



Vitrina Pianística

Guatemalan Piano Music Showcase

Thursday, September 22, 2022
2022-2023 Season



Welcome to the 2022-2023 season. Lynn Conservatory of Music takes great pleasure in sharing with you the extraordinary talent of our students who have been mentored by our world-renowned faculty. We believe that you will be inspired and elevated by the excellence of their performances.

We at the Lynn Conservatory of Music deeply appreciate your ongoing support as it ensures our place among the premier conservatories of the world. We hope your enjoyment of each musical experience at this Conservatory will be rewarding and memorable.

Sincerely,
Jon Robertson
Dean of the Lynn Conservatory of Music

There are a number of ways by which you can help us fulfill our mission:

Friends of the Conservatory of Music

You can join donors like the ones listed in supporting scholarships by becoming a member of the Friends of the Conservatory of Music. Giving levels range from \$50-\$2,500+ and can be made by check, credit card, securities, or approved gifts in kind. Contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745 for more information or make your gift online today at Give.Lynn.Edu/Support-Music.

Friends of the Conservatory donors enjoy opportunities such as purchasing tickets for the upcoming season before the general public and are invited to special events reserved for donors.

The Leadership Society of Lynn University

The Leadership Society is the premier annual giving society for donors who are committed to ensuring a standard of excellence at Lynn for all students. Leadership Society donors make an annual gift of \$2,500 or more and have the option of directing their gift to support the Conservatory of Music. Leadership Society donors receive invitations to exclusive events throughout the year that offer opportunities to engage with other Leadership Society donors and university administrators.

Planned Giving

Planned gifts provide important support for the future of Lynn University, its colleges and programs. Your legacy lives on at Lynn University in perpetuity - various options include, but are not limited to, bequests by will, charitable gift annuities and life insurance.

Your contribution to the Conservatory is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. For additional information, please contact Lisa Miller at 561-237-7745.

Message from the performers

Dear beloved audience:

It is a great pleasure to share with you a repertoire very close to our roots. The richness of Guatemalan piano music is hardly known; thus, many of the pieces you will hear are seldomly played in its home country and abroad. We try to revive its performance practice, and we work towards integrating this repertoire into the standard literature - advocating for it to be part of the current artistic discourse held in stages. But... is the music actually good? Yes, it is!

After listening to a (hopefully moving) in-person concert, something beautiful that happens are the conversations and discussions that spur afterward. A thought on that: stay around! Talk with each other! Tonight is an opportunity to celebrate each other, the return to in-person events, Guatemalan artistry, and Hispanic Heritage Month.

So please, enjoy yourself, and we also look forward to sharing with you after the performance.

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Guatemalan Piano Music Showcase

Thursday, September 22, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

*Tonight's concert is live-streamed on YouTube

Please silence or turn off all electronic devices, including
cell phones, beepers, and watch alarms.
Unauthorized recording or photography is strictly prohibited.

Program

Suite en re (France, 1938)

I. Presto

II. Giocoso

III. Espressivo

IV. Cantabile

V. Malinconico

Ricardo Castillo
(1894-1966)

Nuclturno, op. 24 (Guatemala, 1960)

Tocata para piano, op. 3 (Guatemala, 1952)

Jorge Sarmientos
(1932-2012)

Jr. Medina, *piano*

Tiene duende (U.S.A., 2014)

Xavier Beteta
(1981-)

Suite Chapiniana (U.S.A., 1964)

I. Pastorale

II. Burlesque

III. Nocturne

IV. Ronda

V. Fiesta

Joaquin Marroquín
(1933-2001)

Six Sketches (U.S.A., 1953)

I. Valsante

II. Melancolico

III. Vivo

IV. Simple

V. Sombrio

VI. Festivo

Manuel Herrarte

(1924-1974)

Suite No. 1 (Mexico, 1954)

I. Barcarolla

II. Intermezzo

III. Movimiento

Manuel Herrarte

Alfonso Hernandez, *piano*

INTERMISSION

Sonata para dos pianos

“Acuarelas chapinas” (1922)

I. La parada

II. Misa mayor

III. La hora del cocktail

IV. En la ventana

Manuel Martínez-Sobral

(1879-1946)

Jr. Medina, *piano*

Alfonso Hernandez, *piano*

Program Notes

Suite en Re (1938)

Ricardo Castillo (1894-1966) studied in the Paris Conservatory and lived in France from the early 20th century until 1922. Most of his music is descriptive and infused with French 20th-century trends. A feature that stands out in his compositions is the fusion of 20th-century European “isms” with Guatemalan elemental cultures drawing inspiration from pre-Hispanic mythology.

“Castillo wrote his Suite en Re in 1938. This piece is divided into five movements, of which the first and last two are in D major, with a central movement in A minor. The first and fifth movement function as an exposition and recapitulation and are similar in length and character, as are the second and 4th, which serve as intermezzi and accentuate the symmetry of the outer movements and structures. The first movement states at once, in the upper register, the principal motive from which the composer derives the majority of the material and musical figures of the suite.” - Rodrigo Asturias, Marco Polo Records.

Nocturno, op. 24 (1960)

Tocata para Piano, op. 3 (1952)

Following the path of Ricardo Castillo, Jorge Sarmientos (1931 - 2012) moved to Paris after obtaining a scholarship to study with Jean Fourné at the École Normale de Musique de Paris. Unlike his later compositions, Sarmientos’ piano works are part of a body of music written between 1950 and 1965 with a style that embraces Guatemalan autochthonous idioms - such as marimba-like gestures and folk tones - and combines them with moderately early 20th century harmonies. In contrast, his later works were influenced by post-WWII trends after studying the music of Roger Sessions, Mario Davidovsky, and Iannis Xenakis at the Instituto Torcuato di Tella in Buenos Aires.

Sarmientos was 21 years old when he wrote the Tocata para Piano Op. 3 (1952). The work was one of his first substantial piano compositions, which led to his winning the Central American Competition for Arts and Letters “15 de Septiembre” in 1952. It is inspired by George Gershwin. You will be able to listen to passages

similar to Rhapsody in Blue. On the other hand, the solemn and longing Nocture, op. 24 - in homage to Faure - is one of his last piano compositions before he dedicated himself to writing for orchestra and different instrumentations.

Tiene Duende (2014)

"Tiene Duende is inspired in Federico García Lorca's "Theory and Play of the Duende" in which he presents the idea that true art has an unexplained mystery impossible to define. In the south of Spain they call it "duende." This piece was composed as an improvisation on the piano where the composer let "duende" appear. It is a piece of primitive, primal force juxtaposed with moments that point toward the sacred." (Notes by Xavier Beteta on www.xavierbeteta.com.)

Suite Chapiniana (1964)

"The title Chapiniana refers to the Chapas area of Guatemala, located about 21 miles southeast of Guatemala City. The "Pastorale" sets the mood of the countryside portraying shepherds playing lonely melodies on their flutes. This image is suddenly interrupted by the brusque "drunken" humor featured in "Burlesque." The "Nocturne" invokes a magical spell often felt when staring into the Guatemalan nightfall, followed by the nostalgic sentiment of "Ronda." After coloring nature, humor, magic, and nostalgia, "Fiesta" closes the Suite with cheerful explosions of sounds and dancelike ostinatos." — Joaquín Marroquín

Six Sketches (1953) and Suite No. 1 (1954)

Manuel Herrarte was a former student of Ricardo Castillo in the National Conservatory of Guatemala, where he graduated as a pianist and orchestra director. In 1944 he traveled to the United States to study composition with Howard Hanson at the Eastman School of Music, becoming later the cultural attaché of the Guatemalan Consulate in New York. A proficient pianist, Herrarte appeared at recitals in many concert halls in the United States, including Carnegie Hall and Town Hall, performing programs that included his and Castillo's works. Suite No. 1 and Six Sketches are a compilation of short compositions in a neoclassical style that sheds light on Herrarte's early neoclassic training with Ricardo Castillo.

Sonata para dos pianos “Acuarelas chapinas” (1922)

Manuel Martínez-Sobral was a student of Guatemalan pianist Luis Felipe Arias. Arias was a renowned pianist who trained in Italy and was responsible for the first performances in Guatemala of many works by Beethoven, Chopin, and Liszt. For context, it is important to note that the premieres of these works occurred between 1913 and 1934, more than 80 years after Beethoven's death. While Arias did not have a substantial compositional output, Martínez-Sobral was one of the most prolific piano composers of early 20th-century Guatemala.

Rodrigo Asturias writes: “Throughout its four movements, the Sonata for two pianos evokes and perpetuates the way a Sunday took place in Latin America during the 20th Century.” Each movement portrays a different time of the day: starting with an early morning in La Parada - The Station-, followed by a solemn Major Mass, usually held in the Central Cathedral; a witty Time for the Cocktail, and finalizing with the most elaborate movement *In the Window* - a Rondo where many themes from previous movements return.

The music score used for this performance is a version discovered and rescued by Composer and editor Rodrigo Asturias.

Artist Biographies



Alfonso Hernández, pianist

Hailing from Guatemala, Alfonso Hernández is a Doctor in Musical Arts candidate at the University of Maryland. His dissertation explores 20th and 21st-century Guatemalan piano literature. A passionate educator, Alfonso is the Co-founder of the International Chamber Music Festival of Guatemala and has served as visiting faculty at the University of San Carlos in Guatemala. Alfonso is a member of the Global Leaders Program 2022 and 2023

Cohort seeking to drive innovation, growth, and social impact with music and cultural agency. He has won awards from the Lynn Conservatory Concerto Competition, Moores School of Music Concerto Competition; TMTA; MTNA (Texas Division); the Chautauqua International Piano Competition; the Maria Clara Cullell International Piano Competition; and several others. Alfonso holds degrees from the University of Houston, Eastman School of Music, and Lynn University. He has participated in many renowned music festivals, including Chautauqua, Aspen, Art of the Piano, Pianofest in the Hamptons, and Zeister Muziekdage in the Netherlands.



Carlos Fernando Jr Medina Romero, pianist

Jr. Medina has been awarded numerous prizes for his artistry in his homeland, Guatemala, and also in Cuba and Mexico. These include First Prize (category B, 2008) and Second Prize (category C, 2009) of the Concurso Nacional de Piano Juan de Dios

Montenegro (Guatemala), Third Prize at the Concurso Internacional de Piano Musicalia (Cuba, 2019) and Special Prize for Best Performance of the required Mexican work at the “Jose Jacinto Cuevas” Yamaha International Piano Competition (Mexico, 2021). He has performed as soloist with the Orquesta Sinfónica Nacional de Guatemala, the Orquesta del Conservatorio Nacional de Música Germán Alcántara and the Orquesta Juvenil Municipal de Guatemala. In addition, Medina participates as cultural manager and co-founder of the Encuentro de Pianistas de Guatemala.

Medina holds a Bachelor’s Degree of Art with a specialization in Music and is a cum laude graduate from the Universidad InterNaciones (Guatemala). He also graduated with high honors from the Conservatorio Nacional de Música Germán Alcántara (Guatemala) as a Bachelor of Art major with a specialization in Piano. In addition, he is a Teacher of Music Education, graduating from the Instituto Pedagógico Alfredo Colom (Guatemala). Jr. Medina is currently enrolled in the Professional Performance Certificate program in the Lynn University Conservatory of Music in Boca Raton, Florida, in the studio of Dr. Roberta Rust.

Upcoming Events

Live at Lynn is presented by Libby Dobson

Live at Lynn features concerts and performances by Lynn University's Conservatory of Music, drama students and special guests who stage dozens of productions annually, including classical and pop music, Broadway favorites, variety shows and more. See the schedule at lynn.edu/liveatlynn.

2022 Lynn Concerto Competition, Final Round

Sunday, October 9, 2022 at 9:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Open to public (No ticket required)

Guest Pianist José Ramón Mendez in Recital and Master Class

Monday, October 10, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Open to public (No ticket required)

Philharmonia No. 2

Saturday, October 29, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, October 30, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

The Wold Performing Arts Center

Tickets start at \$35

Philharmonia No. 3

Saturday, November 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 13, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

The Wold Performing Arts Center

Tickets start at \$35

“Beethoven & Belief” featuring Pianist Roberta Rust

Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Tickets start at \$25

2022 Lynn Chamber Music Competition, Final Round

Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Open to public (No ticket required)

Chamber Music Competition Winner's Recital

Thursday, December 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Amarnick-Goldstein Concert Hall

Open to public (No ticket required)

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Conservatory of Music

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