

Gaelynn Lea: Violinist, Composer, and Disability Rights Advocate

Since winning [NPR Music's Tiny Desk Contest](#) in 2016, Gaelynn Lea has captivated audiences around the world with her haunting original songs and traditional fiddle tunes. Over the years, she has collaborated with artists such as [Michael Stipe](#), [The Decemberists](#), and the industrial rock supergroup [Pigface](#). In 2022, Gaelynn Lea [composed the original score](#) for [Macbeth on Broadway](#), starring Daniel Craig and Ruth Negga. Thanks to a recent [Whippoowill Arts Fellowship](#), her soundtrack is set to be released in Spring 2025; a *Music from Macbeth* UK album tour will follow soon after.

Gaelynn Lea is a sought-after public speaker about accessibility in the arts. She has been featured on [PBS NewsHour](#), [On Being with Krista Tippett](#), [The Moth Radio Hour](#), [The Science of Happiness Podcast](#), and via two widely-viewed [TEDx Talks](#). In 2024, Gaelynn was awarded the prestigious [Disability Futures Fellowship](#) from the Ford and Mellon Foundations, which spotlights the work of disabled creatives across disciplines.

One of Gaelynn Lea's biggest passions is promoting Disability Culture. To that end, she co-founded [RAMPD](#) [Recording Artists and Music Professionals with Disabilities] with NYC-based recording artist [Lachi](#) in early 2022. The mission of this fast-growing global network of disabled music professionals is to [amplify Disability Culture](#), [promote equitable inclusion](#) & [advocate for accessibility](#) in the music industry.

Most recently, Gaelynn Lea co-wrote, acted, and sang in a new musical fable for the stage called [Invisible Fences](#) with disabled storyteller [Kevin Kling](#). This fantastical, music-filled production touches on disability, identity, and the storytelling. Gaelynn also helped to develop and now co-directs the [Music Inclusion Ensemble](#) with fellow disabled musicians [Adrian Anantawan](#) and [Molly Joyce](#). Their mission is to create a more explicit culture around classical music and disability and to perform a diverse repertoire of music by disabled composers.

Currently, Gaelynn Lea is writing a book about her touring adventures & disability advocacy that has been acquired by [Algonquin Books](#) and will be published late next year. *Linger in the Sun* is a love-letter to every body; a warm, funny and deeply-felt memoir about disability, music, and the messy creativity of an artist's life.

Important Links:


Websites: [Gaelynn Lea Music](#) and [Linktree](#) and [Substack](#)

Twitter / X: [@gaelynnlea](#)

Instagram: [@gaelynnlea](#)

Facebook: [@gaelynnlea](#)

YouTube: [@gaelynnlea](#)

Music Sample:  [Gaelynn Lea: NPR Music Tiny Desk Concert](#)

