

**FEDERICO RUIZ** was born in Caracas in 1948, eventually graduating with a Masters in Composition from the Escuela Superior de Música José Angel Lamas. His vast musical output ranges from electronic music to orchestral, choral, chamber music, and lieder. He has written two operas *Los Martirios de Colón* and *La Mujer de Espaldas*, and concertos for trumpet, guitar, and two for piano. Ruiz has been awarded many national and international prizes including the Aniversario de la Universidad Simón Bolívar (1976), Premio Nacional de Composición José Angel Lamas for large symphonic works (1981), the Premio Teatral ‘Juana Sujo’ (1990), and the ‘Premio María Teresa Castillo’ (1991) for film and theatre music.

Federico Ruiz finds constant inspiration in the rich popular and folkloric music of his country, the very thing that first attracted Clara to his compositions. They first met in 1993 and she became acquainted not only with his music, but, through it, discovered the precision and the soft expressiveness of each of the numerous rhythms of Latin America and the Caribbean. His music is a sophisticated synthesis of Latin American styles that, amongst many other traits, expresses the subtle interface between ‘classical’ and ‘popular’ music of the continent.

*“There is humour, infectious rhythms and great charm to these pieces”* — INTERNATIONAL PIANO

**CLARA RODRIGUEZ** is often described as an Ambassador of Latin-American piano music, recognising the great number of concerts she has given, and CDs, where this music features prominently. Born in Caracas, Clara studied there with Giomar Narváez and with Phyllis Sellick after winning a scholarship from the Venezuelan Arts Council to train in London at the Royal College of Music. At the age of sixteen she made her debut playing Mozart’s last piano concerto with the Simón Bolívar Orchestra under the baton of José Antonio Abreu which was the starting point of her international career as a concert pianist.



Her discography includes CDs of the piano music of Venezuelan composers Moises Moleiro (Nimbus NI6104), Teresa Carreño (Nimbus NI6103), VENEZUELA (Nimbus NI 6122) receiving glowing reviews from international publications such as Gramophone Magazine:

*‘Clara Rodriguez makes the most of her innate feel for the exuberant and languorous, dispatching the toe-tapping cross-rhythms with panache and a light touch. This is a treasure chest from which to cherry-pick.’*

She regularly plays in London’s Wigmore Hall, Southbank Centre, St. John’s Smith Square, St. Martin in-the-Fields, and at Barbican Centre. Clara Rodriguez teaches the piano at the Junior Department of The Royal College of Music, London.

Clara has recorded these pieces on CD: *The Music of Federico Ruiz* – on Nimbus Alliance Records (Catalogue № NI6179). № 10 ***The little Peruvian girl*** is featured by the Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music in their Grade 4 piano exam pieces 2013 & 2014.