



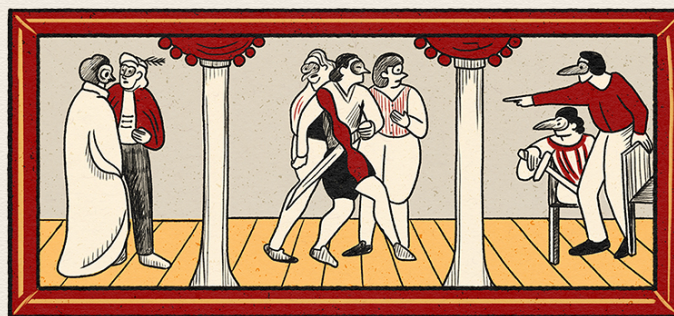
ROMEO & JULIET

a Story in Music

Viola
Piano
Narration
Performance

An original production by:
Cristina Cordero
&
Juan Barahona

VERONA, 14th CENTURY
 FEUDING FAMILIES
 TWO YOUNG LOVERS
 A TRAGIC FATE

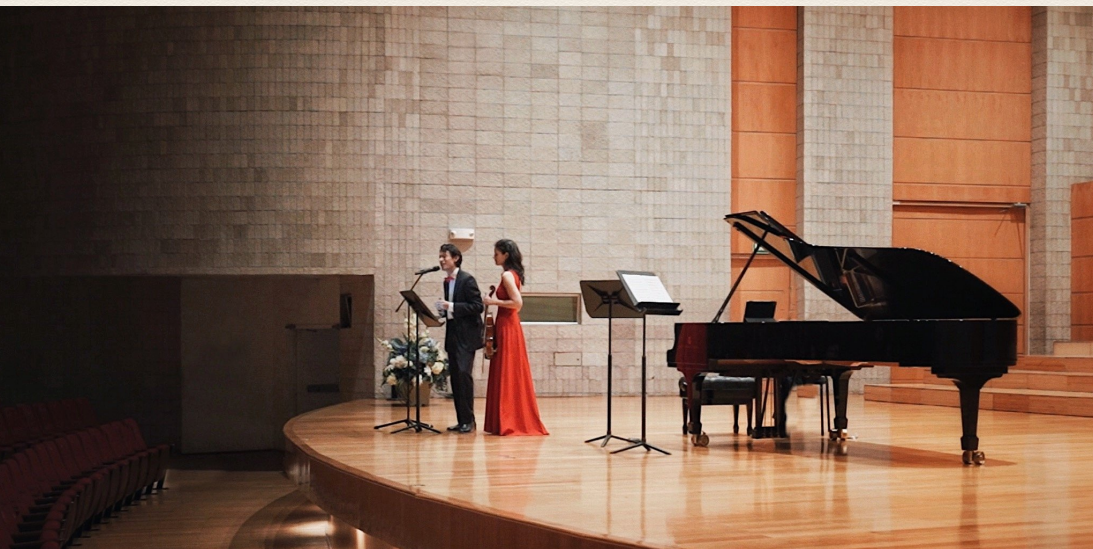


Prose meets music in a unique experience.

Cristina Cordero (viola) and Juan Barahona (piano) embark on a musical journey through the most unforgettable moments of Sergei Prokofiev's monumental ballet while narrating and performing their own adaptation of William Shakespeare's beautiful tragedy.

The production





The Story:

Using elements from W. Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* as well as Luigi da Porto's *Historia Novellamente Ritrovata di due Nobili Amanti*, J. Barahona loosely adapts this literary classic in a script that offers a narrative framework to S. Prokofiev's masterpiece. Cristina and Juan bring life to this production combining narration, characterization and musical performances.

The Music:

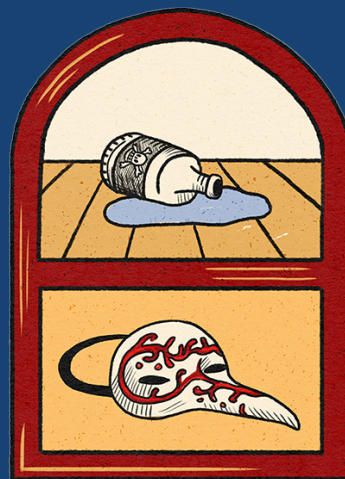
A selection of sixteen pieces from the ballet *Romeo & Juliet* Op. 64, by Sergei Prokofiev arranged for Viola and Piano.

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|---|--|
| I.- Introduction* | X.- Romeo & Juliet at Friar Laurence's* |
| II.- The Street Awakens* | XI.- Death of Mercutio* |
| III.- Juliet as a Young Girl* | XII.- Carnival * |
| IV.- Minuet: Arrival of the Guests* | XIII.- Morning Serenade*
(for 2 violas and piano) |
| V.- Masks** | XIV.- Dance of the Girls with Lilies** |
| VI.- Dance of the Knights* | XV.- Romeo & Juliet on their Deathbed* |
| VII.- Mercutio* | XVI.- Death of Juliet* |
| VIII.- Balcony Scene* | |
| IX.- Dance with Mandolins *
(for 2 violas and piano) | |

* Arranged for viola and piano by V. Borisovsky

** Arranged for viola and piano by D. Grunes

The artists





Cristina Cordero and Juan Barahona began their artistic partnership in 2018.

Throughout these years they have had the opportunity to perform on numerous stages in Europe and South America, achieving great success in venues such as Auditorio Nacional de Música (Madrid), Palau de la Música Catalana (Barcelona), Marmorsaal Schloss Weissenstein (Pommersfelden), Casa de la Música (Quito), among others.

They have worked under the tutelage of great musicians such as Nobuko Imai, Marta Gulyás, Antoine Tamestit and Hariolf Schlichtig.

In 2020, their performance at the Palau de la Música Catalana led Cristina to obtain the "Primer Palau" award as well as the "Juventudes Musicales de España" award. The jury highlighted "the musical and interpretive skills used to overcome a very challenging program as well as the quality of the sound and talent shown; this recital can only foresee a very bright career".

They have made numerous recordings for the Spanish National Radio and Catalunya Radio. Worth mentioning are their recordings of J. Turina's *Escena Andaluza*, R. Schumann's *Märchenbilder* and their own Viola and Piano arrangements of F. Schubert's *Winterreise*.

Likewise, they have composed, performed and recorded an original transcription of the traditional Pasodoble *Suspiros de España* for Viola and Piano as part of the Original Soundtrack for the documentary "Spain, the First Globalization", which was premiered in October 2021.

In November 2021 their original production "Romeo and Juliet: Música e Historia" was premiered at Palau de la Música (Barcelona). Thanks to its innovative and unique approach, this interdisciplinary project was highly praised by critics and audience alike. Since then, they have been representing this production in more than 20 concert halls around Spain and Latin America. Eager to bring this experience to a wider audience, an English adaptation has been commissioned, developed and prepared under the name "Romeo & Juliet: a Story in Music".

Cristina Cordero, Viola and Narration

Cristina Cordero is currently pursuing her master's degree with Nobuko Imai and Wenting Kang at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía.

She previously studied with Diemut Poppen in Madrid and later graduated from the Hochschule für Musik und Theater München with Hariolf Schlichtig. Cristina is a top prizewinner of several international competitions, including First Prizes at El Primer Palau Competition, the International Chamber Music Competition Gerhard Vogt, and the Sixth Viola Competition in Vigo.

She has performed recitals in some of Spain's most prestigious venues, among them Teatro Real, Palau de la Música Catalana, Auditorio Príncipe Felipe, and Auditorio Nacional. She also performs regularly as part of string quartets and other chamber ensembles around Europe.



Juan Barahona, Piano and Narration

Born in 1989, Juan Barahona acquired his musical education from professors Nariné Karapetyan, Galina Eguiazarova, Marta Gulyas, Dmitri Alexeev and Lilya Zilberstein, concluding his studies with the highest distinctions at the Reina Sofia Music School in Madrid, Royal College of Music in London, and Universität für Musik und Darstellende Kunst in Vienna; additionally, throughout his formation years he received advice and guidance from Maestro Dmitri Bashkirov.

At the moment he combines a wide range of musical and artistic engagements with his educational activities at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía (Madrid). He has performed in many countries such as Spain (Auditorio Nacional de Música), United Kingdom (Wigmore Hall), Romania (Bucharest Ateneu), Moldova, China, France, Switzerland, Ecuador, Jordan, Germany and Austria.

Furthermore, he has made numerous recordings for Catalunya Música, Bayerischer Rundfunk and Radio Nacional de España, where he recently recorded the world premiere of *Three Pieces after Turia* (2021), by Francisco Coll.

This production has been developed from the beginning with a clear mindset: to be flexible, bold and collaborative. At the moment, it can be performed either in **English** or **Spanish**. In order to adapt this show to any concert hall, its production needs are very flexible, ranging from just Cristina, Juan and a Microphone to a wider set of options:

Optional Production Extras

- Second Viola player: the pieces *Dance with Mandolins* and *Morning Serenade* are originally arranged for two violas and piano. When possible, an invited violist joins the cast to make a brief but colourful contribution to the show. Violists Noemí Fúnez and Roman Serrano have already appeared as guest artists in Spain and South America.
- Illumination: when different stage lights, colours and intensities are available; a lighting plan with a rider/script will be provided to the concert hall production team. Lights bring a new layer of immersion to the experience.
- Merchandising: a line of products from the show (posters, magnets, postcards, bags...) are already available at Cristina and Juan's webpage. At the end of each concert, if allowed, the artists like to sell and sign their merchandising to the public.
- A percussion triangle will be available for a certain piece... but that's a surprise!

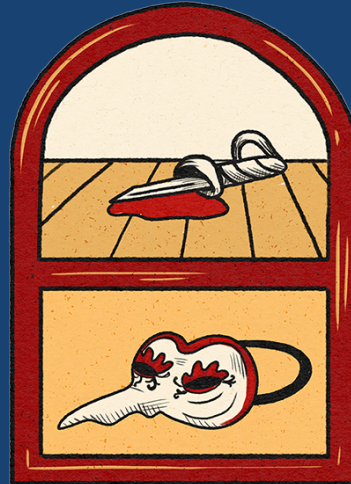


Emma de la Fuente, Art Designer

Author of all the illustrations and art for this production.

Emma is a designer, muralist and illustrator trained in Manchester, Barcelona and Madrid who, through bright colours and very dynamic compositions, seeks to share the playfulness and joy of life, tinted with sparks of psychedelia and surrealism.

The premiere



“Both narrative and music were intertwined in an impeccable harmony, the artists managed to convey the piece with clarity and great passion. [...] they didn’t just give life to the piece, but through all these details they were able to elevate it””

Núvol (ara.cat) 11.22.21, on the premiere of “Romeo and Juliet: a Story in Music”

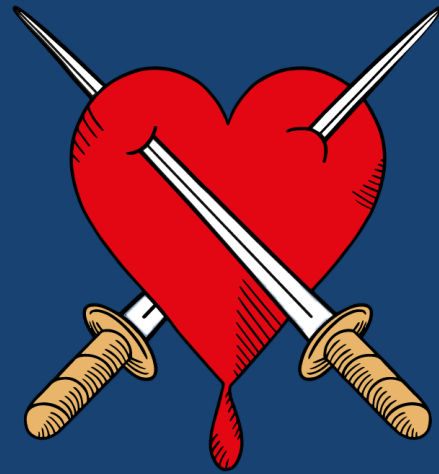


Click on the image to listen to the premiere's radio recording.

"Romeo and Juliet: a Story in Music" premiered in Barcelona on November 18, 2021 at the Palau de la Música Catalana to great popular and critical acclaim. Catalunya Música recorded and broadcast the event.

A regular performance of this production takes approximately 65 minutes.

Contact





**Contact
& Bookings:**

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