

MetLife Foundation
Music of the Americas
Concert Series

INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE ARTE DEL TEATRO COLÓN



November 4, 2013

7:00 PM

**Americas Society
680 Park Avenue, New York, NY**

Generously supported by
Alejandro Cordero

Americas / SOCIETY

WELCOME

Dear friends,

Presenting artists from the Instituto Superior de Arte del Teatro Colón (ISATC) has been a highlight of our concert seasons since 2007, and we are delighted to welcome them again tonight. The talented young singers you will hear tonight were selected among their fellow ISATC students as the best representatives of the Institute through an audition process that involved a concert at the Teatro Colón's beautiful recital hall. Their skills are a testament to the ever-renewed lyrical talent flowing from Argentina and to the important role the ISATC and the Teatro Colón play in the vitality of opera in that country and in the hemisphere.

Thank you for joining us!

Sebastian Zubieta, Music Director

The MetLife Foundation Music of the Americas concert series is made possible by the generous support of Presenting Sponsor MetLife Foundation.

MetLife Foundation

This concert is generously supported by Alejandro Cordero.

The Fall 2013 Music program is also supported, in part, by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, and by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council.

In-kind support is graciously provided by Festival Savassi NY and the Dirección de Asuntos Culturales del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y Culto de la República Argentina.



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AMERICAS SOCIETY

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TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

MetLife Foundation Music of the Americas Concert Series
presents

INSTITUTO SUPERIOR DE ARTE DEL TEATRO COLÓN

<i>Roméo et Juliette</i> C. Gounod	Natalia Quiroga, soprano	Je Veux Vivre
<i>Les Pêcheurs des Perles</i> G. Bizet	Gastón Oliveira, tenor Alejandro Spies, baritone	Au fond du temple saint
<i>Samson et Dalila</i> C. Saint-Saëns	Verónica Cano, mezzo-soprano	Mon cœur s'ouvre à ta voix
<i>La bohème</i> G. Puccini	Gastón Oliveira	Che gelida manina
<i>Don Giovanni</i> W.A. Mozart	Juan Pablo Labourdette, bass	Madamina, il catalogo è questo
<i>Le Nozze di Figaro</i> W.A. Mozart	Alejandro Spies	Hai già vinta la causa
<i>Il Trovatore</i> G. Verdi	Verónica Cano Gastón Oliveira	Non son tuo figlio!
<i>Attila</i> G. Verdi	Juan Pablo Labourdette	Mentre gonfiarsi l'anima
<i>Rigoletto</i> G. Verdi	Natalia Quiroga Verónica Cano Gastón Oliveira Alejandro Spies	Un dì se ben rammentomi
C. López Buchardo	Alejandro Spies	<i>Canción del carretero</i>
F. Obradors	Natalia Quiroga	<i>Del cabello más sutil</i>
H. Stamponi	Juan Pablo Labourdette	<i>El último café</i>
<i>Die Fledermaus</i> J. Strauss	Natalia Quiroga Verónica Cano Gastón Oliveira Alejandro Spies Juan Pablo Labourdette	Brüderlein

Marcelo Ayub, Pianist and Musical Director

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ABOUT THE ISATC

The Instituto Superior de Arte del Teatro Colón (ISATC) is the training institute of Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires, one of the leading opera houses in the Americas. It has been training artists for the world's opera and ballet stages for decades.



Soprano **Natalia Quiroga** was born in San Juan and started her musical studies at the Universidad Nacional de San Juan (UNSJ) at age 10, graduating in voice pedagogy in 2009. She studied with Guillermo Opitz, Marina Ruiz, Susana Cardonnet, Juan Pablo Scaffidi, Bruno D'Astoli, Susana Frangi, and Lucía Boero and is currently enrolled at the ISATC. She sang in *Dido and Aeneas*, *La Bohème*, *Carmen*, and *L'Elisir d'amore* for Ópera de San Juan, and was soloist with the Orquesta Sinfónica de la UNSJ, in Mozart's *Exsultate*, *Jubilate* and Vivaldi's *Gloria*. In 2009 she was the Queen of the Night in the Fendámús production of *The Magic Flute* at the Teatro Avenida in Buenos Aires. In 2010 she was a soloist with Música Antigua Ex Tempore in concerts throughout Buenos Aires featuring Latin American music by composers including Manuel de Zumaya and Sigismund Neukomm. In 2011 she was a member of Camerata Monteverdi, conducted by Alberto Balzanelli, performing music by Palestrina, Monteverdi, Victoria, and Balzanelli. She sang with the Coro de Niños y Jóvenes de la UNSJ, with which she received several prizes at the International Music Festival of Rhodes. In 2008 she received second prize and a scholarship in the 10th Concurso para Jóvenes Estudiantes Música organized by La Scala de San Telmo. In 2013 she was semifinalist at the Competizione dell'Opera in Linz, and joined the Coro Polifónico Nacional in Argentina. Since 2007 she has taught voice and vocal pedagogy at schools in the Greater Buenos Aires area.



Mezzosoprano **Verónica Cano** started studying piano at age 9 at the Conservatorio Nacional de Música in Buenos Aires, from which she received a degree in piano performance. She started her voice studies in 2003 with Lucía Boero, taking part of the winter courses at the ISATC, where she also studied acting with Jorge Ponzone. She has been enrolled at the ISATC since 2006, studying voice with Lucía Boero and repertoire with Marcela Esoin. She assisted in master classes given at the Fundación Teatro Colón by conductors Valdo Sciammarella, Carlos Vieu, and Salvatore Caputo. Her operatic debut came in 2004 as Mamma Lucia in *Cavalleria rusticana*, a role she performed in the city and province of Buenos Aires for two seasons. In 2010 she joined the Coro Estable del Teatro Colón and, in 2011 she participated in the Camerata Monteverdi, led by Alberto Balzanelli, with which she performed

works by Handel, Monteverdi, Palestrina, and Balzanelli. She was Giannetta in Fioravanti's opera buffa *Le cantatrici villane* with the Orquesta Académica del Teatro Colón conducted by Carlos Vieu and directed by Betty Gambartes at the Teatro Margarita Xirgu in Buenos Aires. She also sang excerpts of this opera at the Colón in 2011 under Gregor Bühl and took part in the theater's 2012 season in a tribute to Ricardo Ortale with the same orchestra under Facundo Agudín. In 2012 she also sang Teresa in *La sonnambula* under Roberto Luvini at the Teatro Roma in Avellaneda. In 2013 she sang in *Die Frau ohne Schatten* at the Colón and participated in the Verdi Gala given by the Orquesta Filarmonica de Buenos Aires.



Tenor **Gastón Oliveira Weckesser** was born in Pellegrini, in the south of Buenos Aires. He studied at the Conservatorio Luis Gianneo in Mar del Plata, and later with Noemí Souza. At the ISATC he works under Bruno D'Astoli in repertoire and Monica Philibert in voice. In 2008 he won first prize at the Concurso Nacional de Canto de la Ciudad de San Juan for his performance of Rodolfo in *La Bohème*. In 2010 he reached the semifinal stages at the Belvedere (Vienna) and Montserrat Caballé (Zaragoza) competitions. In 2012 he was semifinalist at the Teatro Colón International Singing Competition. He participated in master classes with Ieri Te Kanawa, Sherrill Milnes, Graciela De Gyndelfelt, and Alicia Nafé. He has sung Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Edgardo in *Lucia de Lammermoor*,

Malcolm in *Macbeth*, the Duke of Mantua in *Rigoletto*, Pinkerton in *Madama Butterfly*, Alfredo in *La Traviata*, Carlino in Fioravanti's *Le cantatrici villane*, Elvino in *La sonnambula*, and Eusebio in Rossini's *L'occasione fa il ladro* at the Teatro Colón and other opera houses throughout Argentina. He was a soloist in Rossini's *Petite messe solennelle*, Mozart's Requiem, Ariel Ramirez's *Misa Criolla* under conductors including Gregor Bühl, Carlos Vieu, Susana Frangi, César Tello, Roberto Luvini, Pablo Di Mario, and Sebastiano De Filippi.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS



Baritone **Alejandro Spies** was born in Esperanza, Santa Fe. He studied voice with Mercedes Robledo, Eduardo Cogorno, Víctor Torres, and Elisabeth Canis and repertoire with Irma Urteaga, Rozita Zozulia, and Bruno D'Astoli. He has been a member of the Coro Nacional de Jóvenes since 2001. With this ensemble he received two prizes at the 40th International Competition for Choirs in Spittal and recorded an album. He is also a member of the vocal group Nonsense - ensamble vocal de solistas, a group dedicated to contemporary music, with which he has Recorded music by Ligeti, Berio, and Tolosa. In 2009 he founded, in collaboration with Camilo Santostefano, Lirica Lado B, a chamber opera company dedicated to the dissemination of works that have received limited exposure in Argentina. He has been as student at the ISATC since 2011 and graduated with a degree in voice pedagogy from the Conservatorio Carlos López Buchardo in 2012. Recent opera engagements include Pergolesi's *Il Maestro di Musica* and *La Serva Padrona*; *La Traviata*; Purcell's *Dido and Aeneas* and Handel's *Acis and Galatea*; *The Magic Flute*; Telemann's *Don Quichotte auf der Hochzeit des Comacho*; Haydn's *L'isola disabitata*, *Orlando Paladino*, and *Il Mondo della Luna*; Martin y Soler's *L'arboire di Diana* and *La Festa del Villaggio*; Arthur Sullivan's *Utopia Limited*; and Cergio Prudencio's *Nomis Raviob*. A dedicated advocate of Argentinean music, he has performed *El fin de Narciso*, by Camilo Santoestefano; *El Matadero* by Marcelo Delgado; *Ivan* by Eduardo García Mansilla; *El Gran Teatro* by Marcos Franciosi; the opera-ballet *Historia de mujeres intensas* by Valeria Martinelli, and *La Casa sin sosiego* by Gerardo Gandini. He has been a soloist in Purcell's *Singt, o singt dem Herrn*; Mozart's *Coronation* and C minor Masses; the Requiems by Brahms, Liszt, and Fauré; Handel's *Chandos Anthem IX*; Beethoven's 9th Symphony; and Bernstein's *Chichester Psalms*. As a recitalist, he has presented Schubert's *Diechtherliebe*; Schumann's *Liederkreis* op. 24; Debussy's *Le promenoir des deux amants*; and Ravel's *Don Quichotte à Dulcinée*. He has participated in premieres with the Asociación Argentina de Compositores and Ars Contemporánea.



Bass **Juan Pablo Labourdette** started his musical studies at the Conservatorio Manuel de Falla in Buenos Aires, and received a scholarship from Alejandro Cordero and Cristina Khalouf to continue his education in the US in 2008. Upon his return to Argentina, he joined the Teatro Argentino de La Plata where he participated in productions of new works with its Opera Estudio, and in repertoire operas including *Faust*, *Eugene Onegin*, Rossini's *Viaggio a Reims*, Albeniz's *Pepita Jiménez*, and *La Traviata*. Upcoming roles at the Argentino include *L'Italiana in Algeri*. Labourdette joined the ISATC in 2009, where he has worked under Ricardo Ortale and Alejandra Malvino in voice and Marcelo Ayub in repertoire. He has also studied voice with Víctor Torres, Pedro Álvarez, Enrique Gibert, Dante Ranieri, Marcela Ezoin, Lucia Boero, and Pierre Blanchard, and acting with Lizzie Waisse and Laura Silva. In 2014 he will start writing a libretto for an opera by Argentinean composer Claudio Alsuyet, sponsored by the ISATC.



Pianist **Marcelo Ayub** was born in Mendoza. He holds a licentiate in piano performance from the Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, where he studied with Roberto Urbay, and a degree in opera direction from the ISATC. He is currently assistant conductor and pianist for the Coro Estable del Teatro Colón and teaches repertoire at the ISATC. He has been artistic director and pianist in the concert series organized by the Fundación Teatro Colón since 2008, and has performed internationally as coach, pianist, conductor, organist, and in chamber and orchestra concerts in Chile, England, France, Mexico, Russia, the US, and Uruguay. As a soloist, he has won three times the competition organized by the Orquesta Sinfónica de la Universidad Nacional de Cuyo, with which he performed Liszt's *Totentanz* and Rachmaninoff's Second Piano Concerto as well as the *Rhapsody on a Theme by Paganini*. He has been soloist with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Chile and the Orquesta de la Universidad del Norte in Paraguay. He prepared the Teatro Colón chorus for performances of Beethoven's 9th Symphony under Daniel Barenboim and accompanied the chorus under Plácido Domingo. In 2012 he was accompanist for the I Concurso Internacional de Canto organized by the ISATC as well as in master classes with Kiri Te Kanawa and Sherrill Milnes. Recent engagements include a duo piano recital at the Festival Internacional de Ushuaia (Argentina) in collaboration with Iván Rutkauskas.

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SPRING 2014

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| Friday, February 21
7 pm | Wenqiao Jiang, piano
Music by Ignacio Cervantes |
| Saturday, March 8
7 pm | Eduardo Egüez, lute
Furio Zanasi, baritone |
| Wednesday, March 19
7 pm | Symphonie des Dragons
Music from the Philidor Collection |
| Monday, April 14
7 pm | Ithaca College Contemporary Ensemble |
| Wednesday, April 23
7 pm | Nicholas Mariscal, cello
<i>Nubes Bajas</i> : A Collection of Solo Cello
Music from Latin America |
| Wednesday, April 30
7 pm | Heloísa Fernandes, piano
Brazilian Jazz |
| Thursday, May 8
7 pm | Quintet of the Americas
Music of Roberto Sierra |

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- Among others!



This evening's performers with Alejandro Cordero after a recent concert in Buenos Aires.

Americas Society is the premier forum dedicated to education, debate and dialogue in the Americas. Its mission is to foster an understanding of the contemporary political, social and economic issues confronting Latin America, the Caribbean and Canada, and to increase public awareness and appreciation of the diverse cultural heritage of the Americas and the importance of the inter-American relationship.

Upcoming Concerts

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Visit www.as-coa.org/music
for more information on upcoming concerts.

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