



Picture: Floor Jansen



Picture: Govert de Roos

Gustavo Corrales Romero & Ramón Valle

Two pianists. Two musical styles. One purpose:

A unique music experience: Latin American classic and jazz by two Cuban masters

Theater Camuz, Damlaan 44, Leidschendam | Thursday 7 June 2012, 20:30
€17,50 | Organisation / Information : KyG Productions, 070 363 4102, info@gustavocorralesromero.net
Tickets www.camuz.nl 070 300 0013

Classical and contemporary Latin American specialist Gustavo Corrales Romero and Ramón Valle 'The other face of Cuban jazz', both of Cuban origin, are joining forces for an evening of Latin American sounds on the piano.

Gustavo Corrales Romero [1970, Guantánamo, Cuba] has enjoyed 17 years of professional musical training in the solid tradition of the Russian school for piano since he was 7. Winning a national competition in Cuba at age 18, having concluded studies at the Escuela Nacional de Arte (ENA)¹, enabled him to study at the P.I. Tchaikovsky Conservatory in Moscow for one year. After this he returned to Cuba to complete, at the age of 24, his studies with a Master Degree in Music, specializing in Piano at the Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA)² in Havana, where he was to stay on as a professor of Piano and Chamber Music for three years, during which he completed several post-graduate studies with international guest professors.

Corrales began public performances at the age of 16. Over the years he acquired a vast amount of podium experience, participating in many national and international festivals in Cuba and South America, giving piano recitals across Cuba, in the Caribbean, and several cities in Europe.

Corrales is passionate about presenting Latin American academic music to international audiences. Performances are never the same, as this seasoned musician with a singular understanding of music is continuously expanding his repertoire and renewing his programs. For more information on Corrales and KyG Productions, see www.gustavocorralesromero.net

Ramón Valle [1964] was only seven years old when he started studying the piano at the Escuela Provincial de Arte in his home town of Holguín, Cuba. He graduated from Havana's Escuela Nacional de Arte (ENA)¹ in 1984. His exceptional talent was discovered in 1985 when he performed in a double concert with fellow Cuban pianist, Emiliano Salvador, who died prematurely seven years later.

As solo artist and as leader of the jazz quartet Brújula, Valle appeared at numerous festivals (Mexico DF, Bogotá, Havana Jazz Festival) and was soon an established name in the Cuban and Latin American jazz scene. In 1991 Silvio Rodríguez, founder of the Nueva Trova, asked him to join his band Diákara, which he stayed with until 1993. Valle followed this up with an impressive series of performances and projects in Europe, with among other things several appearances at the North Sea Jazz Festival. His discography lists nine CDs, of which two under his own label RVS MUSIC.

'The greatest talent among our young pianists,' Chucho Valdés, prominent musician and founder of Irakere, used these words to introduce Ramón Valle on his debut album Levitando [1993].

www.ramonvalle.nl



Picture: Hans Speekenbrink



*Live the Brazilian ingenuity,
the subtleties from Argentina,
the vibrant rhythms from Venezuela
and discover the Cuban music you don't know.*

Classically trained **Gustavo Corrales Romero** takes us to the fascinating world of classical and contemporary Latin American composers, also drawing from the repertoire of his latest CD 'FRESCO' (launched end of 2011) and his current concert series 'EXOTICAL CLASSIC', however with a program specially designed for the evening for optimal interaction with jazz pianist **Ramón Valle**, together to offer to the audience an attractive package of Latin American classical and jazz music.

Valle will respond to the pieces presented by Corrales with the great original improvisation that so characterizes him. In addition, Valle will be playing his own compositions with reference to his most recent album 'FLASHES FROM HOLLAND' (launched March 2012) and earlier works. Although the influence of his classical background and especially of the triumvirate Jarrett-Corea-Hancock can be heard, the remarkable thing about Valle's music is his ability to weld these diverse influences to create a unique style that eludes traditional categories.

Corrales and Valle have both gone the path of Cuban education for the piano, which means that from their 7th year they essentially received dual education: regular on the one hand, the other in the field of music. Being from different parts of the country (Guantánamo and Holguín), they met each other in the musical circuit in Havana, then went their separate ways, later to meet each other in the Netherlands, where Valle arrived about 7 years before Corrales.

A combination concert seemed only logical given the various binding factors. First there is the partly common background. Then there are the rich Latin American folkloric musical traditions that form the basis of the classical, contemporary and jazz music played on the evening; and a shared desire to put this music in the spotlight and present both its fascinating differences as its intriguing parallels with European and Western music. Furthermore, both men bring a charisma and expressiveness to their performances, that is usually warmly welcomed by audiences, and a typical Cuban charm also felt when not sitting at the piano. Finally, the relationship between Corrales and Valle is characterized by mutual professional appreciation, respect and friendship.

During the presentation commentary will be given in English.

¹ Escuela Nacional de Arte (ENA): National School for Art, Havana, Cuba.

² Instituto Superior de Arte (ISA): Superior Institute for Art, Havana, Cuba.

