## **Rashad McPherson Biography**

Rashad McPherson is a performer, music director, composer, teacher, and facilitator living in New York, NY. Rashad studied music formally as a piano principle and Music Business major at Berklee College of Music (Boston, MA).

On January 3, 2020, Rashad released a solo record, titled: "Forward." "Forward" defies classification. It features brand new music written, arranged, and produced by Rashad McPherson; as well as collaborations with Kymberli Joye (Season 15 of NBC's "The Voice"), Shelby Sykes ("The Color Purple" On Tour), Jonny Fung, Kevin Powell, and more.

Currently, Rashad is preparing to release a live, visual performance album that he recorded at a NY Soundstage. This project will feature several new songs, and will be accompanied by numerous live performance videos. Rashad released the lead single from this project, "In the Stone," this past May 20, 2022.



Rashad made his theatrical music directorial debut with the world premiere of *Bayard Rustin: Inside Ashland*; written and directed by Steve H. Broadnax, III (People's Light Theatre). He composed and co-arranged the score alongside Jason Michael Webb.

Rashad is a seminary-trained minister. He graduated from Boston University: School of Theology (Boston, MA) and Union Theological Seminary (New York, NY) in 2015 and 2017, respectively.

Rashad is an ordained reverend in the National Baptist Convention, Inc. Over

the past 10 years he has served congregations in Boston, MA and New York, NY in various capacities: leading music ministries, serving as an associate pastor, leading racial justice and LGBTQIA+ ministries, speaking out against social injustices, and galvanizing faith communities to social action.

Recently Rashad joined the faculty of Public Health Solutions: a non-profit organization that works in tandem with the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. There he serves as the Racial and Social Justice Policy Manager.