

Raquel García Tomás (1984)

Raquel García-Tomás is a composer specialising in interdisciplinary creation who completed her doctorate at the Royal College of Music in London. In 2020, she received the National Award of Music from the Government of Spain 'for the interdisciplinary, innovative, and daring nature of a distinctive and unique compositional language.' Raquel has recently been awarded the National Culture Prize 2024 from the Government of Catalonia 'for her excellence in musical composition, stemming from a solid education and aptitude for contemporary innovation that allow her to achieve a balance between sound and visual experimentation without losing the ability to move a broad audience.'

Her music has been performed in venues such as the Gran Teatre del Liceu, Auditorio Nacional de Música de Madrid, L'Auditori de Barcelona, Palau de la Música Catalana, Wigmore Hall, Queen Elizabeth Hall (Southbank Centre), Philharmonie Luxembourg, Het Concertgebouw, Wiener Konzerthaus, Musikverein, Müpa Budapest, or the DOX Centre for Contemporary Art in Prague, among others. Her compositions have been included in festivals like the Huddersfield Contemporary Music Festival, Kunstfest Weimar, and the Lucerne Festival. Raquel has collaborated with ensembles such as the London Sinfonietta, the Oslo Sinfonietta, and the Phace Ensemble, among others.

Within the framework of operatic creation, she premiered *disPLACE – II. Història d'una casa* (text by H. Tornero and stage direction by P. Pawlik) at the Vienna festival MusikTheaterTage Wien, with further performances in Teatros del Canal within the season 2016/17 of the Teatro Real in Madrid. In 2019, she premiered the opera buffa *Je Suis Narcissiste* (libretto by H. Tornero and stage direction by M. Pazos), within the seasons of the Teatro Real, Teatro Español, and the Teatre Lliure in Barcelona. The International Opera Awards 2020 nominated this opera as Best World Premiere. In the 2022/23 season, Raquel presented *Alexina B.* at the Gran Teatre del Liceu in Barcelona. This opera, created in collaboration with librettist Irène Gayraud and stage director Marta Pazos, was recognized with the Leonardo Grant from the BBVA Foundation and received a nomination for Best World Premiere at the International Opera Awards 2023.

Among her most notable recent projects are *Las constelaciones que más brillan*, premiered at L'Auditori de Barcelona with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra conducted by Ludovic Morlot and followed by performances at the Elbphilharmonie in Hamburg and the Konserthuset in Stockholm; the string quartet *à plein*, premiered by the Cuarteto Quiroga at the Palau de la Música Catalana, and *Ara sí que ets divina*, premiered with the OBC, under the direction of Ludovic Morlot, in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of L'Auditori de Barcelona.

For the upcoming season, Raquel will be the composer-in-residence at the Real Filharmonía de Galicia. This will include the world premiere of *Ceci n'est pas un valse*, conducted by Baldur Brönnimann, along with performances of other works from her orchestral catalogue. Additionally, Raquel will be the featured composer at the Palau de la Música Catalana, with her music

programmed in six concerts throughout the season, including works from her repertoire and two world premieres with soloists such as Nicolas Altstaedt and Lorenza Borrani.

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