

Luis Enrique Juliá, composer and guitarist was nominated for a Latin Grammy award in 2009 in Best Classical Album category for *Concierto de Aniversario*, a double CD produced for Pro Arte Musical, containing works by Mendelssohn and Brahms as well as Juliá's own five movements *Quintet for Clarinet and Strings (2008)*, performed by Ricardo Morales, principal clarinetist of the Philadelphia Orchestra, and the Pacifica Quartet, *Musical America's* 2009 Ensemble of the Year and quartet-in-residence of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Born and raised in Puerto Rico, maestro Juliá has created music in contemporary Caribbean styles for the stage. His ballet scores include *Retablo del nacimiento* (Tableau of the Birth of Christ), *Venus sobre el cielo del Caribe* (Venus Above the Caribbean Sky) and *Son de Andanza* (Sounds of Andanza). He has also composed songs, dances and incidental music for experimental theater pieces, among them *Juegos de obsesión* (Games of Obsession), *Tartufo* (Tartuffe), *La bella y la bestia* (Beauty and the Beast), *Espejos* (Mirrors), *Don Juan Tenorio*, *La vida es sueño* (Life is a Dream), and *Goyita* (in homage to painter Rafael Tufiño) (2013). In 1993 he recorded the CD *CARIBE*, a combination of classical melodies with popular themes and jazz techniques.

Although self-taught in the field of composition, he was trained in the classical guitar tradition by José Tomás in Spain, Rey de la Torre in California and Leonardo Egúrbida in Puerto Rico, and attended master classes with Andrés Segovia, Alirio Díaz, Oscar Ghiglia and Leo Brouwer. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Puerto Rico, and a "Profesor Superior de Guitarra" degree from "Oscar Esplá" Conservatory in Alicante, Spain.

Also active in the educational field, he's been since 1988 in the faculty of the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music, now full Professor of Classical Guitar and Chair of the Strings Department. After graduating with a Bachelor of Music degree under the guidance of Professor Juliá, Hermelindo Ruiz Mestre pursued graduate studies in Yale University, where he obtained a Master of Music degree in May 2012, and a Performance Diploma a year later. Dr. Isaac Lausell, also a pupil of maestro Juliá, is currently in the faculty of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, teaching classic and jazz guitar. He obtained a Master of Music degree from North Texas University and a Doctor of Musical Arts degree from SUNY Stonybrook.

Luis Enrique Juliá has appeared in concerts, lectures, recitals, radio and television in the United States, Spain, Italy, France, Mexico, Colombia, Venezuela, and throughout the Caribbean. His interest in interdisciplinary exploration has led him to collaborate with such artists as painter Rafael Trelles, literary critic Mercedes López-Baralt, baritone Justino Díaz, violinist Henry Hutchinson Negrón, Argentinean actress Norma Aleandro, Cuban filmmaker Enrique Pineda Barnet, and more recently with jazz influential double-bassist Eddie Gomez.