

Three programs in three months at The Concertgebouw **Around the World on Two Pianos: Cuban Classical & Jazz next!**

THE HAGUE – After two previous concerts in his three part concert series Around the World on Two Pianos, which were both received with standing ovations, Latin America specialist Gustavo Corrales Romero is now getting ready for his third concert – with a completely different program – in three months. The concert is again being organized by his production company KyG Productions on 7 December 2019 at The Concertgebouw. At the other grand piano: The ‘other face of Cuban jazz’ Ramón Valle.

Cuban pianist-composer Gustavo Corrales Romero has had a 17 year spanning classical education culminating at the Moscow Tchaikovsky Conservatory and the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA) in Havana, Cuba. Together with his wife and business partner he has been promoting ‘the other sound of Latin America’ for years. He offers several concert formulas for which he can draw on a 200-year-old range of Latin American classical, modern classical and contemporary compositions, including his own.

‘The other face of Cuban jazz’ Ramón Valle hardly needs introduction, as a regular at both The Concertgebouw and the North Sea Jazz Festival, among others. Less known is the genre mix on two pianos in his collaboration with classical pianist Corrales. This face-off always is an exciting challenge that also translates to the audience through the infectious chemistry of the pianists. The receipt by their following says it all: ‘Yes, this is an absolute must-see for me. As soon as they play again, I’ll be there.’

In their eight collaboration Corrales and Valle will play the concert that is popular with their following and that began as ‘Cuban Classical and Jazz’ but has fused into a sizzling combination of their talent and personalities. A Valle-Corrales concert breathes Cubanness and joy, combining two different repertoires, excellence and blatant fun. It is alternately intriguing, rousingly rhythmic to the point of danceable, surprising and moving. Cuban Classical & Jazz is spiced up with own arrangements and compositions and Valle’s signature improvisations, inspired by many international influences and the shared Cuban background.

Hard facts of the Around the World on Two Pianos concert series, first edition 2019 at The Concertgebouw: 64 musical works, 23 composers, 11 countries, 8 premieres, 3 guest pianists, 3 concerts, 3 different programs played by 1 host (Corrales) in 3 months time, 1 organizer (Corrales’ wife, managing director of KyG Productions Karen D. Russel de Corrales). Wenneke Savenije, editor-in-chief of music magazine De Nieuwe Muze, after attending the first concert Latinissimo and second concert East Indies - West Indies:

“... one of the nicest series in the Kleine Zaal of The Concertgebouw ...”

**“... with an authentic enthusiasm and flair
that is rare in The Concertgebouw ...”**

During the first Cuban Classical & Jazz at The Concertgebouw two premieres will be presented, both written by Corrales: his duo piece *Chocomenta y moscatel* and solo piece *Jiribillante*. Valle's signature piece *Levitando* will also feature, recently played with the ensemble Fuse at Podium Witteman, now in the version for two pianos with Corrales. Besides these highlights a core repertoire will be executed with arrangements and compositions written for each other, pieces from the pianists' various CDs and a big wink to beloved works by Cuban classical composers Lecuona and Fariñas and the well-known Canadian Leonard Cohen (*Hallelujah*, in an arrangement by Valle).

Cuban Classical & Jazz can be heard on Saturday 7 December 2019, from 14:15 to 16:15 in de Recital Hall (Kleine Zaal) at The Concertgebouw in Amsterdam. Ticket sales are handled by The Concertgebouw: at the box office, by telephone 020 671 8345 and online on www.concertgebouw.nl, search for *Corrales*.

For more information: www.kygproductions.com

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Note for the editors

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About promotional picture

Ramón Valle and Gustavo Corrales Romero during an earlier collaboration in Theater Het Veur, Leidschendam, then still sharing one grand piano.

Promotional picture by Brigitte Soffner is royalty-free.

Ovation pictures respectively by Marcho Fuchs (Latinissimo, 1st concert Around the World on Two Pianos) and Maria Esther Morales Alonso (East Indies - West Indies, 2nd concert Around the World on Two Pianos). Download in higher resolution on

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PUBLICATIONS BY DE NIEUWE MUZE ABOUT AROUND THE WORLD ON TWO PIANOS
(In Dutch)

About East Indies - West Indies on 17 November 2019

<https://www.facebook.com/denieuwemuze/posts/2461572227212819>

About Latinissimo on 12 October 2019

<https://www.facebook.com/denieuwemuze/posts/2390574694312573>