

## DUO MUSART BARCELONA RAÚL PRIETO RAMÍREZ, Organ MARIA TERESA SIERRA, Piano

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Two young Spanish **keyboardists**, described by *Diari Avui* as "two rising stars in Spain", formed **Duo MusArt Barcelona** in 2007 to fill a vacant niche on the Iberian musical landscape; the combination of piano and organ in full-scale concert performance. Noted pianist **Maria Teresa Sierra** and sensational concert organist **Raúl Prieto Ramírez** are also husband and wife. The blazing, edge-of-the-seat virtuosity which mark their individual styles permit them to approach their duets with the precision, clarity, and elegance of a premier chamber ensemble. *Le Monde* (Spain) described: "They play as with one mind."

They have performed, to critical and audience acclaim, at Spain's major concert halls in Madrid and Barcelona, the Canary Islands, and extensively throughout Europe, Russia, and the United States. The duo offers a repertoire of original works for piano and organ, as well as their own transcriptions of works by Tchaikovsky, Lutoslawski, Horowitz, Liszt, Gershwin, Spanish masterpieces by de Falla and Granados, and contemporary commissions. In 2010, they recorded a CD on the Brilliant Classics label at the Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona.

Among the major festivals at which the duo has been featured are the International Barcelona Piano Festival, the International Festival in Segovia, and the Third International Organ Festival in Russia. In June 2016, the duo was featured at the American Guild of Organists' national convention in Houston, and in May 2018 at the Virginia Arts Festival in Virginia Beach.

Performing a wide-ranging classical and popular repertoire on the pipe organ with the flair and bravado of a matador, **Raúl Prieto Ramírez** has a global concert schedule takes him to major festivals and concert halls, for lectures at universities, collaborations in summer academies, and as jury member at international competitions. In December 2017, Mr. Ramírez became the eighth San Diego Civic Organist and Artistic Director of the Spreckels Organ Society, where he presides over the largest outdoor pipe organ in the Western Hemisphere at the city's Balboa Park Pavilion.

**Maria Teresa Sierra** was hand-picked by Russian piano pedagogue Leonid Sintsev for admission to the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in St. Petersburg, Russia and it was there that she developed her exquisite and fiery musical sensibility and the technical proficiency characteristic of the Russian school. Ms. Sierra "has the talent to move the audience and transport them...through the sonority she extracts from the piano." (*La Porta Classica*, Spain).

Duo MusArt Barcelona is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

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