



The Focus-Abengoa Foundation celebrates the 22nd edition of the master concerts series in the chapel of the Hospital de los Venerables

- The series entitled, “The baroque organ: a means of communication between peoples”, will be given by Guy Bovet, Paolo Crivellaro and Carolyn Shuster, three eminent and admired European organists.
- These annual performances, which feature the world’s most respected organists and composers, have made the Los Venerables organ one of the most important and prestigious platforms in the world.

Seville, 4th February 2013.- Tomorrow Tuesday 5th February, the Focus-Abengoa Foundation will open the 22nd edition of the master concerts series, which has become an essential event in the diaries of the world’s finest organists. The new series, entitled *The baroque organ: a means of communication between peoples* will feature Guy Bovet, Paolo Crivellaro and Carolyn Shuster, three brilliant and well-known organists who have studied at some of the most important schools in the world.

The first concert will be on Tuesday 5th February and will be given by Guy Bovet from Switzerland, a renowned organist who was titular at the Colegial de Neuchâtel church in Switzerland until 2009. On Tuesday 12th February, the baton will be handed over to the Italian, Paolo Crivellaro, professor of organ at *Universität der Künste*, Berlin’s university of the arts. Finally, Tuesday 19th February will be the turn of the Franco-American organist and musicologist, Carolyn Shuster, renowned for her clear and precise technique.

The repertoire chosen by the organists includes works from their countries of origin designed to showcase new cultures, styles and musical influences. The performances will feature works by J.S. Bach, J. Alain, D. Scarlatti, F. Mendelssohn, G. Segni, J. Welmers, A. Chauvet and W. Selby, as well as compositions by G. Bovet himself, among others.

This new master concerts series, which has been held for 22 years, coinciding with the building of the Grenzing organ for the Focus-Abengoa Foundation, will feature three international artists, “who will undoubtedly delight us, offering examples from the leading European schools, with influences from other composers and other cultures, but with a common denominator – the organ and its music”, said José Enrique Ayarra, titular organist of the Chapel of the Hospital de los Venerables and Seville Cathedral.

The concerts will begin at 8.30 pm and as usual will be broadcast on Radio Clásica by Radio Nacional de España.



Focus-Abengoa Foundation

The Focus-Abengoa Foundation was created in 1982 as a result of the cultural work begun in 1972 by Abengoa with the publication of the works *Temas Sevillanos* (Themes of Seville) and *Iconografía de Sevilla* (Iconography of Seville). A collection of documents, books and engravings on the Kingdom of Seville and by Sevillian authors was created during the same period. This initial cultural work showed Abengoa's directors the importance of the company's involvement in activities that directly benefit society, beyond the firm's core technology work, which led to the creation of the Seville Cultural Fund Foundation. The Hospital de los Venerables, a 17th century monument and the headquarters of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation in Seville, has housed the Diego Velázquez Research Centre, a leading institution for studying and disseminating the Baroque era and the Sevillian period of this universally renowned artist, following the acquisition of Velázquez's Santa Rufina by the Foundation in 2007.

Useful details

Master concerts series. *The baroque organ: a means of communication between peoples.*

5th, 12th and 19th February 2013.

Venue: Church of the Hospital de los Venerables. C/ Jamerdana s/n. Seville.

Time: 8.30 pm

Price: General: 12 Euros.

Concessions: 2.40 Euros (over 65s, pensioners and students with accreditation).
2.40 Euros (cultural and educational groups, with reservations).



Organists invited to the 22nd master concerts series

Guy Bovet was born in Switzerland in 1942. He studied piano with music under Jeanne Bovet in Bern, and organ with Marie Dufour in Lausanne, Pierre Segond in Geneva and Marie-Claire Alain in Paris.

After completing his studies, he participated in numerous international competitions winning various prizes, which allowed him at the age of 19 to embark on a career as a soloist and to travel the world performing.

He was professor of organ at the *Musikhochschule* in Basel for more than 20 years, having taught numerous courses at various universities and music schools in Europe, the Soviet Union and the USA. He has carried out important research work about the Hispanic organ in various countries in Latin America sponsored by UNESCO, and more recently in the Philippines.

He has produced a new edition of Francisco Correa de Arauxo's *Facultad Orgánica* for the Ut Orpheus publishing house in Bologna, with translations and explanations of the treaty in various languages; as well as the complete organ works of José Lidón. Until 2009 he was the organist of the city of Neuchâtel and its Collegiate Church in Switzerland.

His work as a composer currently includes more than 230 opus numbers, which encompass all types of music, including symphonic, concerts with orchestras, musicals, opera, chamber music, songs, and music for solo instruments such as the organ, although the majority of his work is dedicated to cinematic and theatre music.

Guy Bovet holds an honorary doctorate from the universities of Neuchâtel and Warsaw; he was awarded the 2007 prize from the Neuchâtel Institute, and has been honoured by the Japanese and Philippine governments.

Paolo Crivellaro was born in Italy. After completing his organ and piano studies in Milan and Basel, Paolo Crivellaro launched a brilliant career as an organ soloist at important festivals and in the leading European cities. Many of his concerts have been broadcast on national television and radio as well as being recorded on CD.

He regularly gives master classes as a guest lecturer at schools and universities around the world and is invited to participate at important organ competitions. Since 2001 he has been professor of organ at *Universität der Künste*, Berlin's university of the arts.

Between 1978 and 1992 he was responsible for cataloguing 215 historic organs for the Italian Trust for Artistic and Historical Treasures.

His experience in the field of the history of the organ includes lectures and articles, some of which have been translated for international organ magazines.



Paolo Crivellaro recently wrote the “Italian Organ” entry in the *Lexikon der Orgel* (organ dictionary), edited by Dr. H. Busch.

Carolyn Shuster Fournier is a Franco-American organist and musicologist born in Columbia (Missouri). She began by studying the piano and violin and when she was 13 she specialised in the organ under the direction of Gary Zwiicky in Charleston (Illinois).

After obtaining a Bachelor of Music with honours at Wheaton College (Illinois), where she studied under Gladys Christensen, and a master’s degree at the New England Conservatory in Boston (under Yuko Hayashi), she continued her studies in Paris with Marie-Claire Alain, André Isoir and Michel Chapuis.

Her thesis on Aristide Cavaillé-Coll's secular organs received Olivier Messiaen’s warm congratulations. As organist at the American Cathedral in Paris, in 1989 she was named titular organist of the Aristide Cavaillé-Coll choir organ at La Trinité Church in the same city where she founded the weekly Thursday noontime concert series.

Renowned for her clear and precise technique, Carolyn Shuster Fournier has given concerts on historic organs at prestigious festivals; she has inaugurated various organs and has performed the première of various contemporary works.

In 2007 Carolyn Shuster Fournier was awarded the prestigious *Chevalier de l’Ordre des Arts et des Lettres* by the French minister of culture and communication.