

Vera Martínez Mehner, violin

Was born in Madrid, where she began to study the violin at age five. At twelve years of age, she entered the Escuela Superior de Música Reina Sofía, where she studied with Professors Serguei Fatkoulina and Zakhar Bron, with whom she finished her studies at the Hochschule für Musik Köln.

A prizewinner at many competitions, VERA MARTÍNEZ won First Prize and Special Prize for Interpretation of a Classical Work at the Kloster Schöntal competition in 1995 and Second Prize at the Wieniawsky competition in Poland in 1997. As soloist she has appeared with various orchestras including the Symphony Orchestras of Palma de Mallorca, Santo Domingo, and the Chamber Orchestras Andrés Segovia and the Escuela Superior Reina Sofía, under the batons of conductors including Zubin Mehta, Yehudi Menuhin, James Judd, Victor Pablo and Antoni Ros Marbá. In addition, Vera has performed in the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen and collaborated in chamber music concerts with artists such as Gérard Caussé, Harald Schoneweg, Marta Gulyás, Christoph Coin and Claudio Martínez Mehner.

At the age of 18, Vera was a founding member of the Cuarteto Casals, which has subsequently performed in the most important halls throughout Europe, North America, Latin America and Japan. The quartet records exclusively for the Harmonia Mundi label, where she can be heard playing first and second violin on renditions of quartets by Arriaga, Debussy, Zemlinsky, Mozart, Ravel, Toldrá, Turina, Brahms, Bartok, Ligeti, Kurtag, Boccherini and Schubert. Vera is currently Professor of Chamber Music and Violin at the Escola Superior de Música de Catalunya and has previously taught at the Conservatorio Superior de Música de Aragón and Musikene in San Sebastian.