

Laura Ballestrino (Madrid, 2000) is a Spanish pianist and composer. Laura started to play the piano at the early age of 5 and now she is one of the great promises of music in Spain, awarded at prestigious national and international competitions such as the first prize in Juventudes Musicales de España, María Herrero and Gran Klavier, in addition to special prizes in CIPCE and Intercentros Melómano.

Laura has toured and performed all around Spain, including some of the most renowned concert halls: Auditorio Nacional de Música, Teatro Monumental, Ateneo de Madrid, Auditorio de CentroCentro, etc. and also abroad like Solitär concert hall at Universität Mozarteum in Salzburg. Furthermore, she has participated in important festivals such as Piano City Madrid, Diacronías and Kuraia.

Her career as a classical pianist is combined with her facet as a composer. Laura currently works as the composer and producer of the Original Soundtrack of the upcoming videogame *Archaelund*. She also composes and performs original jazz-fusion music for piano, usually being part of the program of her concerts.

Laura also develops her career overseas; in 2022 she was invited by the Spanish embassy in Washington D.C. to meet the university Georgia Tech in Atlanta and offer piano masterclasses, guest lectures, a piano recital and a concert as a soloist with the GT Symphony Orchestra, which also premiered her original composition *Archaelund: the orchestral suite*.

At the age of 15 Laura played as a soloist with the Symphonic Orchestra of Rodolfo Halffter Conservatoire, where she graduated with the Extraordinary End-of-Degree Award under the tutelage of María García. In 2022 she obtained her Bachelor's Degree at Madrid Royal Conservatoire with Prof. Elena Orobio. During her last year of Bachelor's Degree she placed first in the Soloist Competition and made her debut at Teatro Monumental performing *Piano Concerto n° 4* by L.V. Beethoven under the conducting of *maestro* Sebastián Mariné.

In the summer of 2019 she met the pianist and pedagogue Leonel Morales, who would become his ongoing Professor. After one year of being his pupil at Musical Arts School of Music she was unanimously awarded the Virtuoso Diploma. Laura currently pursues her Master's Degree with Leonel Morales and Leo de María as she was granted a scholarship by Universidad Alfonso X.

In addition, Laura has received masterclasses and advice from grand pianists such as Galina Eguizarova, Natalia Trull, Pascal Nemirovsky and Josep Colom, among others.