

# Cellists' Corner

## Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

*prepared by David Johnstone from public information*

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## **SPECIAL FEATURE ON PEDRO COROSTOLA - CAREER DETAILS**

Pedro Corostola studied music at the Donostia-San Sebastián Conservatory; he had Elías Arizcuren as a cello teacher, and he also studied many years of oboe! He then moved to Paris and entered the Conservatory. In 1956, under the direction of Paul Bazelaire and André Navarra, he completed cello studies, obtaining the "Jean Dumont", "Jules Griset" and "George Hain" awards. At the Academia Chigiana, in Siena, he finished post-graduate studies with Gaspar Cassadó and Pablo Casals. He won First Prize in the "Gaspar Cassadó" International Competition.

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A great step forward as a young professional was the performance of the Dvorák Concerto in Porto, which opened him the position of principal cello in the "Orquesta de la Emisora Nacional de Lisboa". Soon after he became cello professor at the San Sebastian Municipal Conservatory of Music. He also later worked as a principal cello soloist in the Spanish National Orchestra, The Spanish Radio and Television Orchestra, and the Madrid Symphony Orchestra. He played with the pianist Manuel Carra, and in the Lisbon Trio, the Madrid Trio (with Pedro León and Joaquín Soriano), and the Cassadó Quartet.

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Corostola premiered Escudero's Cello Concerto, a Cello sonata and Cello Concerto by Castillo, the Sonata for cello and piano by the composer Rodolfo Halffter, as well as works by Carmelo Bernaola, Cruz de Castro, Luis de Pablo, Claudio Prieto...

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Corostola was a sincere, emotional cellist with an exciting warm sound. In addition he was an important and formidable teacher and became the head cello professor in the Madrid Superior Conservatoire, and who offered his experience in short courses such as those of Santiago de Compostela and Granada.

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As a true Basque man he once confessed: *"I always want to return, to contemplate these mountains and these hamlets that make me find myself ... in a life that should never end."*

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Dates:

Born in Errenteria, Gipuzkoa (Basque Country) on June 2, 1933

Died in Madrid on March 13, 2020.



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