

MANUEL BARRUECO **Classical Guitar**

Manuel Barrueco is internationally recognized as one of the most important guitarists of our time. His unique artistry has been continually described as that of a superb instrumentalist and a superior and elegant musician, possessing a seductive sound and uncommon lyrical gifts.

His career has been dedicated to bringing the guitar to the main musical centers of the world. During three decades of concertizing, he has performed across the United States from the New World Symphony in Miami to the Seattle Symphony, and from the Hollywood Bowl with the Los Angeles Philharmonic to New York's Lincoln Center. He has appeared with such prestigious orchestras as the Philadelphia Orchestra and with the Boston Symphony under the direction of Seiji Ozawa, in the American Premiere of Toru's Takemitsu's *To the Edge of Dream*.

His international tours have taken him to some of the most important musical centers in the world. Highlights include the Musikverein in Vienna, Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, Royal Albert Hall in London, Philharmonie in Berlin, Teatro Real in Madrid, and Palau de la Musica in Barcelona. In Asia he has completed a dozen tours of Japan and made repeated appearances in Korea, Taiwan, Singapore, and Hong Kong. Barrueco's tours of Latin America have included performances in Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Panama and Puerto Rico.

Barrueco's commitment to contemporary music and to the expansion of the guitar repertoire has led him to collaborations with many distinguished composers such as Steven Stucky, Michael Daugherty, Roberto Sierra, Arvo Pärt, Gabriela Lena Frank, and Toru Takemitsu.

This coming season includes the world premiere of Barrueco's adaptation of the monumental flamenco ballet *Medea* by Manolo Sanlúcar as a guitar concerto with the Spokane Symphony Orchestra and he will perform *Danzas Concertantes* written for him by Roberto Sierra, with the Gulbenkian Symphony Orchestra in Portugal. Other scheduled performances include the Florida Orchestra, San Antonio Symphony and Edmondson Symphony; a tour with the Cuarteto Latinoamericano in the US and Italy; recitals in New York, Philadelphia, San Francisco, Baltimore, and Salt Lake City; tours of Italy and Spain; and he will appear in the guitar festivals of Koblenz, Germany; Bergen, Norway; Pozan, Poland; and Cordoba, Spain.

Manuel Barrueco has appeared on a wide array of television programs including "CBS Sunday Morning", A&E's "Breakfast with the Arts", and "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" on PBS. He was featured in a Lexus car commercial, and his work in music inspired Michael Lawrence's biographical documentary: "Manuel Barrueco: A Gift and a Life" which has been aired by PBS stations around the United States. Barrueco's performances have been broadcast by television stations around the world such as NHK in Japan, Bayerische Rundfunk in Germany, and RTVE in Spain.

Barrueco's recording catalogue includes over a dozen recordings for the EMI label. His recording of Joaquín Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez* with conductor and tenor Plácido Domingo and the Philharmonia Orchestra was cited as the best recording of that piece in *Classic CD Magazine*. His Koch Classics release, *Concierto Barroco*, with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia and conductor Víctor Pablo Pérez, received a Latin Grammy nomination for "Best Classical Recording." His early recordings, available on VOX, have become a classic amongst guitar recordings.

In 2007 Manuel Barrueco received a Grammy nomination for the “Best Instrumental Soloist Performance” for his *Solo Piazzolla*, which was the first recording to be released on the exclusive *Manuel Barrueco Collection* on Tonar Music. *Tango Sensations* and *Sounds of the Americas* came out subsequently in collaboration with the Cuarteto Latinoamericano. Just released is *Virtuoso Guitar Duos*, which includes the most breathtaking guitar duos from the Spanish and Latin-American repertoire.

For more information please visit <http://www.barrueco.com>

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Discography

VIRTUOSO GUITAR DUOS Tonar 90801 (2009)

With Franco Platino

Music of Ibert, Falla, Granados, Albeniz, Rodrigo, Piazzolla and Assad for two guitars.

SOUNDS OF THE AMERICAS Tonar 81201 (2008)

With Cuarteto Latinoamericano

Music of Aaron Kernis, Michael Daugherty, Gabriela Lena Frank and Roberto Sierra for guitar and string quartet. Daugherty and Frank are world premiere recordings.

TANGO SENSATIONS Tonar 80215 (2008)

With Cuarteto Latinoamericano

Music of Guastavino and Piazzolla for guitar and string quartet.

SOLO PIAZZOLLA (GRAMMY NOMINATION: Best Instrumental Soloist Performance)

Tonar 70715 (2007)

Music of Astor Piazzolla for solo guitar.

CONCIERTO BARROCO (LATIN GRAMMY NOMINATION: Best Classical Recording)

Koch Classics KIC-7497-8 (EMI 5-57786-2 in Europe) (2005)

Guitar concertos by Roberto Sierra, Arvo Pärt and Antonio Vivaldi,
Orquesta Sinfónica de Galicia, Víctor Pablo Pérez cond.

NYLON & STEEL

Guest Artists: Al Di Meola, Steve Morse and Andy Summers.

Angel/EMI CDC 56941 (2001)

¡CUBA!

Angel/EMI CDC 56757 (1999)

CANTOS Y DANZAS

Guest Artists: Barbara Hendricks, soprano and Emmanuel Pahud, flute.

Angel/EMI CDC 56578 (1998)

RODRIGO: MANUEL BARRUECO PLACIDO DOMINGO

Angel/EMI CDC 56175 (1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO: J. S. BACH SONATAS Arr. Barrueco

Angel/EMI CDC 56416 (1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS LENNON & McARTNEY

Angel/EMI CDC 55228 (1995)

PORTRAIT From Bach to Lennon/McCartney

Angel/EMI CDC 55315 (1994)

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Discography cont.

SOMETIME AGO

Compositions by Chick Corea, Keith Jarrett, Paul Simon and Lou Harrison
Angel/EMI CDC 55039 (1994)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS GRANADOS & FALLA

Angel/EMI CDC 54456 (1993/1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS ALBÉNIZ & TURINA

Angel/EMI CDC 66574 (1992/1997)

ANNIE LAURIE

The King's Singers and Manuel Barrueco guitar.
Angel/EMI CDC 54904 (1991)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS BACH & DE VISÉE

Angel/EMI CDC 66575 (1990/1997)

MOZART: DUETS FOR FLUTE AND GUITAR

Manuel Barrueco guitar and Ransom Wilson flute
Angel/EMI CDC 54102 (1990)

JOHANN STRAUSS II, AN DER SCHÖNEN BLAUEN DONAU

With The King's Singers and Friends
Angel/EMI CDC 54057 (1990)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS BROUWER, VILLA-LOBOS & ORBÓN

Angel/EMI CDC 66576 (1989/1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS MOZART & SOR

Angel/EMI CDC 66578 (1988/1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO PLAYS DE FALLA, PONCE, RODRIGO

Angel/EMI CDC 66577 (1987/1997)

MANUEL BARRUECO: 300 YEARS OF GUITAR MASTERPIECES (3 CD SET)
VOX BOX 3 CD3X 3007 (1991)

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Concert Reviews:

"Manuel Barrueco's guitar recital at Alice Tully Hall was the work not just of a guitarist, but of a superior musician."

New York Times

"A major artist with remarkable musicianship and a world of technique... simply and consistently - - awesome."

Los Angeles Times

"An elegant musician and aristocrat of the guitar ..."

Dallas Times Herald

"Even at his showiest, Barrueco remained ... a musician of utter taste and intelligence."

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

"Barrueco is rare among guitarist for the excitement and the wealth of color he instills in the music he performs. The range of temperament and shading is so varied as to give each work on his program a distinctive sound, a fresh aura."

Milwaukee Journal

"He is a superb instrumentalist with a seductive sound and uncommon lyrical gifts."

Dallas Morning News

"Listening to the Suite No. 2 of Bach, in which the expressive security was translated into melodic passages of clear perfection, one thought spontaneously of the great interpreters, like Wanda Landowska."

Il Tempo, Rome, Italy

"With his conscientious obedience to the intentions of the composers, his spotless technical virtuosity, his sensitive use of the possibilities of differentiation of sonorous colors, Barrueco introduced himself as the undisputed crown prince of the present guitar dynasty.:"

Courant, The Hague

"Even more impressive than the overwhelming technique is Barrueco's musicality. This evening of solo playing overflowed with subtleties and conveyed an encounter with an extraordinarily cultivated musician."

Stuttgarter Zeitung,
Germany

"The results, it's safe to say, were magical."

Los Angeles Times

"The guitar is an instrument that is cradled in the arms next to the heart. When Barrueco plays, it speaks to the heart."

Baltimore Sun

"Somewhere from the heavens, Segovia was surely smiling down."

The Palm Beach Post

"...a warmth and a singing quality that would undoubtedly have made Segovia smile."

The New York Times

"Manuel Barrueco... gave a superbly polished recital at the 92d Street Y. ... Mr. Barrueco's recital was a picture of stylistic breadth."

The New York Times

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Recording Reviews:

"Manuel Barrueco is one of the best classical guitarist on the planet...
Barrueco's readings [of Albéniz & Turina] set new standards for musicianship..."
Audio

"[On Albéniz & Turina] Another artistic triumph from the great Cuban guitarist."
American Record Guide

"This disc, [Bach & de Visée] with Barrueco's Albéniz and Villa-Lobos discs, together demonstrate mastery of many different aspects of the guitar; a triptych of excellence that is surely without precedent."
Classical Guitar Magazine

"[Granados & de Falla] Manuel Barrueco consistently produces some of the most gorgeous guitar recordings available today."
Soundboard

"[on Sometime Ago] ...the best-sounding guitar records of any major artist."
American Record Guide

"...the rightness of these interpretations [Chick Corea and Keith Jarrett from Sometime Ago] is attributable to Barrueco's phenomenal technique."
Acoustic Guitar

"[on Granados & Falla] ...invaluable, a national treasure... Another year for Barrueco and another year's best."
American Record Guide

"[On the Bach Violin Sonatas] We have come to expect superb performances from Barrueco and in these works we get them. These are performances of dignity and distinction"
Gramophone

"[on the Rodrigo CD] The four songs [Plácido Domingo] sings with Barrueco's accompaniment are really gorgeous."
Fanfare Magazine

"[on the Rodrigo CD] This is a virtually ideal Rodrigo disc."
Classic CD Magazine

“[On *Cantos y Danzas*] ...this is a superb recording, one to be acquired and treasured.”
Gramophone

“[On *Cantos y Danzas*] This singularly attractive CD by one of EMI’s superstars actually lives up to its promise, for Cuban-born guitarist Manuel Barrueco is a magnificent technician with comparable artistic abilities.”

Fanfare Magazine

“Manuel Barrueco’s new version [of the *Concierto de Aranjuez*] is the best.”
Classic CD

“[On *¡Cuba!*] ...Five Stars ***** ...It is an extraordinary musical achievement.”
San Francisco Chronicle