

## **Raina Murnak**

2022 NAFME All-National  
Modern Band



Dr. Raina Murnak is an Assistant Professor and Director of Contemporary Voice & Performance Artistry at the University of Miami's Frost School of Music. She has served as the Artistic Director of the Bruce Hornsby Creative American Music Pop Ensembles, co-founder of the renowned Frost Method of Experiential Musicianship, the founder and director of Frost Summer Institute of Contemporary Songwriting and a co-creator of the widely successful MADE program at Frost where she has been innovating in higher education for the last 19 years.

She is a sought-after vocalist and performance coach with over 20 years of experience on stage, television and in the studio. As a multi-talented performer, vocalist, songwriter, producer, performance coach and choreographer, Murnak brings great depth and breadth to her work with individuals and groups on the stage. Her extensive training in both classical and popular voice has afforded her the rare ability to fluently perform and coach a vast array of styles and genres from opera to classical avant-garde to theater to rock. Her gift is her ability to unleash artists and help them create compelling, honest performances grounded in freedom and expression.

As a clinician and thought leader, Murnak speaks on Stage Presence, Popular Voice, Movement and Positive Strength-Centered Pedagogies. Additionally, she teaches Peak Performance using Positive Psychology concepts for FrostOnline. Her book *Positive Psychology for Music Professionals- Character Strengths* (Routledge) is due out in 2023.

She holds a Bachelor of Music and Master's degree in Vocal Performance and Composition from the State University of New York at Stony Brook and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Music Theory and Composition and Vocal Pedagogy from the University of Miami. She also holds a certificate in Instructional Design from Oregon State.

Dr. Murnak is not only well-versed music, but also in dance and the visual arts. She remains active as a performer and most recently, had an off-Broadway performance of her musical *Belva*, co-written with actress Janine Turner. Besides her musical life, Raina is an avid photographer, painter, designer and lover of the ocean. She is a born and raised New Yorker who now lives in Miami where the weather is one of her best friends.