

PRIMA CLASSIC PRESENTS



## **Guastavino Dixit: Celebrating the Essence of Argentine Music**

Guastavino's enduring legacy lies in his ability to evoke Argentina's soul through his compositions, blending the lyrical beauty of traditional forms with the emotional depth of romanticism. Guastavino Dixit is a tribute to his vision, ensuring his music continues to resonate across generations and borders.

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# TRACKLIST

- |                                  |                                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 01. <b>La rosa y el sauce</b>    | 08. <b>Ay que el alma se me sale</b> |
| 02. <b>Aromito flor de tusca</b> | 09. <b>Vidala del secadal</b>        |
| 03. <b>Cita</b>                  | 10. <b>Tacuarita</b>                 |
| 04. <b>Jardín antiguo</b>        | 11. <b>Plancha</b>                   |
| 05. <b>Bonita rama de sauce</b>  | 12. <b>Dedal</b>                     |
| 06. <b>Riqueza</b>               | 13. <b>Acerico</b>                   |
| 07. <b>Ya me voy a retirar</b>   |                                      |

## **Carlos Guastavino: A Composer of Argentine Essence and Universal Appeal**

Carlos Guastavino (1912-2000), one of Argentina's most celebrated classical composers, is renowned for his lyrical and romantic style that bridges popular traditions and academic refinement. Deeply connected to Argentina's cultural roots, his works evoke the nation's diverse landscapes and rhythms, such as the zamba, gato, and milonga. Guastavino composed over 150 songs, many inspired by Argentine poets like León Benarós and Atahualpa Yupanqui, as well as instrumental works ranging from piano solos to symphonic compositions. Despite the avant-garde dominance of his time, he embraced tonality and classical forms, earning recognition both in Argentina and internationally during his extensive travels in the mid-20th century. His music, often compared to Brahms and Schumann, is cherished for its seamless integration of poetry, melody, and emotional depth.

Guastavino's career was marked by simplicity and a steadfast dedication to his unique vision. His songs and piano repertoire, infused with elements of folklore, transcend mere imitation to create a synthesis of local and universal traditions. His works remain a testament to his belief in the enduring power of authenticity and passion, offering a bridge between Argentina's cultural heritage and the broader world of classical music. Today, his legacy endures in the global repertoire, reaffirming his place as an ambassador of Argentine culture and a masterful composer whose music continues to captivate audiences worldwide.



# MERCEDES GANCEDO

## SOPRANO

Born in Banfield, Buenos Aires, Argentina, Mercedes Gancedo made her operatic debut at 18 as Despina in *Così fan tutte*. Trained by legends such as Jaume Aragall, Teresa Berganza, and Montserrat Caballé, she balances a flourishing operatic career with an active presence in the Lied repertoire. Recognized as a "Young Artistic Promise of International Character" by the Argentine Critics Association and supported by scholarships from the Mozarteum Foundation and ESMUC, Gancedo has also earned awards in prestigious competitions like the "Francisco Viñas Competition" and the "Competizione dell'Opera" in Dresden.

Gancedo's operatic roles span from Elle (*La voix humaine*) and Mariana (*Das Liebesverbot*) to Papagena (*The Magic Flute*) and Suor Genovieffa (*Suor Angelica*), performing in major venues such as the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Teatro Real de Madrid, and the Festival Castell de Peralada, collaborating with conductors like Gustavo Dudamel and Marc Minkowski. Alongside her opera engagements, she excels in symphonic works like Mahler's 4th Symphony and Mendelssohn's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. An accomplished recitalist, Gancedo has graced festivals like Schubertiada de Vilabertran and Oxford Lieder Festival. In 2017, she released her debut album, *Cooking America!*, with pianist Beatriz Miralles, showcasing her wide-ranging artistic talent.





# QUIMEY URQUIAGA

## PIANIST

Born in 1989 in Bahía Blanca, Argentina, this accomplished musician holds advanced degrees in Piano (Conservatorio Gilardo Gilardi, 2008), Orchestral Conducting (National University of La Plata, 2013), and Music Education (National University of La Plata, 2019). She further specialized in the Lied repertoire with a Master's in Lied "Victoria de los Ángeles" (School of Music of Catalunya, 2021), studying under esteemed mentors and participating in masterclasses with renowned artists such as Graham Johnson and Felicity Lott. She debuted at the Festival Life Victoria de Barcelona in 2022, performing as both a solo and collaborative pianist, including accompanying Dame Felicity Lott.

Her career spans performances in prestigious venues across Argentina, Spain, and Italy, including Teatro Argentino, Teatro del Liceu, and Escuela de Canto de Madrid. She has worked as an accompanist with Buenos Aires Lírica and collaborated with distinguished vocal coaches like Michael Paul and Isabel Rey. In 2021, she recorded her first album of Argentine chamber songs with soprano Soledad Cardoso for IBS Classical, further cementing her reputation as a versatile and skilled pianist with a deep commitment to classical and chamber music.



# CREDITS

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