

**J. S. BACH**  
**THE FRENCH**  
**SUITES**

**JUAN CARLOS RODRÍGUEZ PIANO**

## **SUITE 1 - BWV 812 IN D MINOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
MENUET I, II · GIGUE

## **SUITE 3 - BWV 814 IN B MINOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
ANGLAISE · MENUET I, II · GIGUE

## **SUITE 5 - BWV 816 IN G MAJOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
GAVOTTE · BOURRÉE · LOURE · GIGUE

## **SUITE 2 - BWV 813 IN C MINOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
AIR · MENUET I, II · GIGUE

## **SUITE 4 - BWV 815 IN E FLAT MAJOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
GAVOTTE I, II · MENUET · AIR · GIGUE

## **SUITE 6 - BWV 817 IN E MAJOR**

ALLEMANDE · COURANTE · SARABANDE  
GAVOTTE · POLONAISE · MENUET · BOURRÉE · GIGUE

# JOHANN SEBASTIAN BACH

## THE FRENCH SUITES

*The French Suites for keyboard instruments by Johann Sebastian Bach, undeniable symbols of baroque excellence, rise like musical jewels, deeply rooted in the magnificent cultural context of the 18th century.*

*Composed in an era of passionate innovation and aesthetic refinement, these masterpieces reflect both the musical expertise and the exquisite sensitivity of the genius from Eisenach. In the crucible of the French court and the vibrant German music scene, Bach shaped these suites with meticulous care, blending the elegance of the French tradition with the emotional depth and technical virtuosity of his genius.*

*In each dance, from the solemnity of the Allemande to the opulence of the Gavotte, Bach unfolds a sonic palette of vibrant colors and exquisite textures, transporting the listener on a sensual journey where past and present merge in sublime harmony. Thus, the French Suites endure as immortal monuments of music, silent witnesses to the creative grandeur of their incomparable creator.*



Photo: Marco Borggreve.

# JUAN CARLOS RODRÍGUEZ

## PIANO

*"The legacy of Clementi calls for great interpreters to bring it closer, highlighting its significance in the development of piano technique and creation. That's why this new recording should be welcomed, especially when presented with the care and precision demonstrated by Juan Carlos Rodríguez in this, his second recording for Naxos. He proves to be a convincing advocate, forgetting any technical complacency to focus on the elements that characterize these works. The pianist from Cádiz explores the expressive possibilities of the modern piano effortlessly, with exquisite care in the bass, but with increasing contrasts and nuances that provide firmness and careful brightness to the sound."* RITMO MAGAZINE.

*"Rodríguez captures the essence of Schumann's expressive soul and skillfully infuses the music with freshness and youth through his well-chosen tempos, phrasing, and dynamics. Excellent sound."* CLASSICAL NET.

*"If one didn't see the cover of this album and were told the works included, they would immediately think it could be a recording by Sviatoslav Richter, so much did he love this Schumann, hidden behind Waldszenen, Kinderszenen, Carnival, Papillons, Humoresque, and other states of the soul oscillating between Florestan and Eusebius. But no, it is a Spanish pianist, a great pianist, with enviable taste in selecting a Schumann program and even greater in interpretation, for his piano playing has a quality rarely heard before in this music. A recording of exquisite taste."* RITMO MAGAZINE.

*"Rodríguez's playing is exemplary. It is beautifully crafted, sensitively shaped, and clearly demonstrates a great empathy for the composer's style."* MUSIC WEB INTERNATIONAL.

*"Between the early pieces, still reminiscent of Chopin, and the more personal late works, Rodríguez faithfully traces the composer's path. Rodríguez interprets with magnificent technique."*  
**PIZZICATO MAGAZINE.**

*"Rodríguez shines with his pianistic technique, and every note of the intricate piano writing is beautifully captured in a sound that surpasses by far the versions of Alicia de Larrocha."*  
**FANFARE MAGAZINE.**

*"When the final note of Alban Berg's Sonata op. 1 dissipates into the air, after ten minutes of poetic storm, pianist Juan Carlos Rodríguez raises his gaze, sheds the spirit of Berg that possessed him during the performance of the Sonata, and receives the passionate applause of the audience, who listened spellbound to a music that Juan Carlos, like so many others, has made his own on stage. Thus are the interpretations of this pianist from Cádiz, one of the great pianistic talents of his generation."*  
**RITMO MAGAZINE.**

*"The record label Naxos has wisely chosen the Spanish pianist. Rodríguez enjoys each sonata with a brilliant articulation that conveys the joy found within these delightful works."*  
**AMERICAN RECORD GUIDE.**

Juan Carlos Rodríguez, one of the most brilliant musicians of his generation, distinguishes himself as a pianist through his fidelity to the composer, always placing his refined instrumental technique at the service of the music. With his fabulous ability to present a wide variety of styles, his interpretations exhibit a high degree of interpretative accuracy while also offering a touch of naturalness and freshness, transforming each concert into a completely new musical experience.

Throughout his musical career, Juan Carlos has been awarded numerous prizes in national and international piano competitions. Among these accolades are first prizes at Les Corts International Piano Competition, San Sebastián International Piano Competition, José Roca International Piano Competition, Manresa International Piano Competition, Gerardo Diego Piano Competition, Palau de la Música Catalana, among others.

He regularly performs concerts throughout Europe at international music festivals and collaborates with orchestras and international chamber music ensembles.

In 2013, Juan Carlos recorded a CD of works by Robert Schumann for the Naxos label, featuring lesser-known piano pieces of truly innovative musical and expressive quality. This recording was selected by the magazine RITMO as one of the best albums of 2013. In 2014, he made his debut in Japan with performances at Tokyo (Toppan Hall), Osaka (Phoenix Hall), and Nagoya (Denki Bunka Kaikan), which were celebrated by critics and audiences alike. At the same time, he was invited to give masterclasses and lectures on Spanish music. In 2015, a new album was internationally released for the Paladino Music label, recording the complete original works for solo piano by Manuel de Falla. This new recording offers an excellent insight into the composer's development through his piano repertoire.

Born in Cádiz, he completed his university studies in piano in Seville under Pilar Bilbao, a renowned pianist and student of the eminent Chilean pianist **Claudio Arrau**. Additionally, he received valuable piano advice from distinguished musicians of international stature such as Hans Graf, Brétislav Novotny, Edith Fischer, or Solomon Mikowsky.

Further international recordings include piano works by Clementi, Beethoven, and Albéniz. His extensive repertoire spans a variety of styles, from Baroque music to contemporary music, including the complete works of Bach, Haydn, Mozart, and Beethoven.

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