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David Córdoba-Hernández

Recognized for his interpretations full of sensitivity and color, Colombian pianist David Córdoba has performed on various stages across the Americas and Europe. His notable appearances include concerts with artists



such as Vincent Lucas (Principal Flutist - Orchestre de Paris), John-Henry Crawford, Jacobo Ochoa (Baritone – Stuttgart Opera), Amaro Dubois, and the opening of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra's 2021 season, performing Beethoven's Piano Concerto No. 2. After winning First Prize as a collaborative pianist in the National Voice Competition of Colombia, David's career has focused on participating in concerts with institutions such as the

Hawaii Performing Arts Festival, Opera Memphis, Cantos para el Mundo – Mexico, the Colombian Youth Philharmonic, the University of Mississippi, and Arkansas State University. Under the guidance of renowned Colombian pianist Teresita Gómez, David earned his Bachelor's degree in music at the University of Antioquia (Colombia) and a Master's Degree in Piano Performance with Dr. Cathal Breslin and Dr. Jonathan Tsay at the University of Memphis. He is currently completing a Doctorate in Musical Arts at the same institution.

**ESPERANZA:
A JOURNEY OF HOPE**
Compositions by José L. Elizondo
Amaro Dubois, viola
David Córdoba-Hernández, piano



CRC 4149

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|---|--|------|
| 1 | Canción de Cuna – Lullaby | 3:36 |
| 2 | Princesa de Hadas – Fairy Tale Princess | 3:17 |
| 3 | La Alborada de la Esperanza – The Dawn of Hope | 3:28 |
| 4 | La Noche de la Luna – The Night of the Moon | 4:44 |
| 5 | Cerezos en Flor – Cherry Blossoms | 4:58 |
| 6 | Limoncello | 3:18 |
| 7 | Crepúsculos – Twilights | 4:11 |
| 8 | Ferial – Parade | 2:23 |
| 9 | Teotlalli – Land of Gods | 3:16 |

Total Time: 33:16

Recorded November 2023 at Harris Concert Hall at The University of Memphis
Rudi E. Scheidt School of Music. Produced and engineered by Mark Woodring.

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ESPERANZA

A JOURNEY OF HOPE

MUSIC BY JOSE ELIZONDO

Amaro Dubois *viola*
David Córdoba *Piano*

**ESPERANZA:
A JOURNEY OF HOPE**

Canción de Cuna – Lullaby

“Canción de Cuna” is a tender lullaby, expressed in straight-forward lyrical, tonal language. In this version, the viola’s warm and lyrical melody is complemented by a piano part that alternates between evoking a music box and creating a tapestry of sparkling sounds.

Princesa de Hadas – Fairy Tale Princess

“Princesa de Hadas” is a lyrical piece inspired by a verse from a poem by Argentine writer Patricio Méndez, evoking the innocence and romanticism of a first love imagined as a fairy tale.

La Alborada de la Esperanza – The Dawn of Hope

“La Alborada de la Esperanza” is a composition about the journey from darkness to light. Just as the light of the rising sun dissipates the darkness of the night and fills us with the promise of a bright and beautiful new day,

hope and compassion give light to life’s challenges and remind us that we can overcome adversity.

La Noche de la Luna – The Night of the Moon

Inspired by Baron Joseph von Eichendorff’s poem “Mondnacht”, “The Night of the Moon” conjures the image of moonlight shimmering on a river that appears gentle on the surface but hides turbulent undercurrents beneath, just as some people radiate positivity, beauty, and serenity, even when faced with life’s complexities and challenges.

Cerezos en Flor – Cherry Blossoms

The delicate and graceful cherry blossoms thrive after enduring harsh winters and inclement weather. Reflecting on people that act with genuine grace and kindness despite significant life challenges or losses, “Cherry Blossoms” draws inspiration from the tenderness, delicacy, and sweet impression of these beautiful flowers, as well as the concepts of grace, kindness, and resilience.

Limoncello

“Limoncello” is a playful and sunny composition inspired by imagery, such as the gentle Mediterranean breeze, the sparkling light on a fountain, and even the bright yellow of the Italian Limoncello drink, reminiscent of the midday sun. This piece symbolizes healing, capturing the moment when someone who has endured great sorrow can smile again, and evokes a sense of gentleness and tenderness.

Crepúsculos - Twilights

“Crepúsculos” is a meditation on the inexorable passage of time, inspired by the magical pinkish, orange light of an Alpenglow twilight. The piano’s continuous stream of sound, sometimes playful, but sometimes reverent and even quoting the “Dies Irae”, symbolizes time’s flow, encompassing a cycle of moments of joy, sorrow, and mourning, while the viola’s warm melody offers comfort and consolation, aiming to evoke a feeling of serene joy.

Ferial – Parade

“Ferial”, from “Estampas Mexicanas”, begins with a paraphrase of the opening measures of

Carlos Chávez’s “Sinfonía India”. Elizondo then transforms this material into an exuberant Mexican street parade of simple, colorful, folk-like tunes and rhythms. This is followed by an intimate and graceful waltz, reminiscent of early 20th-century Mexican salon music. The piece juxtaposes Spanish and Mexican elements, returning to its vibrant, festive opening and concluding with a joyful celebration.

Teotlalli – Land of Gods

“Teotlalli”, from “Estampas Mexicanas”, is inspired by Mexican music from the beginning of the 20th century that synthesized and embraced various musical influences, thriving in the presence of simple lyrical melodies and elements of Mexican folk music. In particular, this festive piece celebrates the composer’s homeland, incorporating elements of the Mariachi music tradition.

José L. Elizondo

José Elizondo is a multifaceted Mexican composer. He studied at the Massachusetts Institute of



Technology (MIT) and at Harvard University. In the field of technology, Jose works full-time as an engineer in a company that specializes in speech recognition technology systems. As a composer, Jose writes chamber and orchestral music in a style that is lyrical and expressive, often drawing inspiration from Latin American folk music.

Amaro Dubois

Amaro Dubois, a virtuosic Brazilian violist, has gained recognition for his “utmost commitment and sensitivity to composers’ diverse voices” (Fanfare Magazine, NY). Known for



championing lesser-known viola repertoire, Dubois has collaborated extensively across South and North America to highlight under-represented composers. An award-winning artist, his accolades include awards at the London Classical Music Competition, World Classical Music Awards, and King’s Peak International Music Competition.

A prolific recording artist, Dubois has released four commercial albums, with two additional projects slated for release in the upcoming season. His most recent album, *Luz*, showcases his dedication to living composers, featuring three world premieres of commissioned works. His music is widely accessible on all major streaming platforms.

Dubois has graced stages as a soloist with numerous orchestras in Brazil, premiering innovative concertos for viola. In the upcoming seasons, he will debut two major works by Dimitri Cervo, Judith Markovich and Michael Torke.

Amaro Dubois performs on a masterfully crafted 1950 viola by renowned Hungarian luthier Otto Erdesz. His artistry continues to inspire audiences worldwide through a blend