

Alfredo Kraus Chair of Voice
Fundación Ramón Areces

The *Reina Sofía School of Music* is an institution devoted to training performers of great excellence while at the same time offering its students all necessary means for attaining a high level of musical specialisation. This kind of training requires personalized attention. The School provides this through individualised study plans for each student, which guarantee that they will receive the specific teaching needed, and through close contact with the professors, all of whom are eminent performers and teachers.

The education offered by the School gives students a comprehensive training so that music may be placed within its historical and theoretical context and also be related to other artistic and cultural forms of expression. Furthermore, the *Reina Sofía School* understands that the entire process of professional training is closely linked to actual artistic activity and, as such, serves as preparation for the future professional life of the students. With this aim in mind, every year the School organises more than two hundred concerts of all possible types: recitals, chamber music, orchestral concerts. Taking part in these concerts are those students who, in the opinion of their teachers, are sufficiently prepared to perform in front of the public.

The *Reina Sofía School of Music* is now beginning the process of student selection to fill the class vacancies for the ALFREDO KRAUS CHAIR OF VOICE of the FUNDACIÓN RAMÓN ARECES, held by Teresa Berganza.

TERESA BERGANZA, Professor

Teresa Berganza was a pupil of the Real Conservatorio Superior de Música in Madrid where she received a very comprehensive training which included composition, piano and organ. She studied singing in depth with Lola Rodríguez de Aragón, a Spanish exponent of the Lied school who herself had been a pupil of Elisabeth Schumann. In the fifties, while continuing her studies, she began to perform in Madrid and took part in a large number of recordings of zarzuelas with Ataúlfo Argenta. Her debut in 1957 at the Festival of Aix-en-Provence as Dorabella (Mozart *Così fan tutte*) opened the door to a career which was to make her a legendary interpreter of the greatest mezzosoprano roles in the operas of Mozart and Rossini. On the international scene Teresa Berganza has shared billing with artists who are part of the history of singing, such as Maria Callas, Boris Christoff, Tito Gobbi, Elisabeth Schwarzkopf, Teresa Stich Randall, and with conductors such as Herbert von Karajan, George Solti, Claudio Abbado, Karl Böhm, Carlo Maria Giulini and Daniel Barenboim, to mention but a few.

MANUEL CID, Assistant Professor

Manuel Cid was born in Seville and studied both there and at the Mozarteum in Salzburg. Whilst still very young, he embarked upon an intensive professional career in Europe and afterwards in the United States, Canada, South America, Israel, Australia, etc. He has performed with the world's most important orchestras under maestros of such stature as Celibidache, Markevitch, Maag, Dutoit, Ceccato, Frühbeck de Burgos, López Cobos, García Navarro, Gómez Martínez, Ros-Marbà... He has given first performances of works by various Spanish composers, such as De Pablo Aracil, Encinar, Marco, Castillo, Fernández Guerra, Cristóbal Halffter, etc. Highlights of some of Manuel Cid's performances over recent years are: his interpretation of the "Winterreise" by Schubert in the Auditorio Nacional in Madrid, recitals given in Mexico, his performance together with Teresa Berganza in the Scala of Milan, a concert conducted by Dutoit in the Théâtre des Champs Élysées in Paris, a concert tour of Israel with the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra, his recording of Falla's *La Vida Breve* for the Telrac label, etc.