



EMBASSY OF
CHILE

Foreword



I am delighted to support the Chilean Guitar Music Festival to be held at the South Bank Centre and the Leighton House Museum from April to September 2007. The Chilean Embassy in association with the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Society (LACCS), are proudly presenting six of the most talented Chilean classical guitarists. The British audience will have the opportunity to listen to a variety of styles ranging from new to traditional, and in doing so, we are contributing to divulge our rich musical heritage.

The Festival opens with José Antonio Escobar (b. 1976) a young and gifted classical guitarist who graduated from the Arts School, University of Chile and from the Hochschule für Musik in Augsburg, Germany; his repertoire includes a world première, *Alucinación*, composed in 2004 by Christian Vásquez (b. 1965) as well as music by Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959) with two masterpieces: *Five Preludes* and *Twelve Studies for the Guitar*, (*Manuscript 1928*). A special tribute to the 120th Anniversary of the birth of this important South American composer.

The second participant is Carlos Pérez (b. 1976) his concert is to be held on Friday 1st June 2007. He is a prominent guitarist, winner of international Festivals such as the Guitar Foundation, Volos, Vienna, Esztergom, Bratislava, Mikulov, Fabritio Caroso, Caracas, Saltillo and Martinique. Carlos Pérez has chosen music by Silvius Leopold Weiss (1686-1750), *Suite in E Major*, Ferdinando Carulli (1770-1841), *Variations on Nel Co Piu* and Joaquín Rodrigo's *Toccata* (1901-1999). The second part includes pieces by Chilean composer Anna María Reyes (b. 1953) *Variaciones sobre el Pregón del Manzanero* and by Máximo Diego Pujol (b. 1957) *Tres Ensayos sobre un Boceto de Kandinski* (UK Première) ending with music by Antonio Lauro (1917-1996), *Romanza*, Venezuelan Waltz No. 3 *Natalia*, Ana Florencia and *Pasaje Aranguéño*.

The Festival continues with Luis Orlandini, experienced classical guitarist who will perform on 2nd July 2007 at the Leighton House Museum. He studied with the American guitarist Eliot Fisk at the Cologne Musikhochschule. He has recorded several CDs in Chile and Germany. His programme includes a World Première by the Chilean composer Santiago Vera-Rivera (b. 1950), *Refocilaciones, 2007*, a work dedicated to the Festival. Orlandini's performance brings in two masterpieces for guitar one by Joaquín Turina (1882-1949), *Sonata Op. 61* (1931), and the other by Alberto Ginastera (1916-1983), *Sonata Op. 47* (1976). Both pieces are a reflection of the composer's love for the identities of their national music.

The Festival moves on to an exciting programme of Spanish baroque music with Oscar Ohlsen, baroque guitar, and Eduardo Figueroa, theorbo. Their concert will be held on Tuesday 7th August 2007 at the Leighton House Museum. They are introducing music by Spanish composer Santiago de Murcia, *Obras Selectas para Guitarra*, from a Manuscript of 1722, recently discovered in Santiago, Chile by musicologist Alejandro Vera, UK and European Première. Also music from Gaspar Sanz, Zaragoza 1674, together with Chilean and Peruvian pieces of the 17th century.

The Chilean Guitar Festival comes to a close with the concert of Romilio Orellana playing a piece by Nino Garcia (1957-1998), his only work for classical guitar entitled *Artículo de Concierto* written in 1997, one year before his tragic death and a UK Première. There is also a piece by another Chilean composer, Javier Fariás (b. 1973), *Elegia, World Première*. The evening will be held on Thursday 13th September 2007, at the Leighton House Museum.

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to the sponsors for their contributions towards making the First Chilean Guitar Festival a successful event and my cordial thanks to the Latin American and Caribbean Cultural Society (LACCS) for its praiseworthy efforts in presenting and promoting our classical guitar music in Great Britain.

Rafael Moreno
Ambassador



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