

# Alba Ventura (piano)



Born in Barcelona, Alba Ventura studied with Carlota Garriga at the Marshall Academy, where she also received masterclasses from Alicia de Larrocha. At the age of eleven she received a scholarship to study with Dimitri Bashkirov at the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía, and at thirteen she made her debut as a concert soloist performing Mozart's piano concerto K271 with the Cadaques Orchestra under Sir Neville Marriner, in San Sebastian and at the Auditorio Nacional de Madrid.

Following an audition with Vladimir Ashkenazy in Berlin, she was offered his tutorship and he arranged for her to study with Irina Zaritskaya at the Purcell School in London and later at the Royal College of Music. She received further masterclasses from Nikita Magalof, Maria Joao Pires and Radu Lupu. Alba was selected for representation by the Young Classical Artists Trust (YCAT) in 1998.

Alba Ventura has performed at major concert halls throughout Europe, such as the Wigmore Hall, the Barbican and St Martin-in-the-Fields in London, the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam, the Musikverein in Vienna, the Cité de la Musique in Paris, the Laeiszhalle in Hamburg, the Bozar in Brussels and the Konserthuset in Stockholm, as well as the most important Spanish concert halls, the Auditorio Mario Laserna in Bogotá and the Auckland Town Hall, New Zealand.

She has collaborated with conductors such as Giovanni Antonini, Miguel Harth-Bedoya, Christopher Hogwood, Salvador Mas, Eiji Oue, Antoni Ros Marbà and Tamas Vásary, and she has performed with prestigious orchestras and chamber ensembles such as the Philharmonia Orchestra, the Hallé Orchestra, the Hungarian Philharmonic Orchestra, the Czech National Symphonic Orchestra, as well as the main Spanish orchestras and the Brodsky, Takacs and Casals quartets.

In the 2009-10 season Alba was selected as the only solo pianist for the "Rising Stars" programme promoted by the European Concert Hall Association (ECHO). She has also been awarded the IMPULSA prize by the Fundación Príncipe de Girona. Her most recent recording is a programme of Rachmaninoff's work, which has been extremely well received. Alba Ventura has just completed recording her new disc - this time recording music by Albéniz, performed on the composer's own piano which is kept at the "Museu de la Música" in Barcelona.

Alba Ventura combines her career as a concert soloist with her teaching activity. Alba is a teacher at the Conservatorio Superior de Música del Liceo and collaborates with the famous Brazilian pianist Luiz de Moura in the Liceo's Summer School.