

RAÚL PRIETO RAMÍREZ Concert Organist

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With words such as "sizzling" and "transcendent" used to describe his performances, **Raúl Prieto Ramírez** enjoys a busy global performing schedule takes him to major music festivals, churches and cathedrals, concert halls (from Russia to major venues through Europe and the U.S.), universities, and, as juror, to international competitions.

In December 2017, **Raúl Prieto Ramírez** was appointed the San Diego Civic Organist and Artistic Director of the Spreckels Organ Society, where he presides over the famed Austin organ at the city's Balboa Park Pavilion – the largest open-air musical instrument in the world. Mr. Ramírez is the eighth Civic Organist to serve San Diego on the Spreckels organ bench.

After studies in Spain, Mr. Ramírez moved to Stuttgart to study organ with Ludger Lohmann and, concurrently, piano with Leonid Sintsev at the Rimsky-Korsakov Conservatory in St. Petersburg. He also studied organ under Marie-Claire Alain, Guy Bovet, Eric Lebrun, Lionel Rogg, and Luigi Ferdinando Tagliavini. His compositions for chamber ensemble, pipe organ, and solo instruments have been broadcast throughout Spain and his concerto for organ and orchestra premiered in Barcelona. His transcriptions of Liszt's piano études and *Mephisto Waltz* and his interpretations of the music of Buxtehude, Bach, Franck, and Reger have been highly praised by audience and critics alike.

From 2013-2017, Mr. Ramírez served as organist-in-residence at Sursa Concert Hall and the professor of organ at Ball State University, Indiana. He continues as the Artistic Director and Founder of the Barcelona Summer Organ Festival and Academy. Mr. Ramírez has been widely recorded and interviewed for radio and television in several European countries and in the U.S. His first two compact discs, on the Brilliant Classics label, were recorded at Milan Cathedral in Italy (music of Franck, Liszt, Reger, and Saint-Saëns) and at the Palau de la Música Catalana in Barcelona (music for piano and organ duet). Mr. Ramírez and his wife, Spanish pianist Maria Teresa Sierra, perform frequently in concert together.

Raúl Prieto Ramírez is represented in North America exclusively by Phillip Truckenbrod Concert Artists, LLC.

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