

LEO DE MARÍA FULL BIOGRAPHY

A unique mixture of technical skills, great sensibility and a deep passion in his performance have established to Leo de María as one of the best performers of his generation.

He studied at the Music and Scenic Arts Faculty at the Alfonso X El Sabio University of Madrid under the leadership of the Professor **Leonel Morales**. Now is studying at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg with the Professor **Pavel Gililov**.

Last May, he made an extensive tour around China with a total of 12 concerts on the main stages of the Asian country, starting in the city of Chong Qing and ending in Beijing, at the Tianquiao Performing Arts Center.

Due to the success obtained, Leo de María has now artistic representation in China, with the **CHONGQING PERFORMANCE CO.Ltd Concerts Agency**, which already scheduled a new tour for the next September 2020.

It is also a novelty, his entry as a new artist of **MUSIESPAÑA**, an international endorsement factor.

In 2018, he received the National Culture Prize Live to the Artistic Revelation. The "Cultura Viva" prizes are awarded annually by the cultural association of the same name to institutions and personalities from different areas of knowledge such as music, culture, archeology, literature, poetry or science in recognition of their work or career.

He has won the First Prizes in the International Piano Competitions **Ciudade de Ferrol** (November, 2017. Spain), **MozARTè** (September, 2016. Germany) and **Grand Prix of Lyon** (June, 2016. France).

In May of 2015, in just over a month, he obtained the maximum award at the 3 International Piano Competitions which are held in Valencia: **Ciutat de Lliria**, **Ciutat de Carlet** and **Gabriel Teruel Machí**. After the accomplishments, he concluded with the achievement of another First Prize in the **Marisa Montiel Competition** of Linares-Jaén in Spain.

He also gets the First Awards in the Competitions: **International Piano Competition César Franck** (2015. Bruselas), **Ciutat de Xátiva** (2012. Valencia), **Santa Cecilia** (2010. Segovia), **Antón García Abril** (2009. Teruel) and **Hazen** (2009. Madrid).

Second Prizes in the **International ClaviCologne Aachen Competition** (2015. Alemania), **International Piano Talents of Milan** (2015. Italia), **Infanta Cristina Competition** (2012. Madrid), apart from the unique prize to participate in the **International Steinway & Sons Festival** of Hamburg representing Spain in the Großen Saal der Laeishalle. He was also chosen to participate in the Gina Bachauer International Piano Competition (2012. EE.UU).

Third Prizes in the **International Piano Competition Neue Sterne** in Germany (2018), **International Piano Competition A. Scriabin** of Italy in two editions 2014 and 2016, apart from achieving the **Special Prize** of the audience (2016). **International Piano Competition “Frechilla-Zuloaga”** (2013. Valladolid).

In October of 2017 he obtained the **Special Prize in the International Piano Competition Ettore Pozzoli** (Seregno-Italy) to the **Best Performance of Pozzoli’s Music**. In 2014, at the **International Piano Competition Parnassós** (México-Monterrey), he achieved two prizes: **Great Honour Diploma** for his high level of performance at the Competition and **Prize to the Best Performer of Impressionist Music**.

He has received Masterclasses around the world with the Maestros Vincenzo Balzani, Boris Berman, Pierre Reach, Ilja Scheps, Siegfried Mauser, Yuri Didenko, Andreas Froelich, Arkadie Zenziper, Piotr Paleczny, Andrea Bonatta, Oxana Yablonskaya and Pavel Gililov.

Being 15 years old, he performed the Concert number 1 of Prokofiev with the “Cukurova State Symphony Orchestra” in Adana-Turkey, under the direction of the Maestro Emin Güven Yaslıçam. Because of his triumph, he was again invited to Antalya being only 16 years old, to perform this time the Concerto number 1 of Tchaikovsky.

Since then, his activity as a concert pianist has taken him to different places all around the world, acting in the most prestigious halls as the Vermietung Laeiszhalle of Hamburg (Germany), Wiener Saal in Salzburg (Austria), in China the Guotai Arts Center (Chongqing), Daning Theater (Shanghai), Cangjiang Theater (Xiamen), Fuzhou Grand Theater (Fuzhou), Tanquiao Performing Arts Center (Beijing), Elfer’s Concert Hall in Hotchkiss Series in Connecticut (USA) besides to being invited as professor for the Masterclass of Hotchkiss Summer Portals, Auditorium CKK Jordanki in Torun (Poland), San Pedro’s Auditorium in Monterrey- Mexico at the Festival Santa Cecilia-Parnassós, Salle Molière in Lyon at the Festival “Les Virtuoses du Piano”, Bibiena’s Theater in Mantova (Italy), the House of A. Scriabin in Moscow, Radio France in Paris, Turkey, Slovenia, Italy, Holland...

In Spain, he has collaborated with the Foundation Yehudi Menuhin in presence of Your Majesty the Queen mother Madame Sofía, Iturbi Concert Hall in the Palau de la Música in Valencia, Castellon’s Auditorium, Mozart Hall of Zaragoza’s Auditorium, Theater of “La Maestranza” in Sevilla, Granada in different halls including the Manuel De Falla Auditorium, Fine Arts Academy in San Fernando of Madrid, Olivar del Castillejo, Juan March Foundation Foundation...

“**Strength**”, “**Plays as a master**”, “**Ruling and Conqueror**” are some of the superlatives used by different critics of all around the world to describe him.