



BIOGRAPHY

"(...) you need to be with him, work with him, you need to feel his way of feeling music to understand the great human being that he is; amazing conductor, amazing person."

Cristiano Silva, Artistic Director National Youth Orchestra Portugal

"Musicality is obviously in his veins; a young conductor to look out for!"

José González Granero, Principal Clarinet San Francisco Opera

Pablo Urbina (b.1988, Vitoria- Gasteiz), is a young Spanish conductor graduate from the **Royal College of Music London**, 2018 nominee for the **Nestlé & Salzburg Young Conductors Award** and semifinalist of the 2017 **Maestro Solti International Conducting Competition**. Since 2019 he is the Principal Conductor of Orchestra Vitae London and serves as guest and assistant conductor of the Balearic Symphony Orchestra (Spain), helping Maestro Pablo Mielgo with this orchestra as well as the **Symphony of the Americas**. From 2013 to 2020 Pablo was the Music Director of the London City Orchestra, in 2019 he was Associate Conductor at the Al Bustan Festival in Lebanon and from 2017 to 2019 he served as Associate Conductor of the Suoni dal Golfo Music Festival in Lerici, Italy. In his goal to use classical music as a vehicle for social change, he is an **Ambassador** of the UK charity **The Amber Trust**.

Pablo has conducted orchestras that include the Balearic Symphony Orchestra, City Chamber Orchestra of Hong Kong, Malaga Philharmonic Orchestra, Navarra Symphony Orchestra, Tunisian National Symphony, Orquestra Classica de Madeira (Portugal), National Youth Orchestra of Portugal, Malaga Symphony Orchestra, Savaria Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra Vitae London, Grand Philharmonic Orchestra London, Navarra Chamber Opera and the Royal College of Music Student's Film Orchestra (which he co-founded). He has worked with acclaimed musicians such as **Leo Nucci** (assisting The Hallé Orchestra), **Vladimir Jurowski**, **Cecilia Bartoli**, **Juan Diego Flórez**, **John Williams**, and Randy Newman, and has assisted conductors that include **Bernard Haitink**, **Leonard Slatkin**, **Pablo Mielgo**, **Jonathan Cohen** and **Gianluca Marcianò**. 2019 saw Urbina's debut at the Queen Elizabeth Hall of London. Upcoming engagements include his debut with the **Spanish Radio and Television Orchestra**.

Pablo is very committed to music education and outreach, developing extensive research on the future of classical music through children as well as music and mindfulness. From 2019 he is an **Ambassador** for the **Amber Trust** Foundation, helping blind and partially sighted children to pursue their passion for music. He has also worked in outreach with

organisations including the **Royal Opera House Covent Garden**, RCM Sparks, **Wigmore Hall Foundation**, **BBC Proms** and the Tri-Borough Music Hub. An advocate for charitable causes through music, he has helped organisations including Sue Ryder, Cure Parkinson's Trust, Mr. Holland's Opus, Great Ormond Street Hospital, The Wellness Community and Tenovus Cancer Care. Urbina has also studied the music of composer Michael Kamen, extensively, and serves as adviser to his Estate to help preserving and promoting his musical legacy worldwide.

With an equal passion for the operatic world, in 2016 Pablo gave the Spanish premiere of Karl Jenkins opera *Eloise* with Chamber Opera of Navarra, and has worked in productions of Don Giovanni, La Traviata and Carmen. Urbina has also participated in masterclasses with renowned conductors such as Jorma Panula, Cristi Macelaru & Leonard Slatkin (Cabrillo Music Festival of Contemporary Music), Colin Metters, Wilson Hermanto, Howard Williams (Bartok Seminar in Hungary) or Jing Wang to name a few.

Pablo Urbina grew up in Pamplona, where he began playing the French horn at the age of eight with his **mentor Julian Cano** and **Koldo Pastor**. He went on to study horn and conducting as scholar at the Thornton School of Music (Los Angeles, USA), with **mentor Kristy Morrell**. He graduated *summa cum laude*, awarded the USC Order of Troy and Vince DeRosa Outstanding Hornist awards. In 2014 Pablo finished a Master of Music at the Royal College of Music London as a Jane Barker and Michael Quinn Scholar. His main conducting teachers and mentors have included **Peter Stark, John Wilson, Pablo Mielgo, Michael Seal and Howard Williams**.



www.pablourbina.com