



**CARMEN MATEU**  
YOUNG ARTIST EUROPEAN AWARD  
*Opera and Dance*

SECOND EDITION





## Presentation of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award Opera and Dance

This award was created by the **Fundació Castell de Peralada** (Peralada Castle Foundation) with the same objective as the Peralada Castle Festival: to share a love of and passion for music, opera and dance.

Thirty-four years ago Carmen Mateu created the Peralada Festival, conceived as an exciting musical adventure and now consolidated as an essential cultural fixture and a reference point both nationally and internationally. With the same spirit, in 2019 came the **Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award for Opera and Dance**. Along with the annual summer festival programme, we believe that it will be the best way of ensuring the continuity of Carmen Mateu's tenacious work as a patron and her firm commitment to excellence.

The Suqué Mateu family, who represent the **Fundació Castell de Peralada**, are determined to continue their mother's endeavours and have created this award to honour her memory.

The **Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award for Opera and Dance** has therefore been established with the aim of being a cultural leader and reference point in promoting and enhancing the prestige of the disciplines of opera and dance in Europe, recognising the trajectory of young artists in order to contribute to the development of their careers.



The first edition of the **Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award for Opera and Dance** centred on the category of Dance, specifically for the discipline of the Classical and Neo-Classical Ballerina. **María Pagés, Tamara Rojo and Julio Bocca** formed the jury responsible for awarding the prize to the young ballerina **Maria Khoreva**, first soloist at the Mariinsky Theatre in Saint Petersburg.

The **Peralada Castle Private Foundation** receives support from the Opera Europa and European Festival Association (EFA) in disseminating the award.

## **Second Edition of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award**

*The second edition of the award centred on the category of Opera, specifically for the discipline of the Composer. The announcement of the start of this year's Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award for Opera and Dance will be made on 27th November 2020 to coincide with the start of the period in which nominations can be received, which ends on 28th February 2021.*

*The Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award brings with it prize money of 30,000 euros which is given as a commission to compose a 'pocket opera' for between 2 and 5 soloists and an instrumental group of between 3 and 7 musicians in accordance with artistic direction from Peralada Castle Festival. The resulting piece will be presented at the 2023 edition of the festival and subsequently performed at Barcelona's Gran Teatre del Liceu and Madrid's Teatro Real, as co-producers of the commissioned work.*

## PRIZE RULES

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, organised by the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada, was created to continue the memory of Carmen Mateu, recognising the career of young artists in the disciplines of opera and dance, in order to contribute to the development of their career and the promotion and prestige of these disciplines in Europe.

Based on the spirit of the Festival Castell de Peralada, promoted by Carmen Mateu in 1987, and with the same objective, the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance was established, with the aim of being a leader and cultural reference in supporting creation in these fields.

The definition of the object of the award appeals to the foundational values of the Festival marked by the founder herself, Carmen Mateu, and her family.

### 2. CATEGORIES

Two categories, one for opera and one for dance, will be awarded in alternate years.

Each year, and within the category corresponding to that year, the Castell de Peralada Foundation will decide which of the following disciplines will be the recipient of the award:

#### OPERA

- Composer
- Stage Designer
- Stage Director
- Conductor
- Singer

#### DANCE

- Company Director
- Choreographer
- Dancer

### 3. AWARD

The award has a total monetary endowment of 30,000 euros (subject to applicable taxation).

The payment schedule for these 30,000 euros will be specified each year in the call for entries according to the category that has been awarded. A part of this amount will be given directly to the winner at the moment of receiving the prize. The other part of the prize money will be used to cover the fees and per diem for participation in one of the following editions of the Festival Castell de Peralada.

The winner will also receive an award created by the artist Santi Moix.

\* A efectos del premio Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, se entiende por Europa aquellos países miembros del Consejo de Europa.

## 4. JURY AND CALL

### 4.1. Jury

The Jury will be comprised of the following members:

- President: Isabel Suqué
- Vice-President: Oriol Aguilà.
- Four jury members (appointed annually in relation to the corresponding category).

Due to their background, one or more of the members may be included in both categories.

The composition of the Jury will be announced to coincide with the call for each edition.

The Jury will be supported by a Technical Secretary appointed by the Award Organisers.

### 4.2. Announcement

The Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, is announced annually through the publication, on the award's website, of the specific rules corresponding to each edition.

Coinciding with each call for entries, the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada will contact relevant institutions in the European or national sphere of European countries with the aim of inviting them to publicise the award to potential participants.

## 5. REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING APPLICATIONS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA

### 5.1. Requirements for submitting applications

Candidates who submit their own applications must meet the following requirements:

- a) Possessing the nationality of a European country, this being understood as the European Council: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom.
- b) Either be citizens of other countries of the world who are pursuing their careers in Europe, in countries which are members of the European Council at the time of application.
- c) Be in the age range determined in the specific rules of the corresponding edition (which is fixed according to the category and discipline covered by that edition).
- d) They must have developed their careers in the fields of opera or dance, depending on the addition to which they are applying.

Applying for one edition does not prevent the candidate from applying for subsequent editions.

As an exception to the above, the winner of one edition cannot participate again in other editions of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance.

Candidates submitting entries must provide the following information/documentation using the form available on the award's website:

- a) Personal information, contact information and official documentation proving the age and nationality or European residence of the candidate.
- b) Documentation accrediting training and professional career: completed or ongoing studies, professional career, recognitions and awards.
- c) Letter of motivation from the candidate themselves.
- d) Audio-visual material or other documentation on the candidate's work: in each call for entries, and depending on the category and subcategory to be awarded, the specific documentation to be submitted must be provided (images, recordings, videos...)
- e) Project to consolidate their training, as well as their career development, to which the amount of the prize will be allocated. With the exception of creation projects resulting from the assignment received by the winner.

## **5.2. Criteria for assessing applications**

The award recognises young artists for the excellence of their career in Europe, deserving support in the development of their career. In this respect, the following criteria will be taken into account in the assessment of the candidates:

- Excellence in their career.
- Recognitions received.
- Future plans.
- Involvement and participation in the design of their own career, as well as the specific project of continuous training.
- Artistic significance of their work.
- As optional complementary documentation, a letter of endorsement and recommendation from a theatre or festival belonging to Opera Europa, or from a festival belonging to the EFA (European Festival Association), will be considered.
- Other complementary endorsements, according to the call of each edition.

## **6. SUBMISSION PROCESS, ASSESSMENT OF CANDIDACIES AND DELIBERATION AND DECISION**

### **6.1. Submission of applications**

The deadline for the submission of applications will be set out in the specific terms of each call for applications.

By submitting their application, the participants accept in full the content of these conditions and the rules that have been laid down to implement them.

## **6.2. Assessment of applications**

The Technical Secretary of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, will review the applications submitted to ensure that they meet the corresponding requirements according to the category and discipline.

Prior to the meeting of the Jury, a commission of experts appointed by the Vice President of the Jury will make a selection of a maximum of twelve finalist entries based on the established assessment criteria.

## **6.3. Deliberation and decision**

During the plenary meeting of the Jury, its members evaluate the finalist entries and, using an anonymous voting system, decide on a winner.

In the first round, each member of the jury proposes two entries. The three most voted ones go to the second round, where each member of the jury votes for one of the finalist candidates. If one of them obtains a majority, they are declared the winner. If two candidates obtain the same number of votes and are tied for first place, a third round is held between these two candidates.

The President of the Jury is the spokesperson and therefore does not exercise the right to vote.

In the event that, due to force majeure, any of the members of the Jury cannot attend the deliberation meeting, the Jury will be deemed valid with the members present. The organisation reserves the right to declare the award void.

## **7. COMMUNICATION OF THE DECISION**

The Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada will contact the winner, whose attendance will be required at the award presentation ceremony, where the Jury's decision will be made public.

The winner must maintain confidentiality regarding their status as an award winner and any other information relating to the prize that has been communicated to them by the organisation until the Jury's decision is made public.

## **8. AWARD CEREMONY**

The award ceremony will be set out in the specific rules of each call.

## **9. COMMITMENTS LINKED TO THE AWARD**

The presentation of a candidacy for the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, implies the acceptance, by the candidate, of these conditions and the remaining rules of operation of the award, as well as the decisions of the Jury.

The condition of winner is subject to the acceptance of the award, attendance at the award ceremony and the inclusion in the candidate's CV of the recognition received by virtue of this award.

Moreover, the winner promises to participate in one of the following editions of the Festival Castell de Peralada, in accordance with the programme defined by the Festival, and to actively participate in the plan for relations with the media and dissemination on social networks proposed by the organisers of the award.

Failure to comply with any of the above commitments will result in the waiving of the winner's award.



## **10. ASSIGNMENT OF RIGHTS**

By submitting the candidacy, the participant assigns to the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada the rights derived from their participation in the award and, in particular, those of the intervention in the award ceremony and of their subsequent performance at the Festival Castell Peralada. Specifically, the participant assigns the rights of fixation, reproduction, public communication and distribution, as well as the right of image and use of the name. In the same way, they accept that their speeches and performances may be recorded in any audio or video format, transmitted via the Internet or by any other means, on radio and television, live or recorded, or edited, whatever the medium used for marketing or archiving. These assignments are understood to be applicable in any world territory and for the maximum time legally established by the Law on Intellectual Property and concordant provisions.

## **11. CONFIDENTIALITY OF THE PROCESS**

The Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada and the members of the Jury must maintain the confidentiality of the information received throughout the process and, in particular, that relating to the candidatures and the identity of the winners.

The winner must also maintain confidentiality in accordance with condition 7.

## **12. PROTECTION OF PERSONAL DATA**

The personal data provided by participants in the organisation of the award will be processed by the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada for the following purposes:

- To manage participation in the award.
- To contact the participants, including by electronic means, for any matter related to the prize.
- To contact the winner to request any additional data required for the management and correct delivery of the prize, including by electronic means.

The legitimacy of this processing is based on the consent of the participants, given by their participation in the award.

Data is not passed on to third parties, except to those suppliers who provide a service related to the award and who, in any case, process the data on behalf of the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada.

Likewise, the data is processed until the awarding of the prize and, once delivered, during the legal term required to comply with the regulations in force.

Participants may exercise their rights of access, rectification, cancellation and opposition, and also oppose the receipt of e-mails, by requesting it by mail sent to the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada, at the postal address Calle Pere II de Montcada, 1, 08034 Barcelona, or by e-mail to [privacidad@grupperalada.com](mailto:privacidad@grupperalada.com), accompanied by a copy of their ID card or equivalent identification document.

## **13. GENERAL REGULATIONS**

**13.1.** The Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada is in no way responsible for plagiarism, or any other transgression of the legislation in force regarding intellectual property, which the participants in the award may incur with their works.

**13.2.** The organisation reserves the right to modify any of the articles of these rules.

As established in the general rules ([https://carmenmateuaward.com/sites/default/files/2019-5/Bases%20Generals%20CAT\\_2.pdf](https://carmenmateuaward.com/sites/default/files/2019-5/Bases%20Generals%20CAT_2.pdf)), the Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada announces the second Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance.

This second edition of the award focuses on the Opera category, specifically at the discipline of composer. This document sets out all the specific aspects related to this call for entries.

## **1. JURY AND CALL**

### **1.1. Jury**

As explained in the general rules, the Jury is made up of two permanent members (the President, Isabel Suqué, as the spokesperson who does not exercise the right to vote, and the Vice-President, Oriol Aguilà), and four members specifically appointed for this call in the discipline of opera composers, who are as follows:

- Raquel García-Tomás
- Joan Matabosch
- Josep Pons
- Diana Syrse

The Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada reserves the right to modify the composition of the current jury if the circumstances so require.

### **1.2. Announcement**

The announcement of the second edition of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award Opera and Dance in the category of opera composer will be announced on 27th November 2020, coinciding with the start of the period for receiving applications, which will end on 28th February at 23.59h GMT.

The Fundació Privada Castell de Peralada has the collaboration of the institutions Opera Europa (<https://opera-europa.org/es>) and the European Festival Association (<https://www.efa-aef.eu/home/>) in the dissemination of the award.

## **2. SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS : REQUIREMENTS AND EVALUATION CRITERIA**

### **2.1. Requirements for applications in the category of Opera composer.**

Candidates who submit their own application, must meet the following requirements:

1. Possess the nationality of a European country, i.e. the European Council: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, North Macedonia, Malta, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine and United Kingdom.
  - a) Or be citizens of other countries of the world who are resident and are pursuing their careers in Europe at the time of application, in countries which are members of the European Council.
  - b) Be no more than 36 years old on the date of application.
  - c) Have developed their career in opera composition, accrediting the premiere of one of their operas.

Candidates submitting entries must provide the following information/documentation using the form available on the award's website:

- a) Personal information, contact information and official documentation proving the age and nationality or European residence of the candidate.
- b) Documentation accrediting training and professional career: completed or ongoing studies, professional career, recognitions and awards.
- c) Letter of motivation from the candidate themselves.
- d) Written with a reflection on the role of opera as a contemporary creation in today's society.
- e) Audio or audiovisual material: link to a fragment or complete performance of two of their most representative works. At least one of them has to be an opera.

Recordings and audiovisual material must be sent via the registration form with a link to an audiovisual reproduction platform and a minimum HD resolution.

- e) Scores of the works submitted (pdf).

The organisation can contact the candidate to request material be sent if considered necessary.

## **2.2. Criteria for assessing applications**

The award recognises young artists for the excellence of their career in Europe, deserving support in the development of their career. To this effect, the following criteria will be taken into account when assessing candidates:

- Excellence in their career.
- Artistic significance of their work.
- Originality and personal musical language.
- The relationship between music, text and drama.
- Idiomatic writing for voices and instruments
- Recognitions received.
- Future plans.
- Involvement and participation in the design of their own career.
- As optional supplemental documentation, a letter of endorsement and recommendation from a theatre or festival belonging to Opera Europa, or from a festival belonging to the EFA (European Festival Association), will be considered. Candidates may also be endorsed by other theatres, auditoriums or opera programmers outside Europe for those European candidates who are building their careers outside Europe.
- Other complementary endorsements.

The organisation can contact the candidate to request additional information or material.

### 3. AWARD AND MONETARY ENDOWMENT

#### 3.1 Concept of the award and distribution of the monetary endowment.

The award consists of:

- A commission for the composition of a pocket opera with a number of soloists of between 2 and 5 voices and an instrumental ensemble of between 3 and 7 musicians, in accordance with the organisation of the Festival Castell de Peralada.
- A gross sum of 30,000 euros (subject to the tax authorities of each country), for the commissioning of a pocket opera, which will be distributed as follows: (i) the first 10,000 euros will be released at the time of the award ceremony; (ii) the next 10,000 euros, during the process of creating the work commissioned by the Festival Castell de Peralada, at a time determined by the Festival; and (iii) the remaining 10,000 euros, at the time of the premiere of this opera at the Festival Castell de Peralada.

This work will be presented at the 2023 edition of the Festival Castell de Peralada and, post-programming, at the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona and the Teatro Real in Madrid, as co-producers of the work. The exhibition space at the Festival Castell de Peralada and both theatres co-producers will be determined later. The calendars may be subject to change.

For the performances at the Festival Castell de Peralada, the Gran Teatre del Liceu and the Teatro Real, the percentage of royalties corresponding to the composer will be 8% of the box office take.

- Optional workshop on his creative process with the composer Alberto García Demestres.
- An award created by the artist Santi Moix.

The remaining information regarding the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award, Opera and Dance, can be found in the general rules ([https://carmenmateuaward.com/sites/default/files/2019-05/Bases%20Generals%20CAT\\_2.pdf](https://carmenmateuaward.com/sites/default/files/2019-05/Bases%20Generals%20CAT_2.pdf)).

## RAQUEL GARCÍA-TOMÁS

### Composer

Raquel García-Tomás is a composer specialising in interdisciplinary creation who completed her Doctorate at the Royal College of Music. Highlights of her career include collaborations with the English National Ballet, the Royal Academy of Arts and the Dresdener Musikfestspiele.



She recently received the National Music Award 2020 (Spain), “for the interdisciplinary and innovative nature of her personal musical language”. Raquel was awarded *El Ojo Crítico Música Clásica 2017* granted by RTVE (Spanish Radio and Television Corporation), “for the originality of her artistic approach and the use and combination of her musical language with new technologies and video creation”.

Raquel’s music has been premiered all around Spain at venues such as the Palau de la Música Catalana, L’Auditori de Barcelona, Teatre Lliure, Zaragoza’s Concert Hall, Teatros del Canal, Teatro Español, La Casa Encendida and Auditorio 400 at the Reina Sofía Museum in Madrid. Her works have also been performed in Berlin, Dresden, Karlsruhe, Stuttgart, Amsterdam, Luxemburg, Budapest, Vienna, Orléans, Lyon, Basel, Lausanne, Oporto, Edinburgh, Nagoya, Cairo, Buenos Aires, Rosario and especially in London (St. Martin in the Fields, Amaryllis Fleming Concert Hall, the National Portrait Gallery, the Royal British Society of Sculptors, the Royal Academy of Arts and The Place). Raquel has received commissions and worked with ensembles such as the Oslo Sinfonietta, Phace Ensemble, Orquestra de Cadaqués Contemporary Ensemble, Madrid Symphony Orchestra, Camera Musicae, Experimental Funktion, CrossingLines Ensemble, Ensemble Sonido Extremo, Cosmos Quartet, Barcelona Clarinet Players, Barcelona Reed Quintet, BCN216 y PluralEnsemble among others.

Within the framework of operatic creation, she has taken part in *DIDO Reloaded* (2013), produced by Òpera de Butxaca i Nova Creació Barcelona and, was awarded the Neuköllner Oper’s Berliner Opernpreis’14 for the opera *Go, ÆNEAS, go!*. In 2015, she premiered her chamber opera *disPLACE – Història d’una casa* (text by H. Tornero and stage direction by P. Pawlik), at the MusikTheaterTage Wien Festival, with further performances in Teatros del Canal during season 2016/17 of the Teatro Real in Madrid. During the season 2017/18, she premiered the monodrama *Balena Blava* (text by Victòria Szpunberg) for one actress, orchestra, choir and electronics, at the National Theatre of Catalonia. In 2019, she premiered the opera buffa *Je Suis Narcissiste* (libretto by H. Tornero and stage direction by M. Pazos), during the seasons of the Teatro Real de Madrid, Teatro Español, and the Teatre Lliure de Barcelona. The International Opera Awards have recently nominated Raquel’s opera *Je Suis Narcissiste* for Best World Premiere.

Recently, Raquel received one of the Leonardo Awards (Fundación BBVA) to develop her new opera project, together with Irène Gayraud and Marta Pazos.

Further information at [www.raquelgarciatomas.com](http://www.raquelgarciatomas.com)

## JOAN MATABOSCH

### Artistic Director

Artistic Director of the Teatro Real de Madrid since the 2013-2014 season. From 1997 to 2013 he acted as Artistic Director of the Gran Teatre del Liceu. He had earlier served as Assistant Artistic Director of the Dramatic Arts department for the same theatre, having also worked as a journalist and opera, theatre, music and dance critic for different publications. He has a graduate degree in Piano, Song and Harmony; and also in Information Sciences from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.



He was the founder, treasurer and president of Opera Europa, a member of the Artistic Board of the INAEM (Spanish Ministry of Culture) and is a member of juries on renowned international cultural, musical and lyrical competitions: Princess of Asturias Award in Arts (Oviedo), Operalia, Belvedere, Concurs Internacional “Francisco Viñas” (Barcelona), Fedora Award (Paris), “Les Mozart de l’Opéra” (Théâtre des Champs-Élysées, Paris), International Opera Awards (London), Glyndebourne Opera Cup, Concours International de Chant de la Ville de Toulouse, Concorso “Ottavio Ziino” (Roma), Voci Verdiane (Busseto), Grand Prix de l’Opéra (Bucarest), “Maria Kraja” Competition (Tirana), Concurs Internacional de Cant Alfredo Kraus (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria), “El Ojo Crítico” by Radio Nacional de España, the “mecomprounaobra” initiative of the ARCO Foundation (Madrid), etc. Masters’ degrees, conferences, postgraduate courses and lectures at Opera America, Réunion des Opéras de France, RESEO, National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) de Pekin, Juan March Foundation, Instituto Cervantes, Residencia de Estudiantes (Madrid), Universidad Carlos III (Madrid), Universidad Complutense (Madrid), Universidad Autónoma (Madrid), El Escorial Summer Courses, Instituto Internacional (Madrid), Universidad de Alcalá de Henares, Universidad de Salamanca, Universitat de Girona, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Universitat Autònoma (Barcelona), Conservatori del Liceu (Barcelona), Real Conservatorio Superior de Música (Madrid), Escuela Superior de Canto (Madrid), Institut del Teatre (Barcelona), ESADE, Bank of Spain, Màlaga, Vigo, Burgos, MIDEM (Cannes), Aix-en-Provence, Salsburg, etc.

Barcelona City Council awarded him the “Ramblista d’Honor 2013” prize, together with Eduardo Mendoza and Antoni Tàpies; and the “El Ojo Crítico” Especial 2017 award by National Spanish Radio for his career, held at the bicentenary of the Teatro Real. The jury highlighted the following: “Firmly convinced that opera must provide a platform for reflection and cultural discourse, Joan Matabosch has devoted his career to this objective with determination and passion. He has done so by taking sound, precise steps from his beginnings as a musical and stage critic, as the manager, founder and president of Opera Europa, artistic director of the Gran Teatre del Liceu de Barcelona for over 15 years and, since September 2013, as artistic director of the Teatro Real de Madrid, which celebrated the bicentenary of its foundation in 2018. At Madrid’s coliseum, Matabosch has strived for a perfect balance between repertoire and innovation, by programming high-quality performances. He was endeavoured to introduce opera to new types of public, with the intention of fostering the identity of the genre as a living, artistic spectacle”.

As Artistic Director of the Teatro Real and before that, of the Gran Teatre del Liceu, he was responsible for the artistic programming of the two leading Spanish lyrical coliseums. His work has promoted the acceptance of the great 20th century composers in both Madrid and Barcelona, in addition to supporting the presence of the finest singers, orchestra and stage directors on the international stage.



## JOSEP PONS

### Conductor

Regarded as the leading Spanish conductor of his generation, Josep Pons has built strong relationships with the Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, Orchestre de Paris, NHK Symphony Orchestra, Tokyo, Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen and BBC Symphony Orchestra - the latter including several appearances at the BBC Proms.



The 2020/21 season will see Pons return to Orquesta Nacional de Espana, Orchestre National du Capitole de Toulouse, Orquesta de la Comunitat Valenciana, Orchestre National de Bordeaux, Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia and Orchestre des Pays de la Loire. He also has a new collaboration with Teatro Real in April.

As Music Director of Gran Teatre del Liceu he conducts a number of productions in Barcelona each season, most recently *Káta Kabanova*, *Rodelinda*, *Roméo et Juliette*, and *Elektra*, and the world premiere of Casablanca's new opera *L'Enigma de Lea*. This season he will give opera performances of *Don Giovanni* and *Lessons in Love and Violence*, as well as a number of symphony concerts. He also holds the position of Honorary Conductor of the Orquesta Nacional de España having previously served as their Artistic Director for nine years during which he substantially raised their international profile. He is also Honorary Conductor of the Orquesta Ciudad de Granada.

Josep Pons' discography of over 50 CDs and DVDs mostly released by Harmonia Mundi and Deutsche Grammophon, includes recordings of Falla, and French repertoire regarded as benchmark interpretations and earning numerous awards. His recording of *Noches en los jardines de España* with Javier Perianes won a Choc de la Musique, *Melancolía* with Patricia Petibon received a Gramophone Editor's Choice, and his collaboration with Tomatito earned him a Latin Grammy. His recording of Berio's *Sinfonia* and Mahler/Berio's *10 Frühe Lieder* with BBC Symphony Orchestra and Matthias Goerne, won the BBC Music Award, Choc de la musique, ECHO Klassik Awards and Télérama Ffff awards. His latest release on Harmonia Mundi is the live recording of Granados' opera, *Goyescas* with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

Josep Pons began his musical training at the prestigious Escolania de Montserrat. The secular tradition and intense study of both Polyphony and contemporary music in this centre marked his later development both musically and intellectually. In 1999 he received the Spanish National Music Prize for his outstanding work on twentieth century music. In 2019, Pons was awarded *Honorary Doctorate* from Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

## DIANA SYRSE

### Composer and singer



Diana Syrse is a composer and singer from Mexico City. Her music is characterized by an influence of jazz, rock, fusion, traditional music from around the globe, and avant-garde as well as the use of non-Western instruments, theatrical elements, and electronics. Her focus is on musical composition for new musical theatre, opera, staged concerts, and interdisciplinary collective creations. On several occasions, her music is performed by herself in collaboration with other ensembles, choirs, and orchestras. As a singer Diana has studied bel canto, extended vocal techniques, jazz, and improvisation and specializes in exploring different approaches to the composition and interpretation of new musical theater.

Her catalog contains works written for choirs, orchestras, ensembles, electronics, electroacoustic music, dance, opera, and new musical theatre. Her music has been performed in Europe, Canada, Latin America, the USA, Africa, and Asia. In the area of opera and theatre, she has worked as a composer in residence at the Kammerspiele München, Schauspiel Frankfurt, the Berliner Ensemble, the Deutsche Oper am Rhein, the Neuköllner Oper in Berlin, and the Staatsoper Hamburg. She has worked as a composer and singer with the Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, the Staatsoper Hamburg, VocalEssence, the Babylon Orchestra Berlin, Kinderkinder, and Túmben Paax. She has been invited to international festivals in the United States, Mexico, Germany, Holland, and Latvia. Her compositions have been performed by the Mexico City Philharmonic Orchestra, the Cuban National Orchestra, the Anne Arbor Symphony Orchestra, the Montpellier Chamber Orchestra, Nemian Dance Company, Dance On Ensemble, Oktopus Ensemble, among others. In 2020 she was commissioned by the L'Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France and the Orquesta Sinfónica de Minería.

Some awards and recognitions include the Musikpreis der Landeshauptstadt München,, the FONCA Study Abroad Programme, the Residency at the Banff Centre in Canada, the Counterpoint of Tolerance Project (LA), and the Cité Internationale des Arts Residency in Paris. He was a member of the Young Creators program, the Akademie Musiktheater heute of the German Bank, the Academie d'Aix en Provence, and the European Network of Opera Academies. Diana Syrse lives in Munich.

Diana Syrse obtained her Bachelor Degree in Composition at the Facultad de Música (UNAM) in Mexico City. She obtained a Master Degree in the "Performer-Composer Program" at CalArts and a second Master Degree at the Hochschule für Musik und Theater, Munich, Germany. She is currently pursuing her PhD in composition at the University of Birmingham with Daria Kwiatkowska and Scott Wilson. She studied composition with Gabriela Ortiz, Moritz Eggert, Wolfgang von Schweinitz, Don Freund, Marc Loweinstein, Andreas Kissenbeck and voice with Edith Contreras, Carlos Montane, and Jacqueline Bobak. She has taken master classes with Pascal Dusapin, Bryan Ferryhough, George Lewis and David Rosenboom.

[www.dianasyrse.com](http://www.dianasyrse.com)



## AWARD CREATED BY THE ARTIST SANTI MOIX

The winner of the Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award for Opera and Dance will receive an award designed by Santi Moix and made by Bagués Masriera. The Peralada Castle Foundation commissioned the artist to create a sculptural piece inspired by the camellia in memory of Carmen Mateu, who wore one of these flowers on many occasions.



## PREMIERES OF NEW COMPOSITIONS AT PERALADA CASTLE FESTIVAL

1st August 1991

Jordi CERVELLÓ (1935)

*Burlesca Ibèrica*

20th August 1992

Albert GUINOVART (1962)

*Tres Preludis*

21st August 1992

Feliu GASULL (1959)

*Cançó de benvinguda*

2nd August 1993

Jep NUIX (1955-1998)

*Persecucions* – Commissioned by the Festival Castell Peralada

10th August 1993

Tomás MARCO (1942)

*Bis, Encore, Zugabe y Propina* – Commissioned by the Festival Castell Peralada

4th August 1994

Joaquim SERRA (1907- 1957)

*Impressions camperoles*

14th August 1994

Xavier MONTSALVATGE (1912-2002)

ÒPERA: *Babel* 46

30th July 1995

Llorenç BALSACH (1953)

*Quatre dibuixos per a guitarra i cordes*

13th August 1997

Carles SANTOS (1940-2017)

*La Pantera Imperial*

10th August 2001

Alberto García Demestres (1960)

Commission for a new score by the Festival Castell Peralada

23rd July 2004

ÒPERA: 1714 – MÓN DE GUERRES

Music: Joan ENRIC CANET, Ximo CANO, Josep Maria MESTRES QUADRENY, Ramon RAMOS, Rafael REINA and Josep VICENT.

10th August 2009

Miquel ORTEGA (1963)

OPERA: *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* BY Federico García Lorca

16th de July 2010

Carles SANTOS (1940-2017)

Sardana – World Premiere

14th August 2012

Agustí Charles (1960)

Opera: *Java Suite*

11th August 2012

Albert GUINOVART (1962)

*Estampes (in memory de Debussy)*

14th August 2013

Alberto GARCÍA DEMESTRES (1960)

OPERA: WOW!

12th August 2014

Philippe FÉNELON (1952)

OPERA: *Flaubert & Voltaire*

5th August 2015

Authors: Lucas PEIRE, Mischa TANGIAN, Carles PEDRAGOSA and Clara PEYA

OPERA: 4 CARMEN – Commissioned by the Festival Castell Peralada

13th August 2016

Albert GUINOVART (1962)

*Nocturn a Peralada*

Alberto GARCÍA DEMESTRES

*Cocco e cocomero, soprano 's aria*

20th July 2017

Alberto GARCÍA DEMESTES (1960)

OPERA: LA STRAORDINARIA VITA DI SUGAR BLOOD

16th May 2018

Alberto GARCÍA DEMESTERES (1960)

Vocalizzo, *in memory of Carmen Mateu*

18th July 2019

Joan MAGRANÉ (1988)

OPERA: DIÀLEGS DE TIRANT E CARMESINA



Wow! by Alberto García Demestres



Diàlegs de Tirant e Carmesina by Joan Magrané



Flaubert & Voltaire by Philippe Fénelon

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PREMIO CARMEN MATEU



WITH THE COLLABORATION OF:



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:





**Carmen Mateu Young Artist European Award Opera and Dance**

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