

Considered “one of the brightest new lights in the classical world” (-Lloyd Dykk- The Vancouver Sun), pianist Beatriz Boizán is admired for her vibrant personality and charismatic stage presence as well as her unique musicianship and innate talent to deliver breathtaking performances of Spanish and Latin-American Music, a repertoire that has brought her great success since the beginning of her career.

Beatriz Boizán was born in Cuba in the heart of a musical family. As a child, she began cultivating her gift under the guidance of her grandmother Esclarecida Guilarte. While her musical promise was immediately evident, she also showed great interest in academic subjects, winning awards in both mathematics and physics before enrolling full-time in music studies. She then chose to focus on piano performance during secondary school, graduating in 1995 with honours from the National School of Music in Havana after earning numerous awards for best interpretation of Latin-American music.

Moving to Canada in 1996 brought the artist new opportunities for musical growth. In Vancouver, Beatriz Boizán obtained the *Music Diploma* at the Vancouver Community College King Edward Campus in 1999. She completed the *Bachelor of Music* at the University of British Columbia in 2002 where she studied with Professor Rena Sharon. Ms. Boizán next moved to Edmonton where she pursued her *Master in Music* degree with the supervision of Dr. Jacques Després at the University of Alberta in 2004.

Yearly visits to Spain have led to studies with György Sandor in 1998 during the Piano Summer Courses in Santander, organized by Queen Sofía Superior School of Music, and with Cuban pianist and Lecuona specialist José Luis Fajardo at the Amaniell Conservatoire in Madrid. From 1999 until 2002, Ms. Boizán attended piano master-classes at the Marshall Academy in Barcelona with legendary pianist Mme. Alicia de Larrocha who encouraged her to study the Spanish repertoire and to perform the music that is part of her ethnic heritage.

During her *Bachelor of Music* and *Master of Music* studies, Ms. Boizán participated in master-classes given by Leon Fleisher at the University of British Columbia (2001) and by James Parker at the University of Alberta (2004). In 2008, she was invited to participate in master-classes taught by Jerome Rose at the Liszt School of Music in Weimar where she also had the opportunity to perform at the Altenburg and the Liszt Museum.

Throughout her post-secondary training, Ms. Boizán repeatedly won scholarships such as the Fraser MacPherson Scholarship Fund for young instrumentalists(1997), the Imasco Scholarship(1996 and 1998), the Mildred Johnson Scholarship in Music (1999), the University of British Columbia Undergraduate Scholar Program Scholarship(1999 and 2000), the University of Alberta Master of Music Scholarship (2002), the Province of Alberta Graduate Scholarship(2003), the Beryl Barns Memorial Graduate Award(2002 and 2003) and others.

Beatriz Boizán has performed with major orchestras in her native Cuba at the Dolores Concert Hall in Santiago de Cuba and in Canada with the Edmonton Symphony Orchestra at the Winspear Centre. Her most recent performances include recitals in Spain at the *Ateneo de Sevilla*, the *Sala Auditorio Conde Duque* and the *sala Manuel de Falla* of the SGAE (Sociedad General de Autores y Editores).

As a recitalist, although she continues to perform a selection of works by Scarlatti, Bach, Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven Chopin, Debussy, Liszt, and others, perhaps her greatest commitment belongs to the works by Soler, Granados, Albéniz, Falla, Ginastera, as well as the Cuban composers such as Ernesto Lecuona, Manuel Saumell and Ignacio Cervantes. Her interpretation of *Danzas Argentinas* by Alberto Ginastera in the “Palacio de Festivales de Cantabria”, has been televised in numerous occasions by Radio Televisión Española.

In a concert organized by the SGAE’s Fundación Autor as homage to Joaquín Turina and the 60th anniversary of his death, Ms. Boizán performed works by the prestigious composer and his grand-son José Luis Turina, the most prominent composer of Contemporary Spanish Music, who presented the concert and has said about her: “she surprises by her sensitivity, her pianism and her incomparable and masterful sound.”