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Composer Brief Biography: Horacio Fernández Vázquez

Horacio Fernández Vázquez is a Mexican pianist and composer who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in musical composition at **The Juilliard School of Music**, class of '22. He has also studied at the **Benemérita Universidad Autónoma de Puebla** and the **Lyon Conservatory** in **Lyon, France**. His mentors and teachers include **Robert Beaser, Alan Belkin, Gonzalo Macías and Arturo Márquez**. He writes music that is proud of the urban culture and richness of colors of Latin America and expresses it by mixing modern dance styles and rhythms with western forms and techniques as well as popular music styles from outside Latin-America. Although he is Mexican by birth and upbringing, he identifies more strongly as an international composer, one who is as interested with other cultures as he is with his purely Mexican heritage.

- His composition ***"Tumbao"*** won the annual Juilliard composer competition and will be premiered under the direction of **Maestro Jeffrey Milarsky** with **The Juilliard Orchestra** at **Alice Tully Hall** in February 2020.

- He was awarded an honorable mention in the **Flute View's Composer Competition for the James Galway Festival** in **Switzerland** for his flute sextet entitled ***Montuno for Six***

- In November of 2018, Horacio made his debut with the ***5 de Mayo Philharmonic*** as a composer and soloist of ***"Bembé"*** a composition that puts Latin American Dance Rhythms into a classical music setting.

- In April, he was commissioned to write music for ***Physics of Music CERN'S Cosmic Piano*** where he composed and performed in both Piano and Cosmic Piano in a multidisciplinary event between physics and music sponsored by CERN. It took place in the **National Academy of Music** of **Sophia, Bulgaria**.

- He was also a commission composer at ***Brújula*** on the ***7th artistic festival of Autumn of the Jornadas INBA-SACM***.

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- In December 2016, he was the of the third edition of the ***Arturo Márquez Orchestral Composition Contest***, His work ***"Latin Fantasy & Fugue (Talavera)"*** was presented on December 1st 2016 at the auditorium of the ***Centro Cultural Roberto Cantoral in Mexico City***.

- In September 2014, he collaborated with Mexican Playwright **Rodolfo Pineda Bernal** in musical about the life and work of German phycologist **Victor Frankl**. Horacio wrote all of the music and collaborated the playwright in the lyrics. The play received several performances across Mexico and Puebla City.

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