

## From the US to Argentina: piano duets by Women Composers of the Three Americas

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### Why This Presentation

- Interest in inclusivity in the teaching canon
- Women composers are poorly represented
  - 1.3% representation in orchestral repertoire (O'Bannon, 2016)
  - 11% of all music entries in pre-college competitions, out of 7,700 entries (Cremaschi, 2021)
- It's important to expose our students
  - Music is not just the realm of white male composers
  - Students may see themselves in the music they perform

### Our program today

- Partial performances of each piece
- Extracted from our recital at CU Boulder in 2020
- Full performances available at [https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtJhFpjjnLM1NDGV2lzOJQEp\\_nPVBA292](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLtJhFpjjnLM1NDGV2lzOJQEp_nPVBA292)

### Melismodal Suite by Jacqueline B. Hairston

- Born in 1932
- African American piano and voice teacher, arranger and composer
- Has dedicated her life to preserving black spirituals
- Raised in a time of racial segregation
- Melismodal Suite composed in 1992
  - Features different moods: Jazzy and bluesy language
  - Score available at the [Walker-Hill collection](#) at CU Boulder

### Rondo by Rocío Sanz Quirós

- 1934–1993
- Born in Costa Rica. Emigrated to Mexico
- Expressed frustration for being pigeon-holed by her gender, and expected to write tonal music for children
- Rondo: Modern language reminiscent of Stravinsky and Shostakovich, but also Schubert
  - Sudden shifts to new tonal areas
  - Lean and “tart” neoclassical texture
  - Late intermediate piece

- Score available at the Archivo Histórico Musical of the Universidad de Costa Rica  
<http://archivomusical.ucr.ac.cr/catalogo/autores/rocio-sanz-quiros>

### TANGOOo.. by Susana Antón

- Born 1947
- Argentine composer
- Taught theory at the Universidad de Cuyo
- Modern language with folk inspiration
- Some works use avant-garde techniques
- TANGOOo..: Atonal style
  - Tango elements
  - syncopation, minor seconds used in percussive style, sudden contrasts, theatricality
  - Pianists react, imitate and complement each other
  - Music available from us

### Snow White and the Seven Dwarves by Inah Machado Sandoval

- 1906-2003
- Known as “tia Inah” (aunt Inah)
- Prolific composer of choros, Brazilian tangos, waltzes, mazurkas, and salon dances
- Her work is available online at the Brazilian Piano Institute
- Several of her pieces were transcribed for piano four hands by her niece, including “Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs”
- Snow White and the 7 Dwarves
  - Suite of eight pieces - one waltz and seven tangos brasileiros/choros
  - Many of her pieces feature dotted rhythms and syncopation
  - Score available at:
  - <http://www.institutopianobrasileiro.com.br/enciclopledia/Inah-Machado-Sandoval-Tia-Inah>

### 3-Day Mix by Eleanor Alberga

- Born in 1949 in Jamaica
- Currently in the UK
- Music performed by major orchestras
- Inspiration:
- Contemporary dance
- The music of Bela Bartok
- Her native Jamaica
- 3-Day Mix
  - Composed in 1991
  - Rhythmic piece inspired by Jamaican music
  - Minimalistic repetitions and patterns

- Available through the composer's website: <https://eleanoralberga.com/>

### Of Anemones and Migration by Anne M. Guzzo

- Wyoming based composer. Teaches at the University of Wyoming
- Draws on science and nature, playful absurdism, and interdisciplinary collaboration
- Her music has been described as alternately moving and humorous
- Of Anemones and Migrations
  - Commissioned by Pacheco-Cremaschi duo
  - Composed in 2020, inspired by a visit to the lab of a marine biologist
  - 1st movement:
    - Home of the anemones. The measures are uneven and come upon the listener like waves
  - 2nd movement:
    - Tenser, inspired by "fives" – phrases come in five bars, and quintuplets make appearances, and there is also the use of extended techniques inside the piano
  - Music available from the composer

### Gavel Patter by Libby Larsen

- American composer born in 1950
- Inspired by the music and rhythm of American music and from American spoken language
- "Energy, optimism, rhythmic diversity, colorful orchestration"
- Gavel Patter
  - Written in 2004
  - Inspired by language: "strong rhythm and flow in American auctioneering patter"
  - Uses auctioneers' styles, pitches, timing, and complex rhythms
  - Available from the composer's website