

Friday, October 15
Sara M. Snell Music Theater
7:30 PM

La Vida Musical The Music of Spain and Countries influenced by Spanish Culture

John Schwaller, Master of Ceremonies

Allegro de Concierto in C major, Op. 46

Enrique Granados
(1867-1916)

Hannah Gruber, Piano

Enrique Granados was a Spanish composer and pianist, who is commonly considered to be a representative of musical Nationalism, and as such his music is in a uniquely Spanish style. He was also a talented painter in the style of Goya. His *Goyescas* piano suite was his most successful piece so that Granados composed an opera based on the same material. Because of World War I the opera was not premiered in Paris, but in New York on Jan. 26, 1916. Two months later, on March 24, Granados was returning home from this event when his ship, the *Sussex*, was torpedoed in the English Channel; both he and his wife were drowned.

No pueda ser from *La tabernera del Puerto*

Pablo Sorozábal
(1897-1988)

Manuel Del Castillo, Tenor
Julie Miller, Piano

Pablo Sorozábal was a Basque-Spanish composer, trained in San Sebastián, Madrid, Leipzig and Berlin. He is primarily known for his composition of Zarzuelas a Spanish stage genre that alternates between spoken and sung scenes, the latter incorporating operatic and popular song, as well as dance. He reinvigorated the genre as a vehicle for socio-political comment, later having difficulty with the Franco dictatorship because of his liberal beliefs. The name derives from a royal hunting lodge, the Palacio de la Zarzuela near Madrid, where this type of entertainment was first presented to the court.

In order to ensure a pleasant concert experience for both performers and audience, please refrain from:

- Entering or leaving during the performance.
- Bringing food or drink into the concert hall.
- Taking flash photographs.
- Using electronic devices (please remember to turn off your cellular phone, pagers and watches that chime on the hour).

Children who are able to sit quietly during the performance are welcome to our concerts.

Tape/video recording of performances is strictly prohibited without permission of the performers!

Thank you!

Llora Timbero

Arsenio Rodriguez
(1911-1970)
Arranger Jose M. Madera

The Cuban *tres* player and bandleader, blinded at an early age, earned the nickname of *El Ciego Maravilloso* (the marvelous blind man). He reshaped the typical instrumental ensemble of the *conjunto* and boldly claimed to have created the mambo. The lyrics of Rodriguez's famous tune, *Llora Timbero* (Cry for the rumba performer), praise the deceased dancer and percussionist Malanga.

Vocalists

Diana Gamet
Hannah Rosen
Andrea Palma
Robert Castro
Aaron Welcher

Violin

Victoria Frenna

Cello

Timo Rosales

Saxophones

Drew Coles
Eric Berg
William Hotaling

Trumpets

Brian Lotze
Hugh Stewart
Victor DeJesus
Aaron Langenauer

Trombones

Alexander Slomka
Andrew Crecco
Peter McCoy
Shaun Cagney

Piano

M. Maxwell Howard

Bass

Joseph Goehle

Percussion

Chad Weinheimer
Matthew Christy
Michael Alfieri
Kyle Tupper
Heidi Crampton

Chants d'Espagne (1926)
Montañesa (Castille)
Tonada Murciana (Murciana)
Saeta (Andaluza)
Granadina (Andaluza)

John Lindsey, Violin
Julie Miller, Piano

Joaquin Nin
(1879-1949)

Joaquin Nin Castellanos was born in Havana, Cuba, when the island was a Spanish colony, but when he died in 1949 in Havana, Cuba was already an independent republic. He studied in Barcelona and Paris, where he became piano professor at the Scola Cantorum in 1906. He is not only the father of composer and pianist Joaquín Nin but also businessman Thorvald Nin and famous literary diarist, actress and author Anaïs Nin.

Polo from *Siete Canciones Populares Espanolas*

Manuel de Falla
(1876-1946)

Katie Beck, Soprano
Jonah Piali, Piano

Born in 1876 in Cadiz, Manuel de Falla is considered one of the greatest Spanish composers of the 20th century His major works include the one-act opera *La vida breve* (Life is Short) *Noches en los jardines de España* (Nights in Gardens of Spain) *El sombrero de tres picos* (The Three-Cornered Hat), *El retablo de maese Pedro* (Master Peter's Puppet Show), *Psyché* and *Concerto per clavicembalo* (Harpsichord Concerto).

La fleur que tu m'avais jetée, from *Carmen*

Georges Bizet
(1838-1875)

Lonel Woods, Tenor
Julie Miller, Piano

Georges Alexandre César Léopold Bizet was born in Paris to a mother who was a pianist and a father who taught voice and composed. He entered the Paris Conservatoire de Musique at the age of nine, and studied under Zimmerman, Halévy and Gounod until the age of twenty. Bizet won the coveted Prix de Rome for composition in 1857 with the premiere of his sparkling operetta *Le Docteur Miracle* but his most famous piece is the opera *Carmen*, one of the most popular works in the entire operatic repertoire. Bizet did not live to see its success, as he died from angina at the age of 36 a few months after its first few performances. He was buried in the Père Lachaise Cemetery in Paris.

Concert and program conceived and organized by Donald George.

Asturias (Leyenda), Op. 47, No. 5

Douglas Rubio, Guitar

Isaac Albéniz
(1860-1909)

Albéniz was born in Camprodon, Spain a small town on the Catalonia/French border and began early an adventurous and nomadic life as a concert pianist. He first studied in Madrid and Paris. From 1893 on he dedicated himself mainly to composition. Albeniz moved to Paris where he wrote *Papita Jeménez*, the musical comedy *St. Antonio de la Florida*, the rhapsody *Catalonia* for orchestra and the suite *Iberia*, which is one of the most significant works of the 20th century. Albeniz's large musical production counts over 500 compositions, but much is unfortunately lost. Among his early works are: suites Espagnole and Moresque, Caprichos Andaluces and many other folkloristic compositions. His last works already reveal his own original style using Spanish idioms particularly in his greatest success, *Iberia*.

Canto Negro from *Cinco Canciones Negras*

Robert Castro, Baritone
Josh McGrath, Piano

Xavier Montsalvatge
(1912-2002)

Born in Girona, Spain, Xavier Montsalvatge became a major figure in the musical world of Barcelona, where he lived for most of his life. He was fascinated by West Indian music, which, as he wrote, "was itself originally Spanish, exported overseas and then re-imported into our country" Spanish composer Francesc Taverna described Montsalvatge's music with this statement in 1993: "In some way, the spirit and luminosity of Mediterranean Art crystallizes, in the case of Montsalvatge, in the brightness and conciseness of his sonorous speech." He also worked as music critic for such publications as *Destino* magazine and the newspapers *La Vanguardia* and *El Matí*, and was professor of composition at Barcelona's Conservatori Superior.

Tango from *España* op.165, N2

Eugenia Tsarov, Piano

Isaac Albéniz
(1860-1909)

Intermission

Mama Guela

The Crane Latin Ensemble

Tito Rodriguez
(1923-1973)
Arranger Gil Lopez

Puerto Rican singer and songwriter Tito Rodriguez, along with Tito Puente and Machito, composed the formidable group of bandleaders known as *The Big Three*. Their rivalry on the bandstand at the New York City Palladium Ballroom during the mambo explosion of the 1950s and 60s was legendary. *Mambo Mona* or *Mama Guela* (Grandmother) became a signature tune for Rodriguez. He was begged not to play the song at the Palladium, because the opening brass chords would cause dancers to stampede the dance floor, threatening to crack the ceiling of the bar one floor below.

Concierto de Aranjuez

Justin John Moniz, Tenor
Jordan Robert Davidson, Tenor
Scott Bromschwig, Baritone
Cody Hampton, Bass

Joaquin Rodrigo
(1901-1999)
Arranged for Il Divo

"The music of Joaquin Rodrigo is a homage to the rich and varied cultures of Spain" (Raymond Calcraft) As Rodrigo said, "My most characteristic trait is being a dreamer" which is so exemplified by this, his most famous piece arranged here for Il Divo the multinational operatic pop vocal group It was inspired by the gardens at the Palacio Real de Aranjuez, the spring resort palace and gardens built by Philip II in the last half of the 16th century

Perfidia

Alberto Dominguez
(1913-1975)
Arranger Ray Santos
English lyrics by Milton Leeds

Born in Chiapas, Mexico, Dominguez composed *Frenesi* and *Perfidia*, ballads which have been recorded and covered over the decades by numerous artists, including Xavier Cugat, Linda Ronstadt, and Ben E. King. Remember the Paris nightclub flashback scene in *Casablanca*? Humphrey Bogart and Ingrid Bergman danced to the strains of *Perfidia*.