of Music
- BA in Music, Yale
- **Hometown:** Los Angeles, CA
- **Residing:** Nottingham, UK

“Nuclear Shadow”

#OperaConf
Leanna Kirchoff

Awarded for ‘Friday After Friday’

- DMA in Composition, University of Colorado
- MA in Composition, University of Minnesota
- Hometown: Genoa, Colorado
- Residing: Denver, Colorado

“The Ballad of Good Women”
Veronika Krausas

Awarded for ‘Ghost Opera’

- Bachelor of Commerce - Marketing (University of Calgary, Canada)
- Bachelor of Music - Composition (University of Toronto, Canada)
- Master of Music - Composition (McGill University, Montreal Canada)
- Doctorate of Music - Composition (Thornton School of Music, University of Southern California in Los Angeles)
- Hometown: Calgary, Alberta Canada
- Residing: Los Angeles, CA

"Witches Incantation No. 2"
Julia Meinwald

Awarded for ‘REB+VoDKa+ME’

• BA in Music from Yale University
• MFA in Musical Theatre Writing from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts
• Hometown: Ithaca, NY
• Residing: New York, NY

“The Perfect Day”
Liza Seigido

Awarded for ‘Cyborgs are Dancing’

• Doctor of Musical Arts in Composition from the University of Miami
• Hometown: Miami, FL
• Residing: Miami, FL

"Daphne"

#OperaConf
OPERA America’s Opera Grants for Female Composers program provides financial assistance to identify support and help develop the work of female composers writing for the operatic medium, raising their visibility and promoting awareness of their compositions to the field.

Funding for this program is provided by the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation Program for Commissioning Women in the Performing Arts.