

Gabriel Urgell Reyes - BIO

French-Cuban pianist, composer, artistic director and producer, Gabriel Urgell Reyes redefines the traditional image of the classical musician through his intense interpretations, the promotion of a rich Latin-American repertoire, compositions transcending genres and bold cross-disciplinary artistic productions.

From his early age, he won many National, and then International piano competition prizes: Città di Marsala (Italy), Ignacio Cervantes (Cuba), Frechilla-Zuloaga (Spain)... Parallel to the piano teaching as part of the musical training modeled by the Russian school, he studied visual arts with the painter Adrián Chacón and the composition with Alfredo Diez Nieto, then began learning mixed music techniques with Carlos Fariñas, founder of the Estudio de Música Electroacústica y por Computadora del Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) of Cuba.

As part of his training at the ISA, he carries out transdisciplinary projects blending music, visual arts and dance and participates in meetings with personalities such as Daniel Barenboim, George Benson and Herbie Hancock. He toured major national theaters, performed electroacoustic music concerts at Havana's Teatro Amadeo Roldán, and his Cuban Choral Pieces were presented at the Museum of Fine Arts in Havana. At the age of 25, he was appointed Official Pianist of the Havana Philharmonic Orchestra and Professor at the ISA in Cuba, shortly after graduating. Entered unanimously at the Cycle de Perfectionnement of the Conservatoire National Supérieur de Musique et de Danse de Paris in 2004, he was awarded the Blüthner Prize from the Alfred Reinhold Foundation.

Gabriel Urgell Reyes performs programs that bring together European and Latin American classics, as well as acoustic and electroacoustic works of his own, at international theaters and festivals in France, Germany, Austria, China, Cuba, Spain, Switzerland... in recitals or with orchestras: the Havana Philharmonic Orchestra, the Matanzas Symphony Orchestra (Cuba), the Castilla y León Symphony Orchestra (Spain), the Orchestre Symphonique de Mulhouse (France) conducted by Ken-David Masur.

With the Japanese artist Ayano Ohmi, he launched in 2015 the project *Sacred Meetings*, residence and exhibition-concerts. Both artists make drawings and build sculptures inspired by the album *Meeting Ginastera* recorded by Gabriel Urgell Reyes.

His artistic achievements are regularly hailed by the press (France Musique, RFI, Pianist ...) and his album *Meeting Ginastera vol. 1* of Latin American classical music is awarded a Diapason d'Or, 4 Stars Classica and a Qobuzissime.

In 2018, he co-founded Capita & Navia, an artistic production company allowing the development of his cross-disciplinary projects and which he inaugurates with an exhibition-concert at the Brownstone Foundation Paris. He edited the score *Piezas Familiares* and produced *Metaphor of Silence*, album and cross-disciplinary project blending music, drawings, poems and video of his creation. The album is supported by the Fonds pour la Création Musicale (FCM) and nominated in the categories Album Eclectic and Music Producer in the 17th Annual Independent Music Awards in New York City.