

## CHANGING THE WORLD ONE NOTE AT A TIME

A mover and a shaker, Billie Jean Howard is a small town girl who stood out as a gifted musician. The daughter of a musician/music teacher, Billie became a leader in her music classes even as a child. Now a big city girl with degrees in piano performance and pedagogy as well as violin performance, Billie is a pianist, violinist, violist, and educator. She is inspired by contemporary and experimental music on the farthest ends of the volume spectrum, ranging from the quietest sounds to fully amplified extremes. Billie composes under the moniker Akosuen, where she appears on her primary instruments, violin and piano. She is also a member of an ensemble including expanded strings, voices, organ, and percussion. Mentoring is a passion for Billie, and she maintains a private violin and piano studio in Chicago, and teaches classes at the British International School of Chicago, Oak Park School of Music, and directs the annual Pop Music for Piano Camp for middle school age pianists.

In demand as a freelance violinist, violist, and pianist, Billie has performed with a variety of noteworthy musicians and has been featured on studio recordings by award winning and Grammy nominated studio musicians. As a leader, she has served as artistic director for the arts incubator High Concept Labs, and has been manager of external relations for the arts nonprofit Homeroom. Billie has curated concerts for contemporary projects and is on the Board of Directors of the Midwest Society for Acoustic Ecology.

To read more about this standout leader of change, go to [billiejeanhoward.com](http://billiejeanhoward.com)