

Carlos Colón
Composer and Cultural Promoter
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Education

Baylor University, Master's in Music, Piano Pedagogy, with advanced coursework in Composition, 1993. International Student of the Year, 1992.

Belmont University, Bachelor's in Music, Piano Pedagogy, 1989
Best All-Around Student, 1989

Conservatorio Nacional de Música de Guatemala, Piano & Harmony 1981-1985

Additional advanced study with Ladislav Kubik (1997-98) and Scott McAllister (2007-2008)

Recent Compositions and Performances

El Alabado de Margil (2010)

Commissioned by The Texas Voices, this composition uses fragments of a song written by the founder of San Antonio, Fray Antonio Margil de Jesús. For Woodwind Ensemble, Choir and Percussion. 5 minutes and 45 seconds.

Performances:

- Mesquite Arts Center, Mesquite (Dallas area), premiered by The Texas Voices, Alan Dyer, Conductor, and The Camerata Winds, May 16, 2010.
- Texas Choral Directors Association Convention, San Antonio, by The Texas Voices, July 28, 2010.

The Pied Piper of Hamelin (2010)

With lyrics by Robert Browning. For Treble Voices, Narrator, Flute, Cello, and Piano. 30 minutes.

Performances:

- Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, May 6, 2010 (premiere).

Obertura Para Un Mártir (2010)

Commissioned by the President and First Lady of El Salvador for the 30th anniversary of the martyrdom of Mons. Oscar Romero. For Choir and Orchestra. 17 minutes and 30 seconds.

Performances:

- Teatro Nacional of San Salvador, National Symphony and National Choir of El Salvador, March 24 2010.
- Teatro Presidente of San Salvador, National Symphony and National Choir of El Salvador, March 25 2010.
- Catedral de San Miguel, El Salvador, National Symphony and National Choir of El Salvador, with over 5,000 people crowding the Central Plaza, March 24 2010.

Las Lamentaciones de Rufina Amaya (2008)

Requiem in honor of the victims of the Salvadoran civil war. For choir, children's choir, and chamber orchestra. 30 minutes.

Performances:

- Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, May 7, 2008.
- Royal Lane Baptist Church, Dallas, Texas, by The Texas Voices, March 1, 2009. This event was co-sponsored by the Office of Spiritual Life at Baylor University.
- Broadcast: Venezuelan National Radio, March 2, 2009.
- Choir of the National Opera of El Salvador, San Salvador, November 6, 2009.
- Central United Methodist Church, by BASIC, a chamber chorus from Texas, February 28, 2010.
- Teatro Nacional de Santa Ana, El Salvador by BASIC, a chamber chorus from Texas, and members of the National Choir and National Opera of El Salvador. Conducted by the composer. March 5, 2010
- Forthcoming performance in Havana, Cuba, in the summer of 2011, with The Coral de Niños Cantores Líricos de La Habana, under the direction of conductor Malena Torres.

Contra La Muerte (2008)

Symphonic poem, 9 minutes.

Performance:

- Symphonic Orchestra of El Salvador, under German Cáceres, 11th International Festival of Contemporary Music of El Salvador, February 28, 2008.

Queja Con Alas (2008)

Song cycle for mezzo-soprano and piano or orchestra. In memory of Baylor School of Music alumna Esther Yu.

Performances:

- Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, May 7, 2009, by Amy Vail.
- 11th International Festival of Contemporary Music, National Museum of Art, San Salvador, El Salvador, by Claudia Acosta.
- Roxy Grove Hall, Baylor University, April 10, 2008, by Soon Cho.
- Recorded with Professor Soon Cho and players from the Baylor Symphony on April 12, 2008.

Claves (2007)

Song cycle for high voice and instrumental ensemble, 7 minutes. Lyrics: Nora Mendez.

Performance:

- Meadows Recital Hall, Baylor University, by Robert Hyde, November 29, 2007.
- Universidad Evangélica, San Salvador. Symposium on Theology and Culture. July 30, 2010.

Weary is the Night (2008)

Song for choir, 5 minutes, based on a poem by G. K. Chesterton.

Performances:

- Zion Lutheran Church, Dallas, by The Texas Voices, December 19, 2008.
- Church of the Servant, Grand Rapids, Michigan, conducted by Greg Scheer of the Calvin Institute of Worship, December 14, 2008.

How Do I Love Thee (2009)

Song for choir, 4 minutes, based on the poem by Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Performances:

- Armstrong Browning Library, Baylor University, May 7, 2009, by the chamber chorus BASIC under the direction of Karen Hogue.
- Resurrection Lutheran Church, Plano, Suscription Series concert. The Texas Voices, Alan Dyer, Conductor. February 21, 2010

Arrangement of Astor Piazzolla's *Adiós Nonino* for Ma Xiahui, erhuist, performed at Carnegie Hall, and the United Nations, July 2008. Ma Xiahui was featured with Yo-Yo Ma on the award-winning soundtrack of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*.

Invited Talks, Publications, and Scholarship

Organizer of Symposium on Theology and Culture at Universidad Evangélica de El Salvador, July 28-30, 2010.

Invited lecture at the Symposium of Latin American Composers in Havana, Cuba, in April 2009. I also conducted Master Classes for a week for undergraduate and graduate students from the University School for the Performing Arts.

Claves, a song cycle for high voice and instrumental ensemble, forthcoming from *Boletín Musica*, a top Latin American music journal, published by Cuba's prestigious Casa de las Américas. Spring 2010.

My church music arrangements have been published in the United States by Lifeway, Light of the World Music Publishing, and SoundForth.

For my Graduate Research Paper in Piano Pedagogy, I received support from the Provost's Office at Baylor to do research at the Library of Congress and in Central America, where I collected contemporary music by Central American composers. After presenting my findings on a lecture-recital at Baylor, I donated the scores I found to the Center for Latin American Music at Indiana University. Those scores are preserved under a collection under my name:

<http://www.music.indiana.edu/som/lamc/collections/>.

Interviews and Features

A digital academic journal, *La Retreta* (Costa Rica), published a feature about my work in their March-April edition. They also published my *Canción y Danza*, for contrabassoon and piano. A doctoral student in musicology from Spain wrote the article and coordinated the publication of the piece.

<http://susancampos.wordpress.com/2009/02/18/entrevista-a-carlos-colon-quintana-musica-de-arte-centroamericana/>

La Ventana, a digital magazine in Cuba, published a feature on my music following my presentation there in April 2009.

<http://laventana.casa.cult.cu/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=4804>

Current and Upcoming Projects

My latest commission is from the Office of Spiritual Life at Baylor University. In collaboration with the University Chaplain, I am writing music for an Advent Service of Carols for a Baylor Advent Service. It will be premiered on December, 2010.

I am currently investigating the music of the Spanish Missions in Texas. I will be creating a concert program using this early music, as well as some compositions of my own inspired by this research. I will be seeking a grant for this project, to include my research and composition, a series of concerts in key locations around the state, and a recording.

El Mozote Revisited. In November of 2011 I will take a select voices choir from the Central Texas area (including Baylor) to make a studio recording of *Las Lamentaciones de Rufina Amaya* (see above). On the same trip, we will also make a video of a live performance of this composition at El Mozote, where the massacre of more than 800 women and children took place.

Other Work Experience

- 2008-Present Organizer of music programs at Armstrong-Browning Library. Eight programs so far, and several more expected for 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 when Robert Browning's Bicentenary will be celebrated.
- 2003-2010 Owner of Carlos Colón Music Studio at Live Oak Classical School
- 2003-present Editor, Kurt Kaiser Music
- 1985-present Private piano instruction.
- 1997-2001 Orchestra Director and Staff Arranger, Northwoods Baptist Church, Tallahassee, Florida.
Founded, administered and taught at Northwoods Center for the Arts, a comprehensive church-based music academy.
- 1994-1996 Minister of Music, Primera Iglesia Bautista, Orlando, Florida
- 1990-1993 Graduate Assistant in Piano Pedagogy, Baylor University

Memberships

American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP)
Consejo Científico, Académico, y de Investigación de Salvadoreños en el Mundo
(Scientific, Academic, and Research Council of Salvadorans Around the World)
Composers' Circle, The Texas Voices
Visiting Professor of Music and Culture, Universidad Evangélica de El Salvador

8/1/2010