

E. FERNÁNDEZ BLANCO, F. CHOPIN, M. MANRIQUE DE LARA

Friday, 18 September, 20.30 h.

Saturday, 19 September, 20.00 h.



Ticket sale: 07 September

Prices: A 21€ B 16€ C 12€ D 7€

Conductor JOSÉ LUIS TEMES

Piano IAN FOUNTAIN

Obertura dramática, E. Fernández Blanco

Piano concerto no 1 in E minor, Op.11, F. Chopin

La Orestiada (Agamenón - Las Coéforas - Las Euménides), M. Manrique de Lara

History, and of course the History of Music, is often capricious. We are sometimes unaware of what makes a name deserving of posterity. Is it geniality? And, what is genius anyway? Can we recognise it immediately? Does everything that a great composer writes deserve such an epithet? Does exceptionality always prevail in the end?

The concert offered to us by conductor José Luis Temes makes us think of this dilemma, and also provides an added surprise, again from the past. We all know who Frédéric Chopin is, but what about Manuel Manrique de Lara or Evaristo Fernández Blanco? More questions. Some to be answered in the concert, others not.

It would have been more logical for the name of Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849) to become buried among the names of other composers devoted to the more spectacular genres of symphonic or operatic music. However, even though he focused on the so-called minor musical forms, on music referred to on certain occasions with disdain as 'ballroom music', and on only one instrument, his own, he was greatly admired in his day as the 'poet of the piano'. An admiration that continues, almost without opposing voices, into our days.

Manuel Manrique de Lara (1863-1929) and Evaristo Fernández Blanco (1902-1993) were born in Spain and, though

they travelled abroad and were aware of what was happening in Europe, they always kept very strong ties to their native country. They both loved music, but their respective biographies show circumstances that explain many things, starting by their current obscurity. Manuel Manrique de Lara divided his time between his professional activities as a military man and his composing, not being able (and not wanting) to choose one or the other; Fernández Blanco was marked by the experience of the Civil War. Setting other questions aside, the artistic ambition of the former's *La Orestíada* trilogy and of the latter's *Obertura dramática* has now been duly recognised. Maestro Temes invites us to share this discovery.

www.orquestafilarmonicademalaga.com