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# Juan TRIGOS

## Guitar Works • 1

Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España

Ricercare de Cámara VII • Partita

**Dieter Hennings, Guitar**

**Paul Vaillancourt, Percussion**

Juan  
**TRIGOS**  
(b. 1965)  
**Guitar Works • 1**

	<b>Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España (2015)</b>	<b>23:50</b>
1	Tema –	0:54
2	Variatione I –	1:27
3	Variatione II	2:15
4	Variatione III –	1:31
5	Variatione IV	2:03
6	Variatione V	1:03
7	Variatione VI	1:12
8	Variatione VII	0:55
9	Variatione VIII	1:03
10	Variatione IX	2:07
11	Variatione X	1:16
12	Variatione XI	1:13
13	Variatione XII –	3:18
14	Fuga	3:33
	<b>Ricercare de Cámara VII (2020)</b>	<b>17:34</b>
15	I. –	7:20
16	II. –	3:11
17	III. –	2:34
18	IV. –	4:27
	<b>Partita for solo guitar (2007)</b>	<b>22:47</b>
19	I. Arioso ma mantenendo la pulsazione –	4:19
20	II. Con fuoco e ben ritmato sempre –	6:37
21	III. $\downarrow = 40$ ( $\downarrow = 80$ ) –	4:46
22	IV. Sempre con molto slancio –	3:45
23	V. Furente ma ben articolato	3:20

## Juan Trigos (b. 1965)

Mexican-American composer and conductor, Juan Trigos, was born in Mexico City in 1965. As a composer his search for a personal musical language resulted in a concept he named 'abstract folklore', whereby Maestro Trigos assimilates a variety of literary and vernacular musical traditions within his method of composition. A prolific composer, whose music has been performed in many countries, his output includes five symphonies, five operas, ballet music, concertos and concertantes, choral works, and a quantity of instrumental pieces including guitar works.

Professor Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez of the Eastman School of Music at the University of Rochester, New York, has described Trigos's music as 'unique, ambitious, and representative of a truly syncretic style that seamlessly combines European and American traditions. Juan is also a gifted pedagogue and an overall inspiring presence, combining professional energy, artistic rigour, exuberant imagination, and a great sense of humour'.

### Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España (2015)

*Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España* (2015) is a broad and profound homage to the music of Manuel M. Ponce, and in particular to the monumental *Variations sur 'Folía de España' et fugue* (1929). The composition was the result of a consortium commission by guitarists Dieter Hennings, Trevor Babb, Jeremy Bass, Eric Singh, Eladio Scharrón and Iván Trinidad Sánchez, to whom the work is dedicated.

The work continues the long tradition of creating variations based on the harmonic and melodic pattern known as *Folías de España* (which is usually in D minor), of which Arcangelo Corelli, Marin Marais, Alessandro Scarlatti, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach and Antonio Vivaldi were proponents. Undoubtedly, *Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España* is set to become a reference piece within guitar repertoire, given the sophistication of its elaboration, its auditory anchoring in modal tonality, the metric symmetry in the leading theme, and the virtuosic compositional display of the fugue.

*Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España* was first performed by Jeremy Andrew Bass in Lexington, Kentucky on 8 May 2016.

### Ricercare de Cámara VII (2020)

*Ricercare de Cámara VII* for guitar and percussion [*ricercare* (Italian) – to seek out or research] explores the timbral dimensions of the instruments, using these to complement the harmonic structure of the piece, which is based around the note of G. The timbre is enriched by percussion instruments such as metal chimes tuned to the G pentatonic scale, (one disk gong tuned to G4, two Chinese Opera Gongs to G3 and G4, and one Almglocken to G5). The metric, rhythmic and timbral qualities of this four-movement work display a static character that creates a sensual result.

*Ricercare de Cámara VII* was commissioned by Dieter Hennings and Paul Vaillancourt, and premiered by them at Columbus State University on 10 October 2021. The work is dedicated to the memory of Franco Donatoni.

### Partita for solo guitar (2007)

This recording concludes with the *Partita* for solo guitar, a monumental work in five movements lasting over 20 minutes. The harmonic definition of the piece is more abstract than in the preceding works, however, the variations provide a balance between the abstract and the identifiable through repetition and modification. Here too, the harmonic palette is enriched by the musical timbre resulting from the use of *scordatura*, which tunes the sixth string of the guitar two tones down to the note of C; in that sense, there is a reference to the harmonic identity that unfolds towards the end of the fifth movement, and gives meaning to the work as a whole. *Partita* for solo guitar was commissioned by and dedicated to Dieter Hennings, who performed the premiere at the Mexican Embassy in Rome on 13 December 2007.

Finally, it is worth highlighting the commendable work of the guitarist on this recording in commissioning the three works presented here; without doubt, the tradition that began with Andrés Segovia and Julian Bream continues its march with the artistic work of Dieter Hennings.

**Graham Wade, Alejandro Barceló Rodríguez**

*Further analysis of the compositional style of Juan Trigos can be found at [www.naxos.com/notes/574664.htm](http://www.naxos.com/notes/574664.htm)*

## Dieter Hennings



The musical endeavours of Dieter Hennings Yeomans span from new works for guitar to Early Music for lute, Baroque guitar and theorbo. He has been a soloist with Canada's New Music Concerts Ensemble, Riverside Symphony and Orquestra Sinfônica do Rio Grande do Norte, among many others, and has been awarded First Prize in several prestigious competitions, including the 2008 Aaron Brock Memorial International Guitar Competition and 2005 Eastman Guitar Concerto Competition. An active proponent of new music, Hennings has worked with some of today's leading composers such as Mario Davidovsky, Reena Esmail and Juan Trigos, and has received grants from the Howard Hanson Institute for American Music, the Fondo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes (FONCA) and the Fondo Estatal para la Cultura y las Artes to commission and premiere contemporary works for guitar. Recent engagements include concerts with singer-songwriter Natalie Merchant and Baroque violinist Monica Huggett. Hennings is a resident artist and founder of the Zohn Collective ensemble. He is professor of music at the University of Kentucky, and curates the UK International Guitar Series.

## Paul Vaillancourt



Paul Vaillancourt (D.M.A) is Professor of Percussion at Columbus State University in Columbus, Georgia. He has been a featured soloist at the Banff and Aspen Summer Music Festivals, Sound Symposium Music Festival in Newfoundland, with the National Arts Center and Ottawa Symphony Orchestras, the St Petersburg Chamber Orchestra (Russia), the Guanajuato Philharmonic Orchestra in Mexico, the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra, the CSU Philharmonic and CSU Wind Ensemble. He performs regularly with the Columbus and Atlanta Symphony orchestras and is a founding member of the Zohn Collective. He has performed internationally with contemporary music ensembles including Bent Frequency, Sonic Generator, Furious Band, The Fountain City Ensemble, with his wife, flautist Andrée Martin and the piano/percussion duo STRIKE with Jeffery Meyer in tours of Japan, China, Russia, Mexico and Thailand. His latest project with guitarist Dieter Hennings has led to premieres and recording projects of works by Brian Cherney, Orlando Garcia, Ricardo Zohn-Muldoon and Juan Trigos. Vaillancourt is a Pearl/Adams Education Artist.

The Mexican-American composer, Juan Trigos, has developed the concept of ‘abstract folklore’, a process by which he assimilates various literary and musical traditions in his method of composition. This first volume of his guitar works shows the process in all its breadth, not least in the large-scale *Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España*, where old-world dances meet syncopated new-world rhythms. The *Partita*, based on the principle of variation, also evokes and alludes to dance, while the virtuosic and expressive *Ricercare de Cámara VII* ingeniously explores the fusion of guitar and percussion.

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**TRIGOS**  
(b. 1965)

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|--------------|--|--------------|
| <b>1–14</b>  | <b>Twelve Variations and Fugue on the Folía de España (2015)</b> | <b>23:50</b> |
| <b>15–18</b> | <b>Ricercare de Cámara VII (2020)*</b>                           | <b>17:34</b> |
| <b>19–23</b> | <b>Partita for solo guitar (2007)</b>                            | <b>22:47</b> |

**\*WORLD PREMIERE COMMERCIAL RECORDING**

**Dieter Hennings, Guitar**  
**Paul Vaillancourt, Percussion** **15–18**

A detailed track list can be found inside the booklet  
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Recording engineers: Julian Chalon, Nick Williams

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