

PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS

YOUR MAJESTY

A Guitar Player in 16th-Century European Courts

GUILLEM PÉREZ-QUER

PRIMA
CLASSIC

**A Musical Journey Through the Renaissance:
A dialogue between the Guitar and the
Masters of the Lute and Vihuela**

An impossible encounter at the time: to bring them together to play and share their music. Wouldn't it be wonderful to have John Dowland, Luys de Narváez, Francesco da Milano and Luys de Milano in the same room, enjoying their art together?

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YOUR MAJESTY

01. *Vicenzo Capirola - Spagna*
02. *Luys de Milán - Pavana n. 2*
03. *John Dowland - Sir John Smith his Almain*
04. *Anonymous - Se io m'accorgo ben mio d'un altro amante*
05. *Alonso Mudarra - Pavana De Alexandre*
06. *Anonymous - Francis Cutting - Greensleeves*
07. *Luys de Narváez - Diferencias sobre Guárdame las Vacas*
08. *Alonso Mudarra - Gallarda De Alexandre*
09. *Giovanni Maria da Crema - Ricercare n. 11*
10. *William Byrd - Fantasy*
11. *Luys de Milán - Fantasía n. 10 de Consonancias y Redobles*
12. *John Dowland - Lachrimae Pavan*
13. *Francesco Canova da Milano - La Compagna*
14. *Anonymous - Go From My Window*
15. *Pietro Paolo Borrono - Pescatore che va cantando*
16. *Luys de Milán - Fantasía del Quarto Tono*
17. *Joan Ambrosio Dalza - Calata ala Spagnola*
18. *Alonso Mudarra - Conde Claros*
19. *John Dowland - A Fancy*
20. *Luys de Milán - Fantasía n. 16*
21. *Luys de Narváez - Canción del Emperador*
22. *John Dowland - The Most and Mighty Christianus the Fourth,
King of Denmark, his Gaillard*

At the end of the recording of the album "Your Majesty", I was overcome by a vivid memory: Mark Twain's famous novel, "A Connecticut Yankee in King Arthur's Court", where an American travels back in time to the Middle Ages. This is how I felt, exploring with my guitar the beautiful and distant repertoire that resounded in the halls of the European royal courts of the 16th century.

I have always admired this period of history: the old world is reunited with its Greco-Latin roots, giving rise to a cultural and artistic explosion. The figure of the Courtier emerges, an ideal of grace, elegance and knowledge. A cultured and versatile man, he excels in the handling of weapons as well as in the arts and literature. His behavior is refined, his speech persuasive and subtle. This model of virtues reflects the humanist spirit of the time, combining dignity with wit, courtesy with profound erudition.

Europe in the 16th century was far from the globalized Europe we know today. Each composer and artistic current had a rich and marked personality. The Renaissance in Spain, Italy and England each offered its own blend of mysticism, court life, popular roots and refinement, a wise alchemy that enriched the cultural landscape of the time.

I believe that the guitar, then far removed from the royal courts and relegated to the popular class, as heir today of the rich tradition of the lute and the vihuela, offers with its voice an attractive and powerful emotionality that enhances the extraordinary beauty of these compositions.

To immerse oneself in the music of the Renaissance, both as a performer and as a listener, has for me the capacity to ignite in our being a renewed identity, a singular light that guides us back to our roots to be reborn anew.



GUILLEM PÉREZ-QUER

Considered by the specialized critics as a virtuoso guitarist, with impeccable technique and extreme sensibility, capable of captivating all kinds of public in his concerts, Guillem Pérez-Quer is an internationally renowned concertist, with a long history, who has performed to the most important audiences in the world. He studied with great teachers: Juan Fco. Garrido, Óscar Cáceres, Leo Brouwer, Betho Davezac, Eli Kassner, and the great guitarist Maria Luisa Anido – student of Miquel Llobet – who considered him one of her best students.

Winner of prestigious prizes such as the Manuel de Falla Interpretation Contest and the XXV Maria Canals International Contest, among others. He has three albums published with President Records Ltd. (London) together with her wife the Canadian guitar player Danielle Kassner as the Kassner&Quer Guitar Duo. He is often giving lectures and master-classes around the world and has been part of the jury of numerous international competitions (Mexico, Costa Rica, Canada, Italy, France, UK, Colombia, Czech Republic, Chile, Bosnia-Herzegovina, China, Kyrgyz Republic, USA ...)

He is the Head of the Department of Guitar of the Superior Conservatory of Music of the Liceu in Barcelona.

"Your Majesty" is Guillem's second album with Prima Classic, following the success of "Spanish Mosaic" and the single "El Cant del Ocells."





CREDITS

Executive producer: Edgardo Vertanessian

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Recording, Editing, Mixing, and Mastering: Edgardo Vertanessian

Tracks 1-5 & 22

Guitar: Saeid Aboutalebian

Tracks 6-21

Guitar: Elías Bonet

Strings: Knobloch Strings

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