



“Palimpsesto”

Gustavo Corrales Romero  
Piano

## A journey through Cuban music from the 19th century to date

By execution of the works in chronological order Corrales effectively achieves the transition from classical to contemporary Cuban compositions *across 200 years of music*. In fact the excursion takes us deeper than the music, since the Cuban academics have been audibly inspired for these compositions: by the rich folkloric and popular music in Cuba through the ages, heavily influenced by the Spanish and African background of the country, as well as by their daily reality; the turbulence of Cuban history from colonialism to revolution. The beauty of this program is further underlined by the fact that Corrales has had the pleasure of personally knowing and being instructed by several of the composers.

### A unique, historical musical document

*“Since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the piano has been an instrument favored by Cuban composers. This makes it possible to follow the evolution of classical music in Cuba during the course of 200 years through the repertoire for piano. The piano is the only solo instrument of which the repertoire covers all the esthetic trends that it has undergone: romantic nationalism, modern Afro-Cubanism, neo-classicism, post-Romanticism, serialism, aleatorism etc.”*

This program carries the same title as Corrales’ first CD, having been created along the same lines: music from Cuba from then to now. The title was very carefully chosen: Palimpsesto refers to parchment used and re-used in a time when writing materials were scarce. The text would be scraped off to record a new text on the same parchment. Nowadays it is possible to see the older, underlying texts with the help of ultra-violet light. A *palimpsest* therefore is a document on which several eras are reflected.