

# RACHID BERNAL

## BIOGRAPHY



Rachid Bernal graduated with Honorable Mention from the "Life and Movement" School of the Ollin Yoliztli Cultural Center in Mexico City. He subsequently attended special courses in Vienna, Austria.

His piano studies have been tutored by the Spanish pianist Joaquin Achúcarro at the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas, Manuel Pérez Dávila and Camelia Goila in his native Mexico.

He has participated in master classes with artists such as Jorge Federico Osorio, Anatoly Zatin, Josef Olechowsky, Alessio Bax, Enrique Bátiz, Horacio Nuguid and Ian Hobson.

Since his debut as soloist at the age of 16 with the Querétaro Philharmonic under the baton of José Guadalupe Flores, Rachid has performed in recitals in Mexico, Canada, the United States, Guatemala, Spain and Austria, mainly at the "Young Artist World Piano Festival" in Minnesota, Smith Memorial Hall of the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Mountain View Performance Hall in Dallas (Texas), Corpus Christi Performing Arts Center, "Bravissimo" International Festival, "En Blanco y Negro" International Piano Festival and as a soloist with the Irving Symphony Orchestra in Texas conducted by Héctor Guzmán. He is an active soloist of the principal Orchestras of Mexico such as the Mexico City Philharmonic, Chamber Orchestra of Fine Arts, National Symphony Orchestra of Mexico, the Symphony Orchestras of Xalapa, Querétaro, Aguascalientes, Zacatecas, National Polytechnic Institute, Autonomous University of the State of Hidalgo and Juvenil Eduardo Mata from UNAM, to mention a few, working with renowned conductors such as Enrique Diemecke, Lanfranco Marcelletti, José Areán, Eduardo Strausser, Enrique Barrios and Ludwig Carrasco, among others.

The year 2022 was one of intense activity for Rachid. In May he offered four solo concerts on consecutive days with two different orchestras: the National Symphony of Mexico and the National Polytechnic Institute Symphony; in July he was invited to be part of the jury of the "Laszlo Frater" Competition at the Conservatory of Music of the State of Mexico; in August he presented a recital in the piano cycle of PALCCO (Zapopan, Jalisco) and in September he appeared in Guatemala for the second time with a recital, as soloist with orchestra and offering master classes at the Juan Bautista Gutiérrez Theater as part of the Festival International "Bravissimo". He recently joined the faculty of the Conservatory of

Music of the State of Mexico and has been invited to play as a soloist with the Madison Symphony (Wisconsin, United States).

Rachid Bernal has received various national and international awards and distinctions: he was the winner of the Piano Concerto Competition at the “Young Artist World Piano Festival” in Minnesota, for which he obtained a contract to play as soloist with an orchestra; Second place in the IX International Piano Biennial "Formal Classical Music" in the City of Mexicali, Baja California; the “Special Award” from the 68<sup>th</sup> Wideman International Piano Competition in Shreveport, Louisiana; and most recently he was the winner of the First Prize of the IX National Piano Competition “Angélica Morales-Yamaha” in Mexico, of which he obtained the Third Prize in its previous edition.

Since 2019 Rachid Bernal is a member of the Joaquín Achúcarro Foundation.

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