

American cellist Ashley Bathgate has been described as an “eloquent new music interpreter” (*New York Times*) and “a glorious cellist” (*The Washington Post*) who combines “bittersweet lyricism along with ferocious chops” (*New York Magazine*). Her “impish ferocity”, “rich tone” and “imaginative phrasing” (*New York Times*) have made her one of the most sought after performers of her time. The desire to create a dynamic energy exchange with her audience and build upon the ensuing chemistry is a pillar of Bathgate's philosophy as a performer. Her affinity to dynamism drives Bathgate to venture into previously uncharted areas of ground-breaking sounds and techniques, breaking the mold of a cello's traditionally perceived voice. Collaborators and fans alike describe her vitality as nothing short of remarkable and magical for all who are involved. Bathgate is a member of the award winning, internationally acclaimed sextet, Bang on a Can All-Stars, the chamber music group HOWL and is also a founding member of TwoSense, a duo with pianist Lisa Moore, and Bonjour, a low-strung, percussive quintet.

In 2014 Bathgate premiered a new Cello Concerto by Australian composer Kate Moore with the ASKO|Schönberg ensemble at the Gaudeamus Festival in Utrecht, NL. Subsequently she recorded an album of Moore's works for solo cello, entitled *Stories For Ocean Shells*, which was released as her debut solo album on Cantaloupe Music. In 2015 she also gave the world premiere of *What Moves You*, a collaborative performance project with jookin' dance sensation Lil Buck at the Spoleto Festival USA in Charleston, NC. Most recently, Bathgate commissioned the composer collective Sleeping Giant to write her a six-movement suite for solo cello entitled “ASH”, which was premiered in 2016. Both ASH and her latest album, *8 Track*, featuring new multitrack works by Alex Weiser and Emily Cooley as well as a new version of Steve Reich's *Cello Counterpoint*, will be commercially released this coming season. Bathgate's radio/television appearances include performances on BBC Radio 3, WKCR, WMHT, WQXR's Meet the Composer podcast with Nadia Sirota, NPR's Performance Today, WYNC's New Sounds Live, SiriusXM, Late Night and The Tonight Show with Jimmy Fallon. Her recorded work can be found on Albany Records, Cantaloupe Music, Innova Recordings, La-La Land Records, Naxos, Nonesuch, Starkland and Uffda Records.

Equally at home in both the concert hall and the rock club, Bathgate focuses on presenting concerts that draw from a wide range of musical genres. Her dedication to performing traditional music is equally matched by her passion to promote new music by today's composers. That dedication has led her to work with an esteemed list of composers and musicians such as John Adams, John Luther Adams, Louis Andriessen, Nik Bärtsch, Iva Bittova Martin Bresnick, Don Byron, Jace Clayton, Bryce Dessner (The National), Arnold Dryblatt, DJ Spooky, Ben Frost, Philip Glass, Michael Gordon, Annie Gosfield, Ann Hamilton, Glenn Kotche (Wilco), David Lang, Lori Lieberman, Yo-Yo Ma, Meredith Monk, Richard Reed Parry (Arcade Fire), Questlove and The Legendary Roots Crew, Lee Ranaldo (Sonic Youth), Steve Reich, Terry Riley, Trio Mediaeval, Julia Wolfe, Shara Nova (My Brightest Diamond) and Nick Zammuto (The Books). Bathgate has toured the U.S., South America, Russia, Australia, Europe, and Asia with the Bang on a Can All-Stars and has collaborated with several notable ensembles including the Choir of Trinity Wall Street (Julia Wolfe's *Anthracite Fields* at Avery Fisher Hall), the Los Angeles Master Chorale (*Anthracite Fields* at Disney Hall), Red Fish Blue Fish (Steve Reich's *Music for 18 Musicians* at Disney Hall), the Kronos Quartet (Brian Eno's *Music for Airports* at MIT, Cambridge) and eighth blackbird (Reich's Pulitzer Prize winning *Double Sextet* at Carnegie Hall & The Barbican).

Bathgate studied at Bard College with Luis Garcia-Renart (B.M.) before continuing her education at Yale University with renowned cellist Aldo Parisot (M.M. & A.D). Originally from Saratoga Springs, NY, Bathgate began her cello studies with the late Rudolf Doblin, principal cellist and assistant music director of the Buffalo Philharmonic in the 1950's. After his passing, she resumed her tutelage with Ann Alton at Skidmore College. A member of the Empire State Youth Orchestra at the time, Bathgate was also the unprecedented two-time winner of the Lois Lyman Concerto Competition, performing the Saint-Saens and Schumann Cello Concertos with the orchestra at Troy Savings Bank Music Hall. While at Bard College, she was invited to perform both the d'Albert and Barber Cello Concertos with the American Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Leon Botstein and then went on to win Yale University's Concerto Competition in 2008, performing with the Yale Philharmonia in New Haven's legendary Woolsey Hall.

Bathgate resides in New York City.