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Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja



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Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja-BIOGRAPHY

Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja are a paragon of artistic personality in the world of classical music and one of the most renowned European piano duos.

Acclaimed by both public and critics alike as two musicians with a great power of communication and an undeniable capacity of moving to tears, the duo exhibits also **aspectacular synchronisation and a very rare mutual understanding**. Sure & brilliant technique, passion, enviable quality of sound, majesty in the touch or infinite elegance and sensitivity are among the most frequent acclaims the duo has received.

Due to their love, passion and profound knowledge of all classical music genres, Carles & Sofia have developed a **unique style** in the interpretation of the repertoire for four hands, with a full range of orchestral colours, a very natural, human and elegant phrasing and an impressive singing tone, together with a deep sense of style and harmonic consciousness.

Being a duo since 1987, their international career has led them to appear in famous venues like **Carnegie Hall (New York), Kolarac Memorial Hall (Belgrade) or Teatro Solís (Montevideo)**. They regularly perform in world capitals such as Paris, London, Madrid, Brussels, Rome, Barcelona, Milan, Prague, Belgrade, Tokyo, Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai, St. Petersburg, Moscow or Buenos Aires in recital for four hands or with orchestras including **London City Chamber Orchestra, Orquestra Simfònica de Sao Paulo, Orchestre de Chambre du Namurois, Tokio Chamber Orchestra, Malaysia Philharmonic Orchestra and Hermitage State Orchestra**.

Both born in Girona (Catalonia, Spain) and having showed an exceptional musical talent early on, they graduated in Barcelona and continued their musical training, first in the Ecole Normale in Paris, then at Hartt School of Music (University of Hartford, USA). The two professors who had the greatest influence are the Russian pianist Nina Svetlanova and the Brazilian pianist Luiz de Moura Castro.

Their repertoire ranges from Bach to XX1st century and includes all major works for piano four hands together with the most brilliant and demanding orchestral transcriptions. They also have developed a very close relationship with many contemporary composers, like **John Carmichael or Daniel Basomba**, who after listening to the duo have created works especially for them.

Acclaimed recording artists of **KNS-classical label**, Carles & Sofia's discography includes Schubert's Fantasy in F Minor, Brahms'Waltzes Op. 39, Rachmaninov's Suite Op. 11 or the complete works for four hands by Australian composer John Carmichael.

Beyond their busy schedule, Carles & Sofia have the drive and capacity to be involved in different projects for promoting and spreading classical music and classical artists, having founded and developed different series of concerts and festivals, along with TV projects.

As a part of their passion for education, they have been invited to lecture and teach Master Classes in many different European and Asian countries, including **Italy, Greece, Germany, France, China, Japan and Singapore.**

Carles and Sofia have always been committed to helping with social needs. In 2001, her Royal Highness Margarita de Bourbon presented to them an **honorary distinction from UNICEF**, in recognition of their humanitarian efforts.

More information about the artists can be obtained on [Price Rubin](#) or on the artists [website](#)

Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja-Reviews

Poetry that reaches the heart ...As precise as synchronized swimmers, down to the last detail

Sindelfingen

From the first note, there was an absolute blend and a perfect rapport in each of the concert's passages...The pieces sounded as if they were played by one set of hands, as if they were from a single mould. Fantastic!

Cottbuser Kultur

Duo with a rare and spectacular synchronisation ...They make a show of a beautiful quality of sound and of a rich variety of colours ...Their technical qualities shine in the service of a truly great power to communicate and a capacity for expression

Scherzo Magazine

Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja are not two pianists playing on one piano; they are only one performer, one head, one sound, one synchronization, one phrasing, one poetry... They have a total mutual understanding, on the rhythm, on the spirit

Cronache Salerno

Their musicianship is never in doubt, and there is a unity in thought and spirit that drives the music forward...This is a totally musical reading, one that comes with the chemistry of years working together

Inkpot, Singapore

A perfectly mixed and balanced sound...all magnificently adjusted...A very well interpreted beautiful piece...A dynamic and poetic trajectory that ended in a vortex...Far removed from the typical exaggerated Spanish folklore of deep Spain, with heart and soul.

Est Républicain

The duo is surprising for their sense of ensemble (two pianists that sound wise seem to be one), their joviality and their deep and up-to-date reading of each work ... The duo's achievements and versatility are dazzling

klassicaa.com

Their Schubert is elegant and refined...The waltzes by Brahms present some complexities of expression which Lama and Cabruja resolve with the greatest elegance...Their Brahms possesses a renowned symphonic sound, a majesty evident in the touch

CD Compact

Security, unity and pulchritude in the individual execution which is magnified when the two of them are found together... the duet soundly reaffirmed their unbeatable interpretive brilliance.

Punt Diari

... This young pair of pianists showed their impeccable interpretive performance... Some of the keys to the great job performed by Lama and Cabruja can be found not only in a mutual sensitivity that borders on perfection, but also in their sharp, precise and refined technique which is expressed in its most pure state. Lama and Cabruja create a splendid melodic and harmonic setting with three of the Slavic dances by the Czech composer Antonin Dvorák.

Diario Levante

Carles Lama and Sofia Cabruja complement each other admirably and form a duet of pianists that interpret the repertoire of piano for four hands with infinite elegance and sensitivity. They are very sure of their technique, which makes it possible for them to give themselves totally to the interpretation without worrying about the difficulties of the score... The musicians knew how to give this admirable piece of music, "The Fantasy in F Minor" by Schubert, which causes both tears and smiles, a palpable intensity with moving passages... the two dances by Falla swept the spectators up into a flaming whirlwind...

Vers l'avenir

What these two Catalans allow one to hear sounds as a whole

Bürgerhaus Súd

A brilliant arrangement of the Two Dances from La vida breve by Manuel de Falla... truly the best of the evening: brilliantly vital, rhythmically elegant, with detailed agogics, colourful, virtuoso and a triumphant atmosphere of sound

Rhein-Neckar-Zeitung

A completely balanced version, with veritably delicious moments

Punt Diari

Carles Lama and Sofia Cabruja played surprisingly precisely everything that was written... However, precision is just one of the aspects the duo showed. Even more interesting is the combined presentation of the work, one playing above the other and how one would react with the other at certain moments, the combined movement of the two was in short: artistic chemistry

Saale Zeitung

The special chemistry that the four-hand interpretations of the duet of pianists Carles Lama and Sofia Cabruja is undeniable... The Fantasia en F minor is found matured in their hands and has a sound fully enveloped in Schubert's elegant and seductive ambiance... The variations on Brahms are brought about with a rich treatment of sound and with an always-solid second piano that supplies a resonance suitable for the character of each variation and that continually helps the cantabiles of the first piano...The CD contains some priceless Slavic Dances by Dvorák... Lama and Cabruja offer us a surprising Dance op. 72 No. 2, with a well-achieved lyricism.

Revista de Girona

The lead of this recording, by the record company KNS classical, is played by the duet made up by Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja playing piano for four hands... The interpretation by the pianists is kind and delicate and always respects the laws of artistic and musical sensitivity. It offers us truly graceful moments

La Porta Clàssica

Immediately demonstrating an irreproachable understanding, they have demonstrated noteworthy gifts of expression

L'Ecco di Bergamo

The temperament, the ease and gusto for life were clearly heard ...

Freiberg

Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja- Piano Duo

Repertoire

ACEVES, Rafael

Impressions d'Espagne

ALBÉNIZ, Isaac

Pavana-Capricho

Cádiz

Sevilla

Aragón

Castilla

BACH, Johann Sebastian

Choral from Cantata BWV 147

Choral from Cantata BWV 29

Coro from Cantata BWV 29

Simfonia from Cantata BWV 29

Suite for Orchestra n. 3

BASOMBA, Daniel

Don Quijote*

Three Studies for four hands*

TNT*

Los secretos del búho

BEETHOVEN, Ludwig van

“Waldstein” Variations

Sonata in D Major op.6

Symphony in F Major, op. 68, “Pastoral”

BIZET, Georges

Jeux d'Enfants op. 22

BORODIN, Alexander

Three pieces for four hands

BRAHMS, Johannes

16 Waltzes op.39
Liebeslieder Waltzes op. 42
Neue Liebeslieder Waltzes op. 65
21 Hungarian Dances
Variations on a Schumann's theme
Variations on a Haydn's theme
Souvenirs de la Russie
Symphony n.1 in C Minor, op. 68
Symphony n. 3 in F Major, op. 90

CARMICHAEL, John

Latin American Suite*
Puppet Show
Bravura Waltzes*
Dark scenarios
Tourbillon
Homages*

CHOVEAUX, Françoise

Sonatine

COPLAND, Aaron

Variations on a shaker theme

DEBUSSY, Claude

Petite Suite
La Mer
Prélude à l'après-midi d'un faune
Six Épigraphes Antiques
Pelléas et Mélisande
Iberia

DONIZETTI, Gaetano

Sonata in E-flat Major
Sonata in D Major
Sonata in A Major

DUKAS, Paul

L'apprenti sorcier

DVÓRAK, Antonin

Slavonic Dances op. 46
Slavonic Dances op. 72
Legends op. 59
Symphony n. 9 "From the New World"

FALLA, Manuel de

Two Dances from “La vida breve”
Ritual Fire Dance from “El amor brujo”

FAURÉ, Gabriel

Dolly

GLINKA, Mikhail

Capriccio on Russian themes

GRIEG, Edvard

Norwegian Dances op. 35
Peer Gynt, Suite n. 1 op. 46
Peer Gynt, Suite n. 2 op. 55

GUASTAVINO, Carlos

Romance del Plata

HINDEMITH, Paul

8 Waltzes op.6
Sonata

LECUONA, Ernesto

“Malagueña”

LISZT, Franz

Preludes
Orfeo
Prometheus
Mazeppa (Symphonic Poem)

MAHLER, Gustav

Symphony n. 5

MARTÍ, Jordi*

Fantasia romántica
Danza Española

MENDELSSOHN, Felix

Andante and Allegro brillante op. 92
Octet in E-flat Major, op. 20

MONTSALVATGE, Xavier

Tres Divertimentos

MOSZKOWSKI, Moritz

Spanish Dances op. 12

New Spanish Dances op. 65

MOZART, Wolfgang Amadeus

Sonata in D Major K. 381

Sonata in Bb Major K 358

Sonata in F Major K 497

Sonata in G Major K357

Sonata in C Major K52

Eine Kleine Nachtmusik

MUSSORGSKI, Modest

Sonata

ORFF, Carl

Carmina Burana

POULENC, Francis

Sonata for four hands

PROKOFIEV, Sergei

Peter and the Wolf

RACHMANINOFF, Sergei

6 pieces op. 11

Symphony n. 2 in E Minor, op. 27

RAVEL, Maurice

Ma Mère l'Oye

La Valse

Rapsodie Espagnole

RESPIGHI, Ottorino

Six little pieces

Pini di Roma

RIMSKY-KORSAKOV, Nikolai

Scherezade

ROSSINI, Gioacchino

Overture from "Il Barbiere di Siviglia"

Overture from "La Gazza ladra"

Overture from "L'italiana in Alghieri"

SAINT-SAËNS, Camille

Carnaval des Animaux

Danse Macabre

SATIE, Eric

La Belle Excentrique

SCHUBERT, Franz

Fantasie in F Minor op. 103

Four Polonaises D. 599

Sonata in C Major op. 140

Sonata in Bb Major op. 30

Variations on an original theme op. 35

8 Variations on a French song op. 10

SCHUMANN, Robert

Sonata in C Major op. 140

Sonata in Bb Major op. 30

Variations on an original theme op. 35

8 Variations on a French song op. 10

SHOSTAKOVICH, Dmitri

Symphony nº 1, op.10

STRAUSS, Richard

A Hero's Life

STRAWINSKY, Igor

Petroushka

TCHAIKOVSKY, Pyotr Illych

The Nutcracker

The Sleeping Beauty

TURINA, Joaquín

La procesión del Rocío

Carles Lama & Sofia Cabruja- Piano Duo & Orchestra Repertoire

ONE PIANO-FOUR HANDS AND ORCHESTRA

CARMICHAEL, John

“Concierto Folklorico” for four hands and string orchestra

CHOVEAUX, Françoise

*Concerto Catalan for piano four hands and orchestra

McINTOSH, Thomas

*Concerto for piano four hands and orchestra

TWO (AND MORE) PIANOS AND ORCHESTRA

BACH, Johann Sebastian

Concerto for two pianos in C Minor BWV 1060

Concerto for two pianos in C Major BWV 1061

Concerto for two pianos in C Minor BWV 1062

Concerto for three pianos in D Minor BWV 1063

Concerto for three pianos in C Major BWV 1064

Concerto for four pianos in A Minor BWV 1065

MOZART, Wolfgang Amadeus

Concerto for two pianos KV 365

POULENC, Francis

Concerto in D Minor for two pianos

* These pieces have been dedicated to Carles and Sofia.

SPANISH PROGRAMS

SPANISH SERENADE

THREE NEW SPANISH DANCES
Moritz Moszkowski

SYMPHONIC POEM "DON QUIJOTE"
Daniel Basomba

CÁDIZ
SEVILLA
ARAGÓN
CASTILLA
Isaac Albéniz

TWO DANCES FROM "LA VIDA BREVE"
Manuel de Falla

COLOURS OF SPAIN

SYMPHONIC POEM "DON QUIJOTE"
Daniel Basomba

THREE DIVERTIMENTOS
Xavier Montsalvatge

THREE STUDIES
Daniel Basomba

CÁDIZ
SEVILLA
ARAGÓN
CASTILLA
Isaac Albéniz

TWO DANCES FROM "LA VIDA BREVE"
Manuel de Falla