

***Iphigenia*, a collaboration between Wayne Shorter and Esperanza Spalding supported in part by a grant from Rex, premiered in 2021**



Back in 2015, Rex was pleased to present a grant to Creative Realization Group in support the production of renowned composer and musician Wayne Shorter's opera, *Iphigenia*, a modern stage adaptation of the powerful ancient story by Euripides.



The project evolved into a multifaceted collaboration between Shorter and bassist/singer/songwriter/composer Esperanza Spalding, who wrote the libretto and also performs as part of the 19-member cast. *Iphigenia*, many years in the making, premiered in Boston November 12, 2011. [Read the Boston Globe article here.](#) The opera saw its [West Coast premiere](#) February 12, 2022 at Zellerbach Hall in Berkeley.

Creative Realization Group was founded in 2015 to serve a national community of artists and arts organizations in the creation of new artistic work and its dissemination. CRG nourishes and

cultivates the appreciation and understanding of artists, their work and its impact on the well-being of society.

The Rex grant is specifically to support the production of Wayne Shorter's *Iphigenia*, a modern stage adaptation of the powerful ancient story by Euripides that combines music, operatic and non-operatic singing, dance and visuals reinvented for a contemporary improvisational context by a composer and musician widely regarded as one of the world's greatest improvisers.