

A musician of brilliance and versatility, **Carlos Cèsar Rodriguez** has gained recognition as a virtuoso pianist who not only generates excitement in the Hispanic and Spanish repertoire, but also displays an extraordinary flair for Mozart, the romantics and the avant-garde scores. He has recorded for Omicron and Briosio labels and has won the highest critical acclaim for his CD of Spanish music, *España en el corazòn*, distributed by Briosio Recordings. An expert on early instruments as well, enjoying entrèe to the Smithsonian Institution's rare collection, Mr. Rodriguez was chosen by the Smithsonian to perform during the 300th year celebration of the Piano by the museum. He was also invited to participate in the 150th year celebration of the Smithsonian Institution. Mr. Rodriguez has won acclaim moreover as music director of Mozart operas and Zarauelas (Spanish operas), and as a composer, arranger, and improviser of ballets, Spanish dance scores and Latin-Jazz/Pop compositions. Carlos Cèsar Rodriguez made his recital debut in his native Venezuela at age 5 and his orchestral debut as soloist at age 11. Soon after he arrived in the United States to continue his music studies. Mr. Rodriguez was a finalist in the New York Philharmonic Young People's Competition. At age 21 he made his Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall debut. Mr. Rodriguez has performed in major venues such as the John F. Kennedy Center; the White House; and the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, DC; Merkin Hall and the Americas Society in New York; and the Royal Palace of Music in Salzburg, Austria. As a chamber music artist he has become a regular guest artist with the Garth Newell Chamber Music Festival.

As a collaborative artist, Mr. Rodriguez has worked with Jessye Norman, Denyce Graves and Plácido Domingo. As a concert artist he has toured Europe and performed Concerti and solo recitals throughout the Americas. As a conductor, Mr. Rodriguez has performed throughout the Americas. He is the Music Director of FYDO; Chamber Opera Company in the United States. In 2005 he was chosen as award recipient of the prestigious Georg Solti Foundation US fellowship for outstanding young conductors. Mr. Rodriguez earned his Bachelor's degree with Clifton Matthews from the North Carolina School of the Arts, his Master's degree from the Julliard School of Music with Joseph Kalichstein, and his Doctor of Musical Arts degree, conferred summa cum laude, with Thomas Schumacher at the University of Maryland. He has worked with Peter Feuchtwanger in London and with Alfons Kontarsky and Hartmut Holl at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Currently, Carlos Cèsar Rodriguez is a member of the piano faculty at the Levine School of Music and guest artist and coach for the Domingo/Cafritz Young Artist Program with the National Opera.