



Planet Hugill - A world of classical music

Classical music news, reviews, interviews, previews and musings on contemporary music from contemporary classical composer Robert Hugill

One of Saga Magazine's 50 Best Bloggers Over 50

<http://www.planethugill.com/> Twitter: [@RobertHugill](#)



Home	Performances we've heard	CD's we've listened to	People we've interviewed	Twitter - @RobertHugill	Who we are
------	--------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------------	------------

Sunday, 12 July 2015

Colours of Spain - an alternative route

Labels: [cd review](#)



Mompou, Toldra, Gasull, Dominguez, Camahort, De Falla, Granados; Maria Camahort Quintet; Convivium Records

Reviewed by Robert Hugill on Jul 07 2015

Star rating: 4.0

Quintet of musicians from different traditions bringing a new twist to 20th century and contemporary Spanish music

This rather interesting disc, *Iberian Colours*, is an attempt to get a different flavour to the various different styles of Spanish music and move away from the more stereotypical. The *Maria Camahort Quintet* is a group of five singers and instrumentalists from different musical traditions who have come together on this disc, on [Convivium Records](#), to give rather distinctive interpretations of music by Frederic Mompou, Eduard Toldra, Feliu Gasull, Chano Dominguez, Manuel de Falla, Enrique Granados and Maria Camahort herself, plus traditional Catalan and Spanish songs.

The quintet consists of [Maria Camahort](#) (guitar),

Violeta Garcia (violin and voice), [Laura Muhi-Vidal](#) (soprano), [Sergio Serra](#) (cello) and Pablo Dominguez (percussion), with arrangements being done by Maria Camahort. Their sound world varies between hints of jazz influence, pure classical and traditional Spanish with inevitably the three intermingling. As many of the works on this disc have a basis in Spanish music, the group bring these influences out. But a work like Manuel de Falla's *Homenaje: Le tombeau de Claude Debussy* is performed without addition or intervention.

They open with a group of works by the Catalan composer Frederic Mompou (1893-1987). His *Cançons i danses* (*Songs and Dances*) composed between 1912 and 1962, is a collection of piano arrangements of Catalan popular pieces. Each uses a combination of a song and a dance, creating a contrast between slow and fast, melodic and rhythmic. They perform two, numbers 7 and 8, in versions which add the original vocal parts back in whilst keeping Mompou's harmonies. *Cantar del Alma* (*Song of the Soul*), written in 1951, is a curious piece which alternates vocal recitative and piano, the two never mixing. Here the piano is replaced by instrumental arrangements, but keeping Mompou's alternations. And the result remains a bit curious, as if the two had come together by accident.

Next the perform their own arrangement of another Catalan song, a rather melancholy piece called *La reso de Lleida*, which was originally created in 2014 for the Catalan celebration of St George's Day in London! Eduard Toldra (1895-1962) was a Catalan violinist, conductor and composer, who in 1941 founded the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra. One of the composer's best known songs, *Canticel* sets a text by Josep Carner. Here the ensemble play it in a version for voice, violin and guitar.

Feliu Gasull (born 1959) is a contemporary Spanish composer based in Barcelona. The group present two movements from Gasull's *Suite for cello and guitar*. The first movement, *Bosc* is played as intended on cello and guitar, whilst the second, *Fe*, has lyrics added to the cello part and sung by Violeta Garcia. This arrangement in *Fe* recaptures something of the original song which inspired Gasull. His voice is edgier than the earlier composers, creating a fascinating dialogue between the clear Spanish traditional voice and the contemporary voice. *Lullaby* was originally written for guitar quartet and mezzo-soprano and is here performed in an imaginative version for two voices, violin, cello and two guitars.

Chano Dominguez is a contemporary musician who moves between the worlds of jazz and flamenco and her lovely little song *Pa mi nino* is dedicated to her son Pablo (who is the Maria Camahort Quartet's percussionist!). This is followed by two pieces by Maria Camahort setting poetry by Federico Garcia Lorca. Like the Gasull pieces, these have an edgier feel to them, but this is partly because Camahort is also mining flamenco in them too, with the vocal line being sung by Violeta Garcia.

Manuel de Falla's *Homenaje: Le Tombeau de Claude Debussy* is one of the greatest pieces for guitar and it forms a strong centrepiece to the disc. It is followed by the rather more exotic *Danse Oriental* by Enrique Granados, which was originally written for piano has some very effective violin playing from Violeta Garcia. Finally on the disc Lorca returns again as the group perform arrangements of a group of songs originally collected by him.



Maria Camahort Quintet

Messiah, Memory and A Midsummer Night's Dream an encounter with Robin Tritschler

[Improvising, sculpting, freezing,](#)
[Augusta Read Thomas and her music](#)

Live reviews

- Contemporary opera is alive & well:
[A dip into Tete a Tete](#)
- More than just frothy fun:
[Gluck's Il Parnaso confuso](#)
- Musical Magic:
[L'Orfeo at the Proms](#)
- Vividly engaging:
[Arcangelo and Anna Prohaska](#)
- Handel full of verve:
[Serse](#) from Longborough's young artists
- Young artists showcase
[Lakme at Opera Holland Park](#)
- In good health:
[Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)

Enjoy Planet Hugill?

Give a Little



Help keep us free

CD Reviews

- Charm: [Wolf-Ferrari suites](#)
- Underservedly forgotten: [Piano music by Roger Sacheverell Coke](#)
- Deserves to be heard: [Weinberg & Hartmann from Linus Roth](#)
- Just tremendous: [Diabelli Variations from Nick van Bloss](#)
- Family connections: [Alissa Firsova in recital](#)
- Volume Five: [Poulenc songs from Malcolm Martineau & friends](#)
- New voice from Iceland: [Hugi Gudmundsson's Calm of the Deep](#)
- Sparkling delight: [Wolf Ferrari's Il Segreto di Susanna](#)
- Dazzling technique, bags of charm: [Gallay operatic fantasies from Anneke Scott](#)

Labels - search the site by subject

AAM Aldeburgh ancient voices Arcangelo awards ballet review ballet review; Barban BBC book review BREMF British Youth Opera Britten 100 Buxton Festival by Hilary Glover by Jill Barlow cabaret Cadogan Hall cd news **cd review** Choral at Cadogan cinema CLS co-opera co CoLF Competition **concert review** concert; conference report conundrums Covent Garden **diary** Dresden Music Festival dvd review Edinburgh Festival EMD English Concert ENO ETO exhibition review **feature article** festival review film review Garsington Globe Theatre Glyndebourne Glyndebourne on Tour Grange Park Opera Grimeborn GSMD Guest Posting Hamburg Handel ihse interview Istanbul JAM Kings Place London Philharmonic LPO LSO music education music news **news** newsletter OAE online opera Opera Holland Park opera magazine Opera North Opera Rara **opera review** performance play review **preview** Proms radio RCM Reader Offer recording review Rhinegold Live RLPO RNCM Rosenblatt Recitals; RVW Santa Fe Opera Scottish Opera second view SJSS South Bank Centre Spitalfields study day review Tallinn Temple Music Tete a Tete The Opera Group The Sixteen theatre music review theatre review tv programme review Vale of Glamorgan Festival video website

I did not know many of the works on this disc, and the Maria Camahort Quartet's arrangements lent a distinctive tang to the whole disc. They perform very finely as a quartet, interacting well and I have no difficulty recommending this disc for anyone who is interested in finding alternative routes to the music of Spain.

Frederic Mompou (1893-1987) - Song and Dance No.7, [4.03]
Frederic Mompou (1893-1987) - Song and Dance No. 8 [5.38]
Frederic Mompou (1893-1987) - Cantar del Alma [4.42]
Traditional - La Preso de Lleida [2.41]
Eduard Toldra (1895-1962) - Canticel [1.27]
Feliu Gasull (born 1959) - Suite for Cello and Guitar [7.21]
Feliu Gasull (born 1959) - Lullaby [2.44]
Chano Dominguez - Pa mi nino [1.55]
Maria Camahort - Poema de la Solea [3.12]
Maria Camahort -La Cogicida y la Muerte [3.03]
Manuel de Falla (1878-1946) - Homenaje: Le Tombeau de Claude Debussy [3.13]
Enrique Granados (1867-1916) - Danza Oriental [4.42]
Traditional - Las Morillas de Jaen [3.37]
Traditional - El Cafe de Chinitas [2.03]
Maria Camahort Quintet - Maria Camahort (guitar), Violeta Garcia (violin and voice), Laura Muhi-Vidal (soprano), Sergio Serra (cello) and Pablo Dominguez (percussion)
CONVIVIUM RECORDS 1 CD



Iberian Colours:
Spanish...

£8.08 

Shop now

Elsewhere on this blog:

- Intriguing timbral world of Matthew Whiteside in [Dichroic Light](#) - CD review
- Real Charm [Populaires with Amel Brahim-Djelloul](#) - CD review
- Disappointing [Guillaume Tell](#) at Covent Garden - Opera review
- Fraternal bond: [Rameau's Castor et Pollux](#) - Cd review
- Strikingly imaginative: [Albert Herring at the Royal College of Music](#) - opera review
- A career illuminated [Christoph von Dohnanyi in conversation](#) - feature article
- Ravishing: [Carolyn Sampson and the Heath Quartet in Schoenberg & John Musto](#) - concert review
- Vividly theatrical: Rossini's [La gazza ladra](#) - CD review

- Musicology and Musicianship: [Handel's L'Allegro](#) - CD review
- Imaginative translation: [Samson et Dalila at Grange Park](#) - opera review
- Satisfying balance: [La Bohème at Grange Park](#) - opera review
- Virtuosity with a human touch: [My encounter with Matthew Sharp](#), cellist, baritone, director, creative director of Revelation St Mary's, artist in association with the English Symphony Orchestra - interview
- Brilliant personal vision: [Le Concert Spirituel in Vivaldi and Campra](#) - concert review
- [Home](#)

Posted by [Robert Hugill](#) at 9:56 a.m.   +1 Recommend this on Google

No comments:

Post a Comment

Enter your comment...

Comment as: [Unknown \(Google\)](#) 

Publish

Preview

☐ Notify me

Links to this post

[Create a Link](#)

[Wigmore Hall](#) [Wimbledon Music Festival](#) [WNO writing music](#)

Search This Blog

Search

Blog Archive

- ▼ 2015 (497)
 - August (37)
 - ▼ July (70)
 - [160 young musicians take to the road again this su...](#)
 - [At the Bristol Proms](#)
 - [Priceless Classics](#)
 - [Wolf-Ferrari Violin Concerto](#)
 - [Edington Festival celebrates 60 years](#)
 - [Lakme - Christine Collins Young Artists performanc...](#)
 - [Inspired by Bach](#)
 - [Somewhere for the weekend: Music in the medieval h...](#)
 - [Alice is in good health and living on the Yucca La...](#)
 - [Merging opera, theatre and dance](#)
 - [Flourish – Opera Competition Up Close](#)
 - [Montemezzi's 'L'amore dei tre Re' returns to Opera...](#)
 - [Improvising, sculpting, freezing - my encounter wl...](#)
 - [Richard Ayres' Peter Pan comes to London](#)
 - [The gap between a difficult life and a serene icon...](#)
 - [Mayor of London's Music Reception](#)
 - [Somewhere for the weekend: Hear the organ Handel p...](#)
 - [Remembering a much loved conductor](#)
 - [Handel's Saul at Glyndebourne](#)
 - [Young artists L'enfant et les sortileges in the No...](#)
 - [Alice's Adventures in Wonderland](#)
 - [Supporting the launch of Mc|Master records](#)
 - [Launch of Choral at Cadogan 2015-2016 season](#)
 - [Gustave Charpentier's Louise in Buxton](#)
 - [Garsington Opera 2016](#)
 - [Somewhere for the weekend: Branscombe Festival](#)
 - [Rachmaninov Vespers from Huddersfield Choral Socie...](#)
 - [Lucia di Lammermoor amongst the Mafiosi](#)
 - [Verdi's Giovanna D'Arco](#)
 - [King Arthur with Paul McCreesh and Gabrieli](#)
 - [Interview with Augusta Reid Thomas](#)
 - [Volume 6 of The Sixteen's survey of Palestrina's s...](#)
 - [Operalia at Covent Garden](#)
 - [Romaria: Choral Music from Brazil](#)
 - [Celebrating young choral](#)

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)

[talent - Sounds Sublime](#)

[Somewhere for the Weekend: Ryedale Festival](#)

[Couperin, Blow and Charpentier for Bastille Day at...](#)

[Charm overload - music for harp and piano from Duo...](#)

[Idomeneo at Blackheath Halls](#)

[Memories of Jon Vickers](#)

[Magna Songs at Salisbury Cathedral](#)

[Eugene Onegin at Grange Park Opera](#)

[Colours of Spain - an alternative route](#)

[Gabriela Montero and a Twitter Party at the Wigmor...](#)

[Matthew Whiteside - Dichroic Light](#)

[Boxwood and Brass](#)

[LPO firsts: Julian Anderson 'In lieblicher Bläue'](#)

[Populaires - Amel Brahim-Djelloul](#)

[Voices of our Ancestors - Thea Musgrave premiere](#)

[June on Planet Hugill - Israel in Egypt, Death in ...](#)

[We make the top 10!](#)

[Introducing Handel's friends - an encounter with E...](#)

[East of Tallinn: Orient music festival Part III - ...](#)

[Piano duo rarities](#)

[Disappointing Guillaume Tell at Covent Garden](#)

[Rameau's Castor et Pollux](#)

[Orquesta Filarmónica de México UNAM makes its UK d...](#)

[University of Cape Town Opera School in London](#)

[Albert Herring at the Royal College of Music](#)

[A career illuminated - Christoph von Dohnanyi in c...](#)

[Art on the Underground - Music on the Underground](#)

[East of Tallinn: Orient music festival Part II - W...](#)

[Music for soprano and string quartet - Carolyn Sam...](#)

[La gazza ladra - Rossini's last Italian comic oper...](#)

[The Bear at the Proud Archivist](#)

[Pop up: L'Italiana in Algeri... Or the showgirl in...](#)

[West Green House Opera](#)

[Handel's L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato](#)

[St John's Smith Square 2015/16 season launch](#)

[Enlightenment: searching for a way out](#)

- [June](#) (70)
- [May](#) (71)
- [April](#) (65)
- [March](#) (61)
- [February](#) (64)
- [January](#) (59)
- [2014](#) (812)
- [2013](#) (849)

- [2012](#) (622)
- [2011](#) (212)
- [2010](#) (201)
- [2009](#) (241)
- [2008](#) (250)
- [2007](#) (270)
- [2006](#) (334)
- [2005](#) (167)

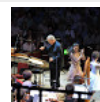
Pages on this site

[Links](#)
[Performance reviews](#)
[CD reviews](#)
[Interviews](#)
[Contact Us](#)

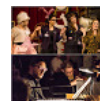
Summer Festival coverage

[BBC Proms](#)
[Grimeborn Festival](#)
[Tete a Tete: The Opera Festival](#)
[Opera Holland Park](#)
[Buxton Festival](#)
[Grange Park Opera](#)
[Spitalfields Festivals](#)

Popular Posts



[Monteverdi's L'Orfeo at the Proms](#)



[More than frothy fun - Gluck's II Parnaso confuso at Wilton's Music Hall](#)



[Contemporary opera is alive and well and living in King's Cross](#)



[Somewhere for the weekend - Presteigne Festival](#)

Monthly Newsletter

Sign up to our mailing list and receive our monthly newsletter :-

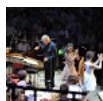
Email
 Name

Subscribe To

 [Posts](#) 
 [Comments](#) 

Never miss a post - follow us by Email

Popular Posts



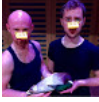
[Monteverdi's L'Orfeo at the Proms](#)

Monterverdi L'Orfeo at the Proms, Sir John Eliot Gardiner, Mariana Flores, Francesca Aspromonte photo credit BBC/Chris Christodoulo...

[More than frothy fun - Gluck's II Parnaso confuso at Wilton's Music Hall](#)



Top (from left to right): singers Cenk Karaferya, Louisa Petais, Alison Manifold, & Daire Halpin Bottom: Ian Peter Bugeja conductin...



[Contemporary opera is alive and well and living in King's Cross](#)

Andrew Walker, Guy Woolf in Dan Gillingwater's The Homosexual Necrophiliac Duck Opera Tête à Tête:The Opera Festival; Born Mad...



[Somewhere for the weekend - Presteigne Festival](#)

The Presteigne Festival is now in its 33rd year. Based in Presteigne / Gwyl Llanandras in Radnorshire in the Welsh Marches, the festival...



[Somewhere for the weekend: The 11th North Norfolk Music Festival](#)

12 Ensemble at the North Norfolk Music Festival The 11th North Norfolk Music Festival , based in St Mary's Church , South Creake, N...



[Hawks, Horses and Peterborough Sings!](#)

Errolyn Wallen 's new work Hawks and Horses setting Shakespeare is premiered on 30 August 2015 (at 6pm) at St John's Smith Square...



[The gap between a difficult life and a serene iconography - Tarik O'Regan on *The Wanton Sublime*](#)

Tarik O'Regan - photo credit Luca Sage Tarik O'Regan 's opera The Wanton Sublime receives its UK premiere at the Grimeborn ...



[King Arthur with Paul McCreesh and Gabrieli](#)

Purcell King Arthur ; Gabrieli Consort and Players, Paul McCreesh; St. John's Smith Square Reviewed by Robert Hugi...



[Colours of Spain - an alternative route](#)

Mompou, Toldra, Gasull, Dominguez, Camahort, De Falla, Granados; Maria Camahort Quintet; Convivium Records Reviewed b...



[Vividly engaging solo cantatas from Anna Prohaska and Arcangelo](#)

Jonathan Cohen and Arcangelo at an earlier concert at the Sam Wanamaker Playhouse Photo credit Andrea Liu Lachrimae - John Dowla...