

Newsletter Announcement

November 14 , 2024

Dear Friends of the Latin American Music Center,

We are thrilled to announce the LAMC's fourth and final production of the Fall 2024 season!

On November 23, in collaboration with the **Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain**, we proudly present **Countertenor Mikel Uskola Cobos**, winner of the 88th edition of the "Concurso Permanente de Jóvenes Intérpretes de España". Mr. Uskola Cobos will be joined in concert by distinguished Puerto Rican **pianist José Ramos Santana**.

Venue: **Ward Recital Hall, 348 University Dr NE, Washington, DC 20064**

Time: **8:00 PM**

We look forward to sharing this unforgettable evening of music with you.

God bless,
Gustavo Ahualli
Director, LAMC

- PROGRAM -

Mikel Uskola Cobos, countertenor

Jose Ramos Santana, piano

I

7 Canciones populares españolas

Manuel de Falla
1876 - 1946

El paño moruno

Seguidilla murciana

Asturiana

Jota

Nana

Canción

Polo

La Maja y el ruiseñor (piano solo)

Enrique Granados
1867- 1916

II

Damisela encantadora

Ernesto Lecuona
1885 - 1963

Sé que te perdí

José Bragato
1915 - 2017

Azulão

Jaime Ovalle
1894 - 1955

Cantilena

Heitor Villa-Lobos
1887- 1959

Remeiro de S. Francisco

Saudades das selvas brasileiras W226, No. 2(piano solo)

Heitor Villa-Lobos
1887- 1959

La plena "Santa Maria"(piano solo)

Hector Campos Parsi
1923 - 1999

III

Canción del árbol del olvido

Alberto Ginastera
1916 - 1983

La rosa y el sauce

Carlos Guastavino
1912 - 2000

Cuando acaba de llover

Préstame tu pañuelito

Pueblito, mi pueblo

Uskola Cobos



Awarded in the 88th edition of Spain's Permanent Young Performers Competition, countertenor Mikel Uskola performs a wide-ranging repertoire, spanning from Renaissance polyphony, Baroque and Classical opera, to bel canto, post-Romantic songs, and newly composed works. He strives to expand the boundaries of the repertoire typically associated with his voice type. He completed his Bachelor's and Master's studies in Vocal Performance at the Royal College of Music in London, graduating in 2019 at the top of his class with the highest honors. Among his notable achievements is his leading role in the world premiere of *La dama del alba* by L. Vázquez del Fresno at the Teatro Campoamor, under the direction of Rubén Díez and Emilio Sagi. His operatic repertoire includes full roles such as Goffredo (Rinaldo) at the Ribarroja Auditorium, Cherubino (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Didymus

(Theodora), and Prince Orlofsky (Die Fledermaus) at the CSMV Auditorium. He has also performed excerpts from roles such as Oberon (A Midsummer Night's Dream), Tolomeo (Giulio Cesare), Rinaldo (Rinaldo), Bertarido (Rodelinda), and Orfeo (Orfeo ed Euridice) at the Britten Theatre in London, as well as Refugee (Flight) and Fox (The Adventures of Pinocchio), both by Jonathan Dove. Additionally, he has toured with productions of Dardanus (J.P. Rameau) and Giulio Cesare (G.F. Handel) alongside English Touring Opera. In the realm of sacred and concert repertoire, Mikel has performed a variety of works, including the Requiem Mass in D minor (W.A. Mozart) under the baton of Michael Thomas, the Magnificat in D Major (J.S. Bach) at the Palau de la Música in Valencia, Membra Jesu Nostri (D. Buxtehude) at the Sagunt in Excelsis Early Music Festival and in a staged version at Bilbao's Teatro Arriaga with Conductus Ensemble, the Mass in B Minor (J.S. Bach) at the CSMV Auditorium, and Carmina Burana (C. Orff) for the San Sebastián Musical Fortnight. He has also participated in the Renaissance Early Music Festival and Early Music Morella, performing Il Festino (A. Banchieri) under the direction of Carles Magraner as part of the "Academia Capella dels Ministrers," as well as with Los Afectos Diversos at the International Sacred Art Festival of Madrid, the Úbeda and Baeza International Early Music Festival, and the Santander International Music Festival. Mikel is also active as a recitalist, with appearances in venues such as the Victoria Eugenia Theatre in San Sebastián with Die Schöne Müllerin (F. Schubert), the Metropol Theatre in Tarragona, the Claustre del Seminari as part of the Ciutadella Summer Music Festival, and St. Mary Abbots in London. He tours Catalonia with programs that blend Baroque and Spanish music. Recently, he has performed in concert with maestro Eduardo López Banzo at the Ciudad de León Auditorium, toured the Balearic Islands and northern Spain in collaboration with Juventudes Musicales with music by A. Berg, F. Schubert, and R. Strauss, and participated in Carmina Burana by C. Orff alongside the Orfeón Donostiarra. Noteworthy is his work in the recovery of Basque repertoire, in collaboration with San Sebastián pianist Josu Okiñena, which has culminated in a CD centered on the sacred music of Padre Donostia. His upcoming projects include the roles of Tolomeo in Giulio Cesare (G.F. Handel) and Ruggiero in Orlando Furioso (A. Vivaldi), music by Durón with the Íliber Ensemble, and his debut in the "Cuartitos de Arriaga" series alongside pianist Rubén Fernández Aguirre and soprano Laura Brasó, performing works by R. Hahn, C. Franck, and C.M. Widor.

José Ramos Santana



Jose Ramos Santana is one of the outstanding pianists of his generation. A graduate of the Juilliard School where he studied with Adele Marcus, Sylvia Rabinof and William Masselos he honed his art with further studies with Alicia de Larrocha and Leon Fleisher. He has been a prize winner at the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition and recipient of the Xerox Pianist Award that helped launch his career. Mr Ramos Santana has been a soloist with the New York Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, Moscow Philharmonic, L'Hermitage Orchestra, Baltimore, Saint Louis, Detroit, Rochester, Chicago orchestras among others. His solo performances and chamber collaborations have taken him to the Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall, Alice Tully Hall, Geffen Hall and around the USA. He has performed and given master classes in Argentina, Peru, Spain, France, Italy,

Switzerland, Germany, China and Japan, Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador. His collaboration with musicians such as, Krystof Pendercki, John Adams, Dennis Russell Davies, Arto Noras, Gregori Zhislin, Vladimir Viardo, Tania Leon, Roberto Sierra and conductors Dudarova, Kitaenko, Semkov, Dennis Russell Davies, Zinman among others have been highly praised. Mr Ramos Santana is Artist Faculty at Steinhardt School, NYU and head of the Keyboard Department at Hartt School of the University of Hartford.

In the News

On November 9, we hosted a special presentation by Uruguayan scholar and Rome alumnus, **Dr. Leonardo Manzino**, who returned to his Alma Mater after many years to deliver a lecture titled *Advances in Research: 19th-Century Latin American Opera within the Global History of Opera*. Dr. Manzino had shared this lecture at numerous international academic forums between 2019 and 2022, and we were honored to welcome him back.



Upcoming Events

Do You Have The Mandingo Family In Your Family Tree? Genealogy And Scholarship

Wednesday, November 13th, 2024

12:00 To 1:00 PM

Elliott School,

Suite 501 Conference Room (5th floor)

Light refreshments will be served.

Join Professor Captain for a discussion on African roots in the Americas. She explores names and places that indicate some African origin and that persist today such as Angola, Biohó (Biojó), Carabalí, and Lucumí. Her manuscript, *Diaspora Agency in African Toponyms and 'African' Surnames*, is currently under consideration for publication.



RSVP HERE

Can Peru's Democracy Survive?

Latin American and Caribbean Studies Initiative
THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY


Can Peru's Democracy Survive?


RSVP


Monday, November 18th, 2024
12:30 PM - 2:00 PM



Elliott School of International Affairs, 1957 E Street, NW, Washington, DC
Lindner Commons (Room 602)

Speakers


Cynthia McClintock
Professor of Political Science & International Affairs, GWU


Francisco Sagasti
Former President of Peru


Stephen McFarland (Ret)
Ambassador - Former Ambassador to Guatemala

Monday, November 18th, 2024

12:30 PM - 2:00 PM

Elliott School,

Lindner Commons (Room 602)

Light lunch will be served.

Peru's democracy is undergoing a coup by its Congress—say some analysts. After fraught elections during Covid in 2021 had brought an unprepared leftist to the presidency and that president's impeachment in 2022, the vast majority of Peruvians called for early elections. But, these calls fell on the deaf ears of a Congress that is pursuing its own particularistic interests and is dominated by rightist factions. The current president, Dina Boluarte (the 2021-2022 vice-president) also appears interested only in her own survival and does the bidding of the Congress. The evidence of authorities' complicity in the abuse of democratic institutions and in corruption is abundant. For example, in mid-2024, at a time of surging crime, the Congress passed new laws impeding criminal prosecutions. The approval rating of both Peru's president and its Congress is 5 percent, the lowest in Latin America.

RSVP HERE

Woven Identities: The Women Behind The Molas

Thursday, November 14th, 2024

5:30 To 7:00 PM

The George Washington University Textile Museum

701 21st Street NW

Washington DC 20052

Though Guna *molos* are recognized worldwide for their bright colors and complex embroidery, little is known about the Guna women who make *molos*. Join us for a discussion on how Guna epistemology shapes the self-identity of these women and is expressed through their material art. The panel will be moderated by Dr. Tahina Montoya (Elliott) and feature the three extraordinary Guna women. After the event, enjoy a photography and *mola* exhibit, along with Panamanian food.



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presents



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November 19 & 20

Terrace Theater, The Kennedy Center*

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November 19 & 20

Terrace Theater

The Kennedy Center

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Save 15% with code **BRAZIL15**

Immerse yourself in the vibrant sounds of Brazilian music as we celebrate 200 years of US-Brazil diplomatic relations! PostClassical Ensemble presents an evening that promises to be as dynamic and diverse as Brazil itself. Join Guest Curator **Flávio Chamis** on a captivating journey through two centuries of Brazilian music, from the earliest concert compositions to contemporary masterpieces including the US premiere of **Francisco Mignone's** *Quadros Amazônicos* and a world premiere by **André Mehmari**. Hear **Heitor Villa-Lobos's** *Bachiana Brasileiras No. 4*, alongside a lively set of popular Brazilian songs performed by DC's own **Elin Melgarejo**. Plus, chamber music featuring the talents of Latin GRAMMY-nominated violist, **Tatjana Mead Chamis**, and much more! Vamos!