

JADE SIMMONS

**Powerhouse Speaker, World-Class Concert Artist &
Creator of Transformational MainStage Experiences
Long-form Bio**

How do you get to be named one Top Keynote speakers of 2019? By repeatedly defying expectations, delivering riveting transformative experiences that combine inspiration, innovation and entertainment at every turn. Nicknamed "*Classical Music's No. 1 Maverick*" and often described as a "musical force of nature", the uncommon artist and inspirational figure, Jade Simmons, is easily one of the most exciting thought leaders on the scene today. Classically trained in piano performance at Northwestern and Rice Universities, Jade has eschewed the traditional recital in favor of taking her audiences on concert adventures that span Rachmaninoff to Rap. Currently, you can hear her voice as the host of *Decomposed*, the acclaimed American Public Media podcast that has been heralded in *Time* and *Esquire* Magazines, *Indie Wire* and *BBC America*. Recently named one of the Best Keynote Speakers of 2019 (by Northstar Meetings), Jade delivers stunning MainStage keynote presentations that potently combine music, virtuoso performance, dynamic leadership strategy, and riveting storytelling to speak into the hearts, minds and goals of a company's most valuable resource...their people.

As a speaker and presenter, Jade's impact spans a multitude of industries and touches an incredibly varied demographic, from college to corporate. Her experiences blend high-powered inspiration with mind-blowing classical and original genre-bending music, all while driving home an organization's theme. In the last two years alone, financial services companies like Mass Mutual, Voya, Deloitte, RBC and Nationwide; biotech and pharmaceutical giants like Pfizer and Genentech; Innovators like Dow and Raytheon; institutions like University of Michigan, University of the Pacific, and Grand Canyon University (who brought Jade in for all 6 Fall commencement ceremonies), and important conferences like the Simmons International Leadership (Simmons College) saw fit to bring Jade in to power up their legions and their leaders. She's depended on for uncommon insight, enlightened perspective, and to bring much needed rejuvenation to a variety of demographics looking for breakthrough strategy and implementable inspiration. Her specialty is in activating a renewed and redefined sense of purpose. Jade also speaks on cultivating innovation and originality, the strategies behind audacious leadership, and she leaves behind tools to unleash momentum in life and business.

Presenters remark on her uncanny ability to customize in unprecedented fashion, crafting presentations that include the company's background, theme of their event, and specific needs and pain points of the audience.

From upstarts to seasoned senior leadership, Jade transcends audience demographics, speaking to multigenerational groups of both men and women with ease. Her home language is the language of high-achievers, influencers, and visionaries, and her knack

is in shifting mindsets in real time to unlock possibilities for breakthrough thinking, limitless living, and record-breaking.

In her inimitable career as a concert pianist, Jade has remained committed to expanding the boundaries of Classical music and its presentation and as a result has revolutionized the concert platform. Today, she offers an incredibly diverse mix of repertoire from the Classics to the cutting edge and her notably diverse audiences have come to expect creative projects backed by riveting performances. Ms. Simmons has toured the US extensively in recital and with orchestra highlighted by performances at venues as wide-ranging as Ravinia, the Chicago Sinfonietta in Symphony Hall, New York's Town Hall and the Detroit Institute of Arts. She has performed at The White House and has also received the Sphinx Organization's Medal of Excellence in a concert held at the US Supreme Court hosted by Justice Sonia Sotomayor.

In an extraordinary turn of events, Jade was tapped to portray legendary concert jazz pianist & entertainer Lillette Harris in the new musical *Lillette's Rhythm Club* which debuted in Florida in 2017. She has even made waves as one of the rare classical artists invited to perform at the taste-making South by Southwest Festival where her show was ultimately branded one of the *"Best of SXSW 2014"*.

A born-storyteller, Jade powerfully and humorously relates these creative twists and turns that have made her a standout in her industry to audiences looking to do things differently in their own right in order to see greater impact in life and business.

Learn more at jadesimmons.com