

“SOLO”



**ANTHONY OCAÑA**

6 & 10 string guitars

**“SOLO”** is the private whisper of Anthony Ocaña. However, it is closer to a liberated voice seeking transcendence.

After having completed a successful guitar solo tour through Portugal and the Dominican Republic, Ocaña set course on a new approach to creativity. He is now ready to share his most recent work that includes acoustic six and ten strings guitars, as well as processing his music through loops and delays attaining the impression of multiple guitars originating from a single performer.

Ocaña creates music that feeds from a variety of sound elements that co-exist with us in today's world. Among the music that enriches his language is the Caribbean Folklore –in particular the one from the Dominican Republic–, Latin America, Spain, classical music and Jazz. Even though Ocaña's pieces are rooted in these tangible musical traditions, he also approaches music from an inner abstract perspective, revealing a captivating conceptual base. These varied and intense influences are experienced as one through the evocative textures that support the character of his compositions.

The result of his recent musical investigations and personal explorations is the production of his third recording, which he will present in Spain and other countries. Enjoy, “Solo”.

# PROGRAM

1-Blackbird \*

2-Yesterday \*

3-Framboyán

4-Nisibón

5-Voyage

6-Al Alba \*\*

7-Poema a Icaro

8-Improviso 2 (a Anouar Brahem)

9-Pa' Michel (Dedicada a Michel Camilo)

10-Joy

All music written by Anthony Ocaña, except (\*) written by Lennon-McCartney, and (\*\*) written by Luis Eduardo Aute.

# ANTHONY OCAÑA

Composer and guitarist, born in Dominican Republic ("D.R.") on March 7th 1980, in 2007 he becomes a Spanish citizen. From an early age Ocaña discovered his love for music. At the age of 5 he started taking piano and violin lessons and at 12 he began playing what is today his main instrument, the guitar. He studied at the National Conservatory of Music of the D.R. with the recognized guitarist Rubén González. In 1998 he received a scholarship to study guitar and composition at Manhattanville College NY. He studied guitar with Benjamin Verdery and composition with Ingram Marshall and Mary Ann Joyce. In NY he worked with important musical figures such as Elliot Magaziner (for many years he conducted the Frank Sinatra Orchestra). Anthony was awarded the "Sr. Josephine Morgan Award" by the music department of Manhattanville College for his professional and academic achievements. In 2002, after finishing his studies in NY, he decided to live in Madrid where he studied composition with Jesus Torres and guitar with Jose Luis Merlín.

In 1999 and 2001 he opened concerts for Gonzalo Rubalcaba at the National Theater of D.R. In 2001 he recorded his first album entitled "A Paso de Cebra" (Zebra's Pace) along with the pianist Sebastian Lerner. In 2003 he opened a concert for Egberto Gismonti at the National Theater of D.R. for this event Anthony integrated the percussion in his music having the pleasure to perform with Guarionex Aquino. In 2004 he received two important awards for his guitar works, the "Francisco Tárrega Award" in Spain and the "Casa de Teatro Award" in D.R.

Ocaña is constantly performing his music at important concert halls in Spain: *Casa de América, El Círculo de Bellas Artes, La Casa de La Moneda, La Fídula, Rincón del Arte Nuevo* and *Clamores*. Between 2005-2006 he presented over 50 concerts in the geography of Spain.

In the summer of 2006 he published his second album entitled "Anthony Ocaña" based on compositions he wrote between 2003 and 2006. Several Dominican artists were invited to perform at this album: Guarionex Aquino, Esar Simó, Sebastián Lerner, Isidro Bobadilla and Maridalia Hernandez. On February 2007 he performed at the prestigious "Palacio Foz" in Lisbon, Portugal, this concert was retransmitted throughout Portugal's National Radio. On March 2007 Ocaña presented an important tour in D. R. In November 2007 he participated at the Festival de Jazz de Madrid.

In the year of 2008 Ocaña is chosen to participate at the *Circuitos de Música Injuve* (National Institute for the Youth in Spain). Throughout the years of 2008-2009 he will be presenting a tour in Spain and other Countries in order to introduce his most recent album entitled "Solo".

## REVIEWS

### *About his album "Anthony Ocaña"*

"A brilliant acoustic album" (Jazz World Quest 2006)

"This album is a clean cut example of the "Nouvelle Musique""  
(Irasema Jiminián 2006)

"Anthony Ocaña is a great creator whose version of my song "Al Alba" has surprised me and it is the most original of all I have heard"  
(Luis Eduardo Aute 2006)

### *About his album "Solo"*

*The Dominican Republic waits and needs to witness the arising of the next Michel Camilo, and not necessarily another pianist. Another Michel in terms of quality, international and artistic transcendence. If predictions do not fail, guitarist Anthony Ocaña is one of those hopes we keep under the veil of our national pride...Solo will accompany the good taste of the discriminating music lover who disregards commercial formulas, and goes directly for fine art, or in this case, great music. (Máximo Jimenez "El Caribe" 2008)*

The style he has purified throughout the years and with experience, escapes classification, too modern for what is classic and too traditional for what is contemporary, a music that is open and without labels. (Sónsoles Rodríguez González "EFE" 2008)

# CONTACT

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In order to listen to  
Anthony Ocaña's music  
please visit:

*<http://www.anthonycana.com>  
<http://www.myspace.com/anthonycana>*