

PREGONES PRTT

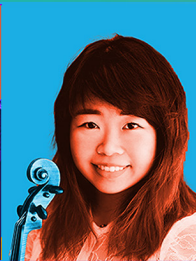
Rosalba Rolón, Artistic Director
Alvan Colón Lespier, Jorge B. Merced,
Associate Artistic Directors
Arnaldo J. López, Ph.D., Managing Director
PRESENTS

MARCH ISMUSIC 2022

MARCH 4-27, 2022 at 575 Walton Ave, Bronx

9 IN-PERSON CONCERTS - FREE, \$15 and \$5

Dedicated in memory of HÉCTOR 'TITO' MATOS



Production Manager
Stage Manager/Board Op
Sound Engineer
Sound Technician
Graphics & Artwork
Livestream Producer
Series Curator

JESSICA MOYA
EDUARDO RESENDIZ
MILTON RUIZ
WILL SALWEN
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JORGE B. MERCED
ALVAN COLÓN LESPIER

PregonesPRTT.org | 718-585-1202

5 FREE & 4 LOW-PRICED CONCERTS!

MARCH 4 **VIVA LA MÚSICA** feat.
Tim Ries & Desmar Guevara *Jazz & Fusión*

MARCH 6 **NELSON OJEDA & Friends** *Classical*

MARCH 12 **ANGÉLICA NEGRÓN** with
BRONX ARTS ENSEMBLE *New Music*

MARCH 13 **SARAH TUAN** *Classical*

MARCH 18 **PLENA SENTADA**
for Héctor "Tito" Matos *Afro Puerto Rican*

MARCH 19 **RICARDO PONS** *Tropical Jazz*

MARCH 20 **GABRIELLE CHOU** *Classical*

MARCH 26 **JARANA BEAT** *Mexican-Afroamerindian*

MARCH 27 **ENRIQUETA SOMARRIBA** *Classical*

MARCH IS MUSIC



Photo by Marisol Díaz

WELCOME!

2022 marks the 16th anniversary of March is Music at Pregones Theater in The Bronx. Throughout its run we have been able to present musical talent of the highest caliber covering a wide variety of musical genres. Since its inception our music series has aimed at broadening our understanding and enjoyment of music.

We have presented Grammy winners and nominees, contemporary classical, traditional, jazz and music from the Americas. We have welcomed seasoned players and hit makers of renown, and also made room for upstarts of phenomenal talent and promise. We like to reach far and wide for the love a music – a love that is in the blood of the artists who call Pregones/PRTT home, and in the blood of the audiences who cheer us.

This year March Is Music harbors ten spirited concerts, each and everyone one a showcase of world-class artistry and testament to the powers of the musical imagination.

We humbly dedicate this year's series to our dear friend and colleague, Héctor Tito Matos, who died just a few weeks ago. ¡Te queremos y recordaremos siempre!

Thanks for taking the leap with us, and have fun with the rhythms! Enjoy!

Alvan Colón Lespier
Associate Artistic Director
Lead Curator for March Is Music



Follow us on Social Media
#MarchIsMusic

Concert #3
**ANGÉLICA
NEGRÓN**
**+ BRONX ARTS
ENSEMBLE**



Saturday, March 12, 8PM (New Music)

Creator of the massive and triumphant *Chorus of the Forest* installation for the New York Botanical Garden, and winner of the 2022 Hermitage Greenfield Prize, composer, and multi-instrumentalist performer **Angélica Negrón** joins the also formidable **Bronx Arts Ensemble String Quartet** in a much-awaited concert program.

This MIM concert was first announced in spring 2020, proving that good things come to those who wait!

"Wistfully idiosyncratic and contemplative" (WQXR Q2). "Mesmerizing and affecting" (*Feast of Music*).

PROGRAM

Marejada
for string quartet

bubblegum grass / peppermint field
for string quartet

Angélica Negrón solo set
Sembrar

PERFORMERS

JORGE ÁVILA, violin
EVELYN PETCHER BRANDES, violin
SALLY SHUMWAY, viola
ELIANA MENDOZA, cello
ANGÉLICA NEGRÓN, composer, electronics

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

ANGÉLICA NEGRÓN (composer and performer)

Puerto Rican-born composer and multi-instrumentalist Angélica Negrón writes music for accordions, robotic instruments, toys and electronics as well as chamber ensembles and orchestras. Her music has been described as "wistfully idiosyncratic and contemplative" (WQXR/Q2) and "mesmerizing and affecting" (Feast of Music) while The New York Times noted her "capacity to surprise" and her "quirky approach to scoring". Angélica has been commissioned by the Bang on a Can All-Stars, loadbang, MATA Festival, Brooklyn Youth Chorus, Sō Percussion, the American Composers Orchestra, and the New York Botanical Garden, among others. Her music has been performed at the Kennedy Center, the Ecstatic Music Festival, EMPAC, Bang on a Can Marathon and the 2016 New York Philharmonic Biennial and her film scores have been heard numerous times at the Tribeca Film Festival. She has collaborated with artists like Sō Percussion, The Knights, Face the Music, and NOVUS NY, among others and is a founding member of the tropical electronic band Balún. Angélica holds a Master's degree in music composition from New York

COVID-19 Visitor Safety

These in-person performances are open to the general public.

Key to NYC mandates requires

ALL VISITORS

including

children over 12 years of age
to present proof of vaccination
against COVID-19

together with valid government-
issued personal identification.

**Use of face masks at all times
is also requested.**

University and pursued doctoral studies at The Graduate Center (CUNY) under the guidance of Tania León. She's a teaching artist for New York Philharmonic's Very Young Composers Program working with young learners on creative composition projects. Angélica has composed numerous film scores, including *Landfall* (2020) and *Memories of a Penitent Heart* (2016), in collaboration with filmmaker Cecilia Aldarondo. Upcoming premieres include works for the LA Philharmonic, Dallas Symphony Orchestra and National Symphony Orchestra, San Francisco Girls Chorus, and NY Philharmonic Project 19 initiative. Negrón continues to perform and compose for film.

JORGE ÁVILA (violin)

Violinist Jorge Ávila has won attention as an outstanding performer through numerous appearances as soloist, recitalist, concertmaster and chamber musician. An Artist Performer with the Bronx Arts Ensemble, Jorge has appeared as soloist with the Ridgefield Symphony, Colonial Symphony, New Amsterdam Symphony and Riverside Orchestra, and has performed as concertmaster with the Stamford Symphony, Greenwich Symphony, Oratorio Society of New York, Musica Sacra, Jose Limon Dance Company and Gotham Opera Orchestra. On Broadway he has performed in such productions as *Wicked*, *South Pacific* and *West Side Story*, and with such chamber ensembles as Simon String Quartet, Abaca String Band, Prism Ensemble and Musicians' Accord. Jorge has recorded for the Naxos, Nonesuch Records and Centaur labels.

EVELYN PETCHER BRANDES (violin)

Violinist and composer Evelyn Petcher Brandes brings a passion for innovation and community to both her performing and teaching. Her work frequently blurs the line between performance and workshop; she has performed all over the US and abroad at venues from international concert halls to community spaces like hospitals, museums, and coffee shops. She is a co-founder of Leadlights Ensemble, a community focused string quartet based in Washington Heights, and East Lake Expression Engine, an El Sistema inspired

music education program for underprivileged youth in Chattanooga, TN. Evelyn performs regularly with the Bronx Arts Ensemble and Leadlights around NYC, and has been awarded several grants from the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council for musical projects. She has served as a teaching artist for organizations such as the New York Philharmonic Very Young Composers program, the Bronx Arts Ensemble, the Little Orchestra Society, the Youth Orchestra of St. Luke's, and LEAP NYC.

SALLY SHUMWAY (viola)

Sally Shumway has been a member of the Bronx Arts Ensemble since 1991. With the BAE she has recorded music by Carlos Surinach, Robert Baksa, Meyer Kupferman, Soong Fu Yuan, Allen Brings, and Roberto Sierra. She has also played on movie soundtracks, TV jingles, Broadway soundtracks and with the American Symphony Orchestra. Ms. Shumway is a graduate of the University of Kansas and the Manhattan School of Music. She is on the faculty of The Ridgewood Conservatory and The Westchester Conservatory.

ELIANA MENDOZA (cello)

Eliana Mendoza is the principal cellist of the Bronx Arts Ensemble. She has performed extensively as soloist, chamber musician and as an orchestral player. Ms. Mendoza debuted at Carnegie Hall's Weill Recital Hall as a prize winner of the Artists International competition in 1991. She appeared as soloist in approximately 50 concerts performing the Paganini - Lloyd Weber variations in venues such as the Universal Studios Amphitheater, the Blossom Music Center and Radio City Music Hall. In addition, from Boston, she gave a solo recital broadcast live on WGBH, National Public Radio. Her reviews have read "Fire and flash...rich pathos and refreshing singularity," The Washington Post. "She is a total artist ...with fluid touch, an impassioned mood and a notable bearing," The Enterprise, Brockton, MA. She has been a long time member of the American Symphony Orchestra and the American Composers Orchestra. She has also recorded for movie soundtracks and commercials and is a member of "The Lion King" orchestra on Broadway. Born in Chile into a family of professional musi-

cians, Eliana Mendoza started her musical training at the piano, at age 3, and began studying cello at age 8. She later moved to the United States to attend college and study with the late principal cellist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, Samuel Mayes. She also studied with cello pedagogue Alan Harris at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Ms. Mendoza has recorded chamber music under labels such as New World Records, Sound Spell Productions and the Centaur Records.

**COMING UP
in Manhattan**



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A New Play by
**GABRIEL
HERNANDEZ**

Directed by
JORGE B. MERCED

April 7-17, 2022

**At The Puerto Rican Traveling Theater
304 W 47th Street, New York, NY**

Follow us on Social Media
#PregonesPRTT

Concert #4
**SARAH
TUAN**



Sunday, March 13, 4PM (FREE Bronx Piano Sunday)

Born and raised in San Jose, California, Sarah has dazzled audiences since her concert debut at age 10, including. Recognitions include the Los Angeles Liszt Competition, and the Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw.

"In a world with social standards and expectations of 'containing yourself,' it is hard to express real, raw emotion and tell a story that people can truly accept and feel," says Sarah, "that is why music is important to everyone."

PROGRAM

J.S. Bach - Toccata in E minor, BWV 914

I. Introduction - Un poco allegro

II. Adagio

III. Fuga. Allegro

E. Grieg - Lyric Pieces, Op. 12

I. Arietta

II. Vals

III. Vektersang

IV. Alfedans

V. Folkevis

VI. Norsk

VII. Albumblad

VII. Federelandssang

R. Schumann - Fantasie in C Major, Op. 17

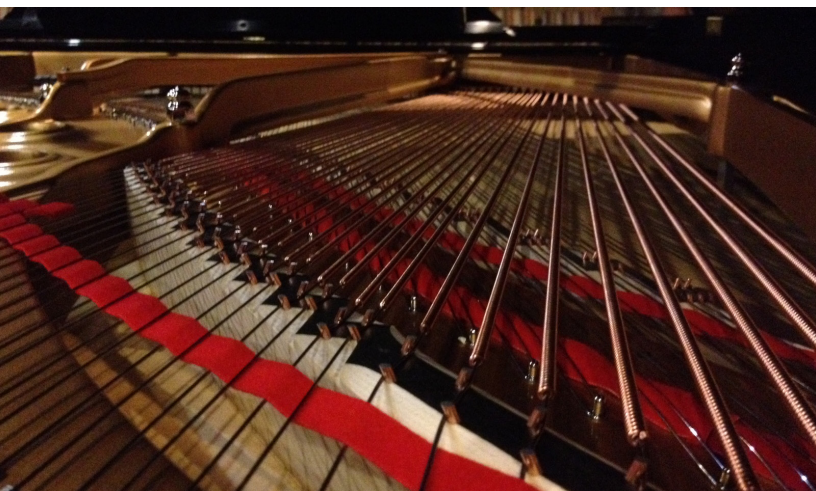
I. Durchaus fantastisch und leidenschaftlich vorzutragen; Im Legenden-Ton

II. Mäßig. Durchaus energisch

III. Langsam getragen. Durchweg leise zu halten

MORE ABOUT SARAH

Pianist Sarah Tuan is an accomplished performer and has played in many venues in the U.S., Germany, Poland, Italy and Denmark. She has appeared on NPR's "From the Top" and Philadelphia WRTI 90.1. She received scholarships to the 2016 International Chopin Piano Festival in Poland where she performed at the "World Piano Talents" concert. The same year, she was also selected to perform at the Amalfi Coast Music Festival "Rising Stars" concert in Italy. In 2018, Sarah was one of eight young pianists chosen internationally to study with Andrea Bonatta at the Piano Academy Epipan and performed throughout Italy. She was among 23 young pianists from around the world chosen for the 2019 Cliburn International Junior Piano Competition. Her other accolades include first prize in 2018 Philadelphia International Piano Competition with the best solo and concerto awards which she was invited to give solo concerts in New Jersey and Philadelphia in summer 2019; first prize and the best Paganini Etude Award in Los Angeles International Liszt Competition; first prize in Virginia Waring International Piano Competition; first prize in the San Jose International Piano Competition along with the Most Promising Young Talent Award. Sarah has also participated in masterclasses and coachings with many renowned artists most recently with Ruth Slenczynska, Gary Graffman, Dang Thai Son, Garrick Ohlsson, Christopher Elton. Most recently, Sarah was selected to compete in the XVIII Fryderyk Chopin International Piano Competition in Warsaw in October 2021. Sarah Tuan is currently studying at the Juilliard School



Master Pianist
ALFONSO FUENTES
during our 2014
concert series



Photo by Marisol Díaz

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SUNDAYS

4pm

Every Sunday In March

Special thanks to
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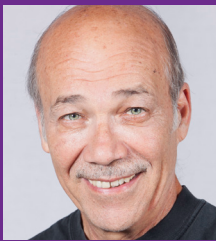
MARCH IS MUSIC LEAD PRODUCTION TEAM



MILTON RUIZ (*Sound Designer*) is an audio engineer and occasional guitarist. He earned his BA in Music Performance & Sound Recording Technology from UMass Lowell. He has been doing sound for Pregones/PRTT since 2006 where his credits include: *The Beep*, *Caravana/Migrants!*, *Fly Babies*, *Game Over*, *Aloha Boricua*, *Harlem Hellfighters*, *Dancing in My Cockroach Killers*, *Marchers*, *¡Guaracha!*, *Evolution of A Sonero*, and *We Have Iré* as well as recording and mixing the annual March Is Music concert series. He has also recorded and mixed albums for Rebio Diaz (Yuxtayacientes, HaciaContraDesde, El Septimo Diente) and Albert Marqués (Live In The South Bronx) among many others. He is currently working as audio engineer at NY Public Radio (WNYC/WQXR).



JESSICA MOYA (*Production Manager*) is a graduate of City College-City University of NY, Department of Theater. Pregones credits include: *Evolution of a Sonero*, *Quarter Rican*, *El Apagón*, *Blanco*, *Sissy*, *Betsy*, *El bolero fue mi ruina*, *Game Over*, *El ultimo rosario de Medea*, *The Beep*, *The Blackout*, *Migrants!*; *Suzan-Lori Parks' 365 Days/365 Plays*, *The Red Rose*, *Aloha Boricua*, *The Harlem Hellfighters On A Latin Beat*, *Neon Baby*, and all of Pregones Theater's Presenting productions since 2006. She is recipient of a TCG New Generations/Future Leaders Mentorship.



ALVAN COLÓN LESPIER (*Series Curator*) is seasoned stage director, playwright, and producer with 30 years of experience, and one of two Associate Artistic Directors at Pregones Theater. He is instrumental in the ongoing development of the ensemble's original repertory, multidisciplinary Presenting program, and professional facility. He curates the March Is Music series. Pregones directing credits include: *Voices of Steel*, *Fables of the Caribbean*, *La otra orilla*, *Medea's Last Rosary*, *Peccatoribus*, *Game Over*, and *The Desire of the Astronaut*.

ABOUT PREGONES/PRTT



PREGONES PRTT

PREGONES/PRTT / Pregones/Puerto Rican Traveling Theater is an award-winning acting and music ensemble, multidiscipline arts presenter, and owner/steward of bilingual arts facilities in The Bronx and Manhattan. Our mission is to champion a Puerto Rican/Latinx cultural legacy of universal value through creation and performance of original plays and musicals, exchange and partnership with other artists of merit, and engagement of diverse audiences. Our year-round programs offer attractive and affordable opportunities for arts access and participation to NYC residents and visitors alike.

Pregones was founded in 1979 when a group of artists led by Rosalba Rolón set out to create and tour new works in the style of Caribbean and Latin American colectivos or performing ensembles. Established as a South Bronx resident company soon after, Pregones remains in the vanguard of an arts renaissance radiating throughout and beyond The Bronx today.

Spurred by stage and film icon Miriam Colón, PRTT was founded in 1967 as one of the first bilingual theater companies in all the U.S. It is credited for nurturing the development of hundreds of Latinx artists, legitimating creative connections throughout the Spanish-speaking world, and pioneering models for lasting community engagement.

Following merger in 2014, Pregones/PRTT plays a decisive role in empowering diverse artists and audiences to claim their place at the front of the American theater.

PREGONES PRTT

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JORGE B. MERCED

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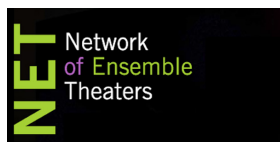
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Programs supported by public funds from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency; New York State Council on the Arts, with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the NYS Legislature, and New York State Regional Economic Development Councils; and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council. Pregones/PRTT is recipient of capital funds from the New York State Downtown Revitalization Initiative in partnership with New York State Homes and Community Renewal.

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U.S. Congress Member Ritchie Torres, NYS Assembly Member Amanda Septimo, NYS Senator José M. Serrano, Bronx Borough President Vanessa Gibson, New York City Council and Bronx Delegation Members, NYC Council Member Diana Ayala, NYC Council Member Rafael Salamanca Jr.

Special Thanks

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7PM - EVERY 1ST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

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Presented in collaboration with
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