

Marcos Madrigal

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Bill Newman – Music & Vision

Marcos Madrigal was born in Havana, Cuba. In 2007, he graduated with honors from the The University of Arts of Cuba (ISA), under the guidance of the renowned professor and pianist Teresita Junco. He attended Master Classes at the Conservatory of Southern Switzerland in Lugano and at the International Piano Academy Lake Como, where he had the chance to study with Andreas Staier, Dimitri Bashkirov, Fou Ts'ong, John Perry, Malcolm Bilson and especially with his mentor William Grant Naboré.

He has performed in recitals, and as a soloist with orchestra, in many of the most renowned concert halls of the world, such as the Teatro Colón of Buenos Aires, the Auditorium Parco della Musica of Rome, the Queen Elizabeth Hall of London, the National Concert Hall of Dublin, the Auditorium Manuel de Falla of Granada, the Bucharest Opera House, the Volkstheater of Vienna, the Teatro Rossini of Pesaro, the Teatro delle Muse of Ancona, the Teatro Gentile da Fabriano of Fabriano, the Teatro Góngora of Córdoba and the Qintai Grand Theater of Wuhan, working with notable conductors, such as Claudio Abbado, Leo Brower, Paul Mann, Enrique Diemecke and Lorenzo Ramos. Madrigal has also collaborated in several projects with Oscar-winning composer Nicola Piovani, as well as with other distinguished composers in the film and theater world. In 2015, he gave his celebrated debut in the United States at the Finney Hall in Oberlin, Ohio.

He has received numerous awards in several international competitions, among which are the International Piano Competition “Premio Jaén”(Spain), the “Panama International Piano Competition”, the International Piano Competition “María Clara Cullel” (Costa Rica), and the International Piano Competition “Ignacio Cervantes” (Cuba).

In 2012, he was awarded the International Award “Gold Medal Maison des Artistes”, granted by the Association for Culture, Arts, Science and Social Commitment at the Sapienza University of Rome.

Among his most recent recordings are Homo Ludens, with M^o Leo Brouwer; Concert for Four Hands, with Cuban pianist Teresita Junco; the Opera Omnia for Piano and Orchestra of José María Vitier; a monograph dedicated to Cuban composer Ernesto Lecuona, Cuba, which was critically acclaimed and won numerous awards, among which are the Choc de Classica (France), the Melómano de Oro (Spain), the Cubadisco 2016 (Cuba), and the 5 stars of Diapason (France).

Madrigal has recorded live concerts and has participated in several programs for many Radio and TV channels all over the world, such as the BBC, Vatican Radio, Radiotelevisione svizzera (RSI), Radio Suisse Romande (RSR), and the Italian Rai Radio 3, which in 2013 broadcast a 5-episode documentary dedicated to his life with the title “Piano Libre – The other music of Cuba”.

Critiques

“He plays with taste, musicality, lyricism and sensual freedom. Here is a pianist who regales us with so many emotions.”

Alberto Cima – Corriere del Ticino (Switzerland)

“He gave absolutely superb performances throughout the evening, handling the repertoire like a great master, with superb variety of touch. [...] his entire programme was quite out of this world!”

Bill Newman – Music & Vision (United Kingdom)

“This is the new genius who shows us that the Cuban music school is as alive as ever.”

Melomano (Spain)

“In order to capture the extraordinary ingenuity of the «Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini» by Sergei Rachmaninoff, the particularly brilliant and almost electric touch of Marcos Madrigal turned out to be an excellent option. He managed to be at the same time dazzling in his purity of sound, decisive and aggressive when the occasion required it, as in the preparation and attack of the medieval «Dies Irae» of the seventh variation, almost sinister in the seventeenth one and fiery in the nineteenth one, whose apparently impossible jumps were performed with an overwhelming confidence.”

F. Javier Santos – ABC (Spain)

“It will be a long time before Bogotá sees again a pianist like Marcos Madrigal, who turned the theater into a real party, revealing the marvels of Cuban piano music. A truly outstanding concert, a luxury only an artist with impeccable technique and quality of sound can afford.”

Emilio San Miguel – El Nuevo Siglo (Colombia)

“Saint-Saëns' concert n. 2 for piano and orchestra, in the hands of Marcos Madrigal, was even more spectacular than it already is. Madrigal is a pianist of great strength and temperament, and this strength is directly transmitted to the piano.”

Gonzalo Roldán Herencia – Ritmo (España)

“Every moment of Madrigal's performance was expertly executed [...] The third movement was a hailstorm of musical genius, which Madrigal played with impeccable technique and an undeterred sense of lyricism.”

Oberlin News (USA)

“The Cuban Treasure”

Jean-Charles Hoffele – Artallina (France)