

Western Early Keyboard Association
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44th Anniversary World Tour with Yago Mahúgo, Harpsichord

Saturday, October 4, 2025, 7:00pm

Reed College Eliot Hall Chapel, Portland Oregon

YouTube premiere, Sunday October 18, 2025, 2pm - @westernearlykeyboardassoc

Program

François Couperin (1668-1733)

From 4th Ordre, *Pièces de clavecin, Livre 1* (1713)

La Marche des Gris Gris-vêtus - Les Baccanales - La Pateline - Le Réveil Réveil-matin

Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

Four pieces from four suites, 4th piece from each suite

Suite en re - M.60: *Zarabanda* - Suite en la - M. 113: *Zarabanda* - Suite en Sib - M. 121: *Chaconne* -
Suite en mi - M. 65: *Zarabande*

Armand Louis Couperin (1727-1789)

Les 4 Nations: *L'Italienne - L'Angloise - L'Allemande - La Française*

Intermission

Georg Friedrich Händel (1685-1759)

Partita in C minor, HWV 444

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Prelude in C# minor, no.4 from WTC Book I, BWV 849

Prelude in C# minor, no.4 from WTC Book II, BWV 873

Antonio Soler (1729-1783)

Sonata no. 4 in G Major - Sonata no. 44 in C Major

Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

Sonata k.4 in G minor - Sonata k.44 in F Major - Sonata k.444 in D minor

Joseph-Nicolas-Pancrace (1703-1755) - *Encore*

Tambourins (4th piece from *Pièces de clavecin, Premier Livre* (1746)

The Recital Instrument, part of the Reed College Early Keyboard Collection (EKC), was built by Ken Bakeman in 1973 and fully restored by Byron Will in 2002. EKC curator, Paul Irvin, began in 2014 to bring its pinning, dampers, stringing, and voicing into closer conformance with the latest research discoveries in historical practices, including the use of phosphorus-iron wire, in order to more accurately reproduce the lush historical sound of this type of instrument.

About the Performer

Chosen as the best Spanish artist of the year 2013 by the prestigious music critic Ruben Amón (*El Mundo*), and performer of one of the best recordings of the year 2013 (*El País*), Yago Mahúgo was born in Madrid in 1976. Considered one of the most important Spanish musicians in the field of historically informed performance, his piano studies began with Prof. Ana Guijarro in Seville. After obtaining his degree in piano performance, he pursued postgraduate studies at the Hochschule für Musik, Freiburg (Germany) with Prof. Tibor Szász. There he was introduced to period instruments and became a disciple of Prof. Dr. Robert Hill. Under Hill's tutelage, he achieved the Degree in Historical Keyboard Instruments (Harpsichord, Fortepiano, and Organ) and the MA in Harpsichord and Fortepiano. In 2016, Mahúgo earned a Ph.D. of Arts cum laude from the Rey Juan Carlos University, Madrid, with the distinction of being awarded a special University prize for the best dissertation. He has also studied privately with the well-known keyboardists Christophe Rousset and Malcolm Bilson. Mahúgo has been honored with several prizes at international competitions, including the 35th International Harpsichord Competition in Budapest, and the 13th Bruges Harpsichord Competition (Belgium), the latter considered to be one of the most important competitions in the field of early music.

His concert activities have led him to the most prestigious concert halls in Europe and North and South America, including his debut in February 2017 at the Weill Recital Hall, Carnegie Hall, and the recent appearance of his baroque, period instrument ensemble, *Impetus Madrid*, at the Frick Collection Concert Series in New York City, 2020. Yago Mahúgo is a regular guest artist (continuo) with several professional orchestras in Europe and has performed at several concert halls: the Palacio de Festivales in Santander, and the Auditorio Macional and Teatro Real in Madrid where he gave notable performances of the Harpsichord Concerto by Manuel de Falla.

Mahúgo has taught harpsichord and historical performance practice at the Badajoz Superior Conservatory (Spain) and continues to teach and give lectures on these subjects in Spain and abroad (Albacete Conservatory, Barcelona Liceu Superior Conservatory, University of Michigan). Currently, Mahúgo holds a full professorship at the Royal Conservatory of Madrid.

He has recorded for several TV and radio stations in Spain and elsewhere in Europe (RNE, TVE, Bartok Radio, MTV). His first harpsichord CD, a recording of the complete harpsichord works of the French 18th-century composer Pancrace Royer (Brilliant Classics/OnClassical.com), received rave reviews from several magazines (*Ritmo*, *Melomano*, *Fanfare*), and was chosen as "CD of the Month" by *Scherzo* magazine in April 2013 and "CD of the Year" by the Spanish newspaper *El País*. His ensemble, *Impetus Madrid*, was nominated for the prestigious ICMA Prize 2015 in the category of Baroque Instrumental Music for their second recording of Jean-Phillipe Rameau. Mahúgo recently signed a contract with Brilliant Classics to record a 3-CD set of French harpsichord music, and with Cantus Records he is slated to record the complete works of François Couperin, a set that will eventually number eleven CDs.

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Many Thanks to our recent donors!

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