



- Mary Watkins was born in Denver, Colorado.
- She is a composer, arranger, and pianist.
- She trained in classical music at Howard University.
- She has composed many different types of pieces, including over 20 films scores and a jazz adaptation of The Nutcracker.
- Watkins has written three operas, each about a different person from history: Emmett Till, Fannie Lou Hamer (a leader of the Civil Rights Movement) and Clara Barton (the founder of the American Red Cross).
- She said that her piece, "Soul of Remembrance" is "...my historical piece about enslaved Africans struggling to understand their new lives in the U.S. and starting their long march to be recognized as fully human."

Read more at marydwatkins.com