EAST-WEST: A DIALOGUE AMONG SOULS

A dialogue among Christian, Jewish and Muslim musical styles, in line with Mediterranean tradition

Saturday, June 12, 2021, at 8:00 p.m.
Institute for Catalan Studies, Cloister, Convalescent Home (c/Carme, 47, 08001 Barcelona)

Jordi Savall, rebab, soprano viola de gamba and rebecc.
Pedro Estevan, percussion.

PROGRAMME:

Rebab
(Anonymous, late 14th c.)
- Alba – Traditional Berber
- Erotókritos – Byzantine dance
- Rotundelius (CSM 105) – King Alfonso X “the Wise”
- Vido venir – Sephardic mourning
- Alagyeaz & Khnki tsar – Traditional (Armenia)
- Saltarello – Trecento period (Italy, 13th c.)

Soprano viola de gamba
(Anonymous, Italy, c. 1500)
- Paxarico tu te llamas – Traditional Sephardic (Sarajevo)
- Al aylukhs – Armenian dance
- La rosa enflorice – Sephardic romance (Sofia)
- Nastaran (Naghma) – Afghan dance
- Makām-ı Nikriz uşûles Berevsân – Dimitrie Cantemir (Istanbul)
- Ya Maria el bekr – Traditional (Syria)
- Hermosa muchachita – Traditional Sephardic (Jerusalem)

Rebec
(Anonymous, Italy, c. 1450)
- El Rey Nimrod – Traditional Sephardic (Jerusalem)
- Saltarello (CSM 77 and 119) – King Alfonso X “the Wise”
- Danza del viento – Traditional Berber
- La Quarte Estampie Royal – The King’s Manuscript (Paris, 13th c.)
- Lamento di Tristano – Trecento period (Italy, 13th c.)
- Makām-ı Uzzał Sakil «Turna» Semâ’î – Dimitrie Cantemir (324)
Jordi Savall is one of the most versatile musical personalities of his generation. He has been making wonders known to the world for over fifty years abandoned in the darkness of indifference and oblivion. Dedicated to research of these ancient compositions, he reads and performs them with his viola of prawn or as a director. His activities as a concert performer, pedagogue, researcher and creator of new projects, both musical and cultural, place him among the main architects of the phenomenon of revaluation of historical music. He is the founder, together with Montserrat Figueras, of the musical groups Hespèrion XXI (1974), the Royal Chapel of Catalonia (1987) and Le Concert des Nations (1989), with which he explores and creates a universe of emotions and beauty, and projects them into the world to reach millions of music lovers. Throughout his career he has recorded and edited more than 230 albums of repertoires of medieval, renaissance, baroque and classicism music, paying special attention to the Hispanic and Mediterranean musical heritage, which have been deserving of many distinctions, such as Midem Awards, International Classical Music Awards and even a Grammy. His concert programs have turned the music as an instrument of mediation for understanding and peace between peoples and cultures different and sometimes conflicting. Not without reason, in 2008 Jordi Savall was appointed Ambassador of the European Union for Intercultural Dialogue and, together with Montserrat Figueras, Artists for Peace were invested in the program UNESCO Goodwill Ambassadors.

His prolific musical career has earned him the highest distinctions national and international standards, including a doctorate honoris causa of the universities of Evora (Portugal), Barcelona, Leuven (Belgium), of Basel (Switzerland) and Utrecht (Netherlands), the Knight of the Legion of Honor of the French Republic, the International Music Prize for Peace of Ministry of Culture and Science of Lower Saxony, the Gold Medal of the Generalitat of Catalonia, the European Helena Vaz da Silva Prize and the prestigious Musical Prize Leonie Sonning, considered the Nobel Prize for music. The IEC has granted it the Prat de la Riba Prize 2021. «Jordi Savall shows a cultural heritage infinitely diverse common. He is a man for our time» (The Guardian, 2011).

Pedro Estevan, percussionist, was born in Sax (Alicante) in 1951, he studied percussion studies at the Conservatorio Superior de Música de Madrid and in France (specifically, in Aix-en-Provence), where he studied contemporary percussion with Sylvio Gualda and African percussion with Senegalese master Doudou Ndiaye Rose. He has also studied the technique of hand drums with Glen Vélez. Founding member of the Orquesta de las Nubes and the Grupo de Percusión de Madrid, has collaborated with l’Orquesta Nacional de España, Radiotelevisión Española, l’Orquesta Sinfónica of Madrid, the Gulbenkian Orchestra of Lisbon and the Orchestra of the 18th Century, as well as with the groups Koan, Sacqueboutiers de Toulouse, Paul Winter Consort, Camerata Iberia, Baroque Ensemble of Limoges, The Harp Consort, Mudejar and Baroque Orchestra of Seville, among others. He is an eclectic musician who is especially dedicated to early music with Hesperion XXI, Le Concert des Nations and Ingenious Labyrinths, and in contemporary music with Rarafonía. He has performed as a soloist with the National Chamber Orchestra de España and with the Orquesta Reina Sofia, and has taken part in various productions plays by Lluís Pasqual, Núria Espert and Adolfo Marsillach. He has been a music director in the production of El caballero de Olmedo, by Lope de Vega, directed by Lluís Pasqual. He has participated in more than one hundred albums, including his own works Nocturnes and treacheries and The aroma of time. He is a percussion teacher at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya (ESMUC).