

Cellists' Corner

Brief Career Details of Important Cellists

prepared by David Johnstone from public information

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SPECIAL FEATURE on FERNANDO ARIAS

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Fernando Arias Fernández was born in Madrid in 1987. He began his musical studies with Arantza López, and continued them with Ángel Luis Quintana, Micha Dmochowski and Natalia Shakhovskaya at the Reina Sofía School of Music (2002-2009), where he received from her Majesty Queen Sofía the Diploma of the most outstanding student of her chair in the 2007-08 academic year. He completed his training with Eberhard Feltz and in Jens Peter Maintz's class at the Universität der Künste in Berlin.

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Fernando Arias is one of the most prominent representatives of his generation in the European music scene since in 2006 he was proclaimed winner, among others, of the Permanent Competition of Musical Youth and the "First Palau" of Barcelona. As a soloist, his future and recent commitments include performances with concertos by Vivaldi, Haydn, Beethoven (triple), Saint-Saëns, Schumann, Tchaikovsky, Shostakovich, Ibert or Gulda.

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Fernando is especially interested in chamber music and shares the stage with artists such as David Kadouch, Seth Knopp, Peter Frankl, Donald Weilerstein, Antje Weithaas, Anthony Marwood, Roger Tapping, Karl Leister, Brett Dean or the Quiroga Quartet and, more regularly, as a member of the VibrArt Trio together with the violinist Miguel Colom and the pianist Juan Pérez Floristán. He regularly offers recitals in the most important halls of Spain, and in countries such as Germany, the United States, Russia, Japan, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Portugal, Serbia, Tunisia or Mozambique. He has participated in festivals and cycles such as the Granada Festival, Vilabertrán Schubertiada, Orlando Festival, Yellow Barn Music Festival, Bordeaux Chamber Music European Encounters, Nasher Sculpture Center Dallas or the Lunch Konzert cycle of the Berlin Philharmonie. In 2011, his recording of the complete Brahms sonatas for cello and piano was released with the pianist Luis del Valle. A second CD with the VibrArt Trio is on its way!

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Hear a little of his rich yet very clean sound!:

Brahms - Cello Sonata in F Major - II

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NNJAx6ZU4lA&t=55s>

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Teaching is of major importance to him. He is frequently invited to give master lessons in both cello and chamber music across Spain and in other countries. From 2012 to 2015 he was part of the teaching team of the Yellow Barn festival (Vermont, United States). At the age of just 25, he joined the staff of the Conservatorio Superior de Aragón and, in 2019, obtained by special examination the position of Professor of Cello at the 'Real Conservatorio Superior de Música de Madrid'. Since the 2017-18 academic year, he has been an adjunct professor of the Aline Foriel-Destezet Cello Chair at the Reina Sofía School of Music, in the class of Professor Jens Peter Maintz.

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Certainly one of the very highest regarded professors in Spain today! The few cellists studying with him that I have become acquainted with ALL speak of him as a marvellous musician and teacher, so a big thank-you for helping so much the next generation of Spanish musicians...

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And a lovely extra!:

VIDEO - Pablo Ferrández " Talking Cello" with Fernando Arias. EP14
(ENG SUBS)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ilZv-saKdBo>

Warmly recommended, these colleagues speak a lot of truths!!

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