

## "Organ music in Seville at the time of Murillo" is the theme of the Series of Young Organist Concerts 2012 of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation

- The concerts, which will be held at 8.30 pm on 12th, 13th and 14th November, will take place in the Los Venerables church at the Foundation's headquarters.
- The musicians invited to this edition are Luis Pedro Bráviz (Huesca), José Luis Echechipía (Pamplona) and Susana García Lastra (Seville).

Seville, 9 November 2012. The Focus-Abengoa Foundation will launch a new edition of the series of Young Organist Concerts entitled "Organ music in Seville at the time of Murillo" on Monday 12th November. Over the course of three days, this edition will delve into Seville at the time of the artist Bartolomé Esteban Murillo (1617-1682) from the unique perspective of music. This year the Focus-Abengoa Foundation has invited Luis Pedro Bráviz, José Luis Echechipía and Susana García Lastra, three organists that despite their youth, already boast a profound understanding of the baroque period and experience of solo performances.

The concerts, which will take place at 8.30 pm at the Los Venerables church, will feature music that would have been listened to in Seville at the time of Murillo. The program of concerts will focus on the leading maestros of 16th century Seville, such as Correa de Arauxo, as well as major works by Spanish and European composers like J. S. Bach, J. B. Cabanilles, J. Pachelbel and D. Buxtehude, among others.

The soloists will convey the perceptions and preferences, and the concerns and emotions of a dynamic, sensitive and refined society that was baroque Seville, through the language of music and the excellence of their art. This series of concerts will also coincide with the exhibition, "Murillo and Justino Neve. The art of friendship", which is on display in the Hospital de los Venerables. The exhibition brings together 16 of the later works by Murillo that resulted from his relationship with Justino de Neve, canon of Seville Cathedral and an important patron and close friend of the artist.

The Young Organist Concerts 2012 will give way to the Baroque School, which this year is entitled "Society and Artistic Patronage in Murillo's Seville". It will take place at the Foundation's headquarters from 19th to 21st November.

Luis Pedro Bráviz, from Huesca, the tenured organ lecturer at the Zaragoza Conservatory, will open this 21st edition of the Young Organist Concerts. He will be followed by José Luis Echechipía from Pamplona on Tuesday 13th, who has performed at numerous European festivals and will play various baroque pieces on the Los Venerables organ. Finally the series will be brought to a close by Susana García Lastra from Seville, winner of the Graduation Prize from Seville Conservatory and second organist of the Los Venerables organ in this city.

All of the concerts will be rebroadcast by RNE Radio Clásica.



The series of Young Organist Concerts forms part of the larger music program of the Focus-Abengoa Foundation, which seeks to teach youngsters about the importance of a musical education as a fundamental part of promoting cultural values. More than 40 young organists have participated in the program since it was first held in 1992, offering their music through recitals at the Focus-Abengoa Foundation.

## **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, since the acquisition of Velázquez's *Santa Rufina* by the Foundation in 2007.

**Focus-Abengoa Foundation. Series of Young Organist Concerts.** *Organ Music in Seville at the time of Murillo.* 

Iglesia de los Venerables. C/ Jamerdana s/n.

Time: 8.30 pm.

Date: 12th, 13th and 14th November 2012

Price: 2.40 Euros.

Concessions: 1.20 Euros. Over 65s, pensioners, students (with accreditation), cultural

and educational groups (with reservations).

## **Communications Department contact**

Patricia Malo de Molina Meléndez E-mail: communication@abengoa.com

Tel: +34 954 93 71 11



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