

Pianist María Pérez-Goodman was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico where she received her early musical training. She was a student of Lizzette Rivera and Professor Cecilia Talavera at the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music where she was in the Advanced Music Program for High School Students. At age 15, Dr. Pérez-Goodman won a scholarship to the prestigious Eastman School of Music where she earned a Bachelor's of Music degree in Piano Performance with Distinction. She received additional scholarships from the University of Washington in Seattle where she earned her Master's and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees. Having a special interest in the concert piano music of the Caribbean, her doctoral dissertation was on American pianist/composer Louis Moreau Gottschalk and his Caribbean-based compositions.

As a student, Dr. Pérez-Goodman participated in several prestigious summer music festivals including Eastern Music Festival in Greensboro, North Carolina, Music Academy of the West in Santa Barbara, California and Master Classes International's Piano Symposium in Los Angeles. She was chosen to participate in the Eastman Student Music Celebrity Series, performing solo recitals at Alfred University and outreach programs for the city of Rochester, N.Y. In 2004, She was invited by pianist André Watts to receive post-graduate studies at Indiana University. Her teachers include André Watts, David Burge, Rebecca Penneys, Aube Tzerko, Douglas Carrington, Neal O'Doan, Jerome Lowenthal, Menahem Pressler, Alexander Slobodyanik, Eteri Andjaparidze, and chamber music instructor Zvi Zeitlin.

As soloist, Dr. Pérez-Goodman has performed numerous recitals and a diverse repertoire of concerti. Her recent debut with the Orquesta Sinfónica de Puerto Rico was received with critical acclaim for her "captivating" and "bold" performances of Mendelssohn's Concerto in G minor and Gottschalk's Grande Tarantelle. Other orchestral solo appearances include the Claremont Symphony Orchestra, Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra, Puerto Rico Conservatory Orchestra, Beach Cities Symphony and the Hour of Power Orchestra of the Crystal Cathedral. Her performances of the Rachmaninoff Second Piano Concerto, Saint-Saens Concerto in G minor and Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue with the Crystal Cathedral Hour of Power Orchestra have been seen by an estimated 20 million viewers in 190 countries.

Her schedule of solo recitals has included performances in Spain, Puerto Rico, Washington, New York, London, and California. She has been a featured musical guest in several television programs and live radio talk shows. As a collaborative musician, Mrs. Pérez-Goodman's work has included performances with Martin Chalifour, Concertmaster of the LA Philharmonic, Lev Polyakin, Assistant Concertmaster of the Cleveland Orchestra, Tenor Daniel Rodriguez, Irish Tenor Ronan Tynan, British pop singer Izzy, arranger Tom Scott, film composer John Debney, and world renowned Chinese Erhu player Ma Xiaohui.

Sought after for her contributions to education, Dr. Pérez-Goodman is asked regularly to adjudicate several music festivals, including the Music Teachers Association of California festivals, the Federation of Music Clubs Junior Music Festival, and the Chinese-American Piano Competition in Los Angeles. Dr. Pérez-Goodman has been on the faculty of Azusa Pacific University, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, and the Claremont School of Music.

What the Critics are saying...

"Talented pianist hits all the right keys"
-San Bernardino Sun 9/26/05

"It was an incredible concert...the soloist kept the audience amazed and delighted"
She plays with incredible sensitivity and her touch caresses and does not assail the ear.
-San Bernardino Sun 9/26/05

"Captivating debut at the Piano...Fix her name in your minds ... María del Carmen Pérez, is going to

give us much to talk about... She certainly captured us"
-El Nuevo Día 6/7/04

"Her fingers attacked the keyboard with controlled power, producing neat and focused, even breezy flourishes of notes"
-Daily Breeze 11/18/01

Recommended "Best Bet" for an evening of entertainment
-Calendar Section - Inland Valley Los Angeles Times 4/6/00

What Audiences & Colleagues & Promoters are saying...

Thank you for allowing us the pleasure of your exquisite concert ... I hope that you come back.
-Pedro Goyco, President of the Board Musical Foundation of Ponce
Ponce, Puerto Rico

Thank you for sharing your talents with my two-thousand member audience family. You certainly made a place in their hearts, and also mine.
-Jack Mercer, Conductor
Upland, Ca

"...I really enjoyed your performance of the Rachmaninoff Third, last Sunday. Your musicianship and intensity were impressive! Being a conductor, I was amazed by the help you gave the orchestra. That was nice. I am sure you were impressed with the explosive response you received from the audience. You deserved it.
-G. Stan Selby, Conductor & Former Mayor of Pomona, Ca.

"Maria Perez-Goodman is an exciting pianist with a broad repertoire. Her lightning fast fingers and technical ability is superb. But that alone is not enough. She has the ability to communicate to the audience her deep personal involvement with the music. Her audience leaves not only charmed by her charisma but on an emotional high."
-John Wolfersberger, Retired Minister Beaumont, Ca.

"I love her hands, I love her technique, Wow! And she's a wonderful person!!"
-Johnnie Carl, pianist, composer, & arranger

"You did it! I'm proud of you!"
-Rev Robert H. Schuller, Crystal Cathedral

"Beautiful, Beautiful playing..."
-Ronan Tynan, Irish Tenor

"Maria's music brought me to happy tears. The music fills one's soul with happiness & courage to enjoy one's life."
-anonymous

Maria, your music blesses my soul

-anonymous

"The beauty of your spirit and your music moved me deeply and brought tears of appreciation for such beauty. Thank you. "

-Martha Roberts

"This has been a wonderful experience. Your piano playing is beautiful. Thank you so much for sharing your life with us."

-Nick & Sharon

A Once in a lifetime (experience) for us. Incredible!

-Bill & Mary

"It was very very enjoyable for us...we loved it very much"

-Joe & Bertha

"What a wonderful experience! Thank you for sharing your talent with us"

-Ray & Kathy Smith

Thank you so much for allowing us to be a part of such a special experience! We were so impressed with your commitment, talent, and passion

-Ed & Mary Wilson

"It's wonderful to watch Maria's fingers fly over the keyboard. The music she makes is simply magic"

- Irene Bennett

"How many ways can you say AWESOME." We so enjoyed your talent.

-anonymous

Maria, you gave me chills with your playing. You are a wonderful performer. I loved the Liszt & Mendelssohn & Mozart!

-Beverly Crowe

"Maria yours was the best piano concert I have ever heard! May god bless your music for years to come"

- Loretta Davis

"Maria, you are a very talented lady. I love your stories about the composers and loved that you introduced some new music to me. May God continue to bless you and your marriage to wonderful Jason"

- Sheryl Lloyd

"I was at your recent Rachmaninoff concert...and I wanted to tell you how beautifully you played and how much I loved hearing the concert. I was in the front row and could hear the Steinway and the 1st violins perfectly! I rarely cry but I was in tears for your entire performance, it was so moving...The Rachmaninoff #2 is my favorite, you're marvelous...congratulations on a fantastic performance, I hope you give more concerts, I'd like to hear you again. Much love and appreciation"

-Michael Labrador

Thank you!!! You played the second movement of the Sonata (Appassionata) better than Horowitz!!!! Beethoven is your forte. I believe that God gave you a very special talent...your talent is brilliant.

-Lcdo. Osvaldo Manuel Herrero