

PRESS RELEASE

STAR PIANIST STORMS BOURNEMOUTH

- Gabriela Montero stuns crowd with improvisations on *Summertime* and *West Side Story*
 - Surprise beach recital for Classic FM begins **Montero's** year-long residency with Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra



Gabriela Montero on Bournemouth Pier © BSO

Surfers and music lovers alike witnessed Venezuelan pianist composer, Gabriela Montero, in performance on Bournemouth Beach — in stormy weather — on Friday. Montero, who begins a year as Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra's **Artist-in-Residence**, is famed for her visionary improvisations looked forward to giving locals "*a sense of what's coming up this year!*"

The Latin Grammy-winning artist has a strong following around the globe. Her recital was filmed by Classic FM – **the UK's most popular classical** music station – and will be available to watch at ClassicFM.com.

The celebrated musician will give five performances — in Poole, Portsmouth and Exeter — from 16 October when she performs her Piano Concerto No.1, *Latin Concerto*, a work that honours the musical traditions that have shaped her.

Gabriela Montero will perform in Poole, Portsmouth and Exeter: *Latin Fiesta* (16 Oct — Poole, 17 Oct — Portsmouth); *Tchaikovsky Magic* (4 Dec — Poole, 5 Dec — Exeter); with the *BSO Soloists* (26 Feb — Poole). See bsolive.com for tickets and further details. #MonteroBSO

[ENDS]



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Notes to Editors:

1. Images [available here](#):
 - a) Gabriela Montero on Bournemouth Pier © BSO
 - b) Montero wows Bournemouth crowd © BSO
 - c) Gabriela Montero © Shelley Mosman

2. Gabriela Montero will perform:
Latin Fiesta (16 Oct — Poole, 17 Oct — Portsmouth)
Márquez Danzón No.2
Montero Piano Concerto No.1 'Latin'
de Falla The Three-Cornered Hat (complete)
Carlos Miguel Prieto (Conductor) | Gabriela Montero (Piano) | Rihab Chaieb (Mezzo-Soprano)

Tchaikovsky Magic (4 Dec — Poole, 5 Dec — Exeter);
Shchedrin **Concerto for Orchestra No.1 'Naughty Limericks'**
Mozart Piano Concerto No.24
Tchaikovsky The Nutcracker Suite
Kirill Karabits (Conductor) | Gabriela Montero (Piano)

With the BSO Soloists (26 Feb — Poole)
Montero A Piece for Ruth
Rachmaninov Piano Sonata No.2
Shostakovich Piano Quintet
Montero Improvisations
Gabriela Montero (Piano) | BSO Soloists

3. Gabriela Montero performed at **Barack Obama's 2008 inauguration alongside Yo-Yo Ma**, has been honoured by Amnesty International for her humanitarian work, and was championed by José Antonio Abreu, the founder of the ground-breaking **El Sistema** movement. Her performance at Vienna's Konzerthaus was described by **Der Standard** as being 'like a visit from outer space'. She's performed with former BSO principal conductor Marin Alsop and the São Paulo Symphony, as well as with Claudio Abbado, Lorin Maazel and Yannick Nézet-Séguin.

4. Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra is a world-class ensemble known for spearheading change both on and off the stage since 1893. Highly regarded for its ambitious programming and recordings, its Prokofiev cycle and survey of Eastern European music under the baton of Chief Conductor Kirill Karabits has received critical acclaim.



5. The BSO serves a 10,000-square-mile region, touring around 140 performances each year to audiences in South West England and beyond; it also offers a number of smaller ensembles, including BSO Resound, the disabled-led ensemble pushing the boundaries of performance practice, and Kokoro, a contemporary chamber ensemble.
6. A bold champion of new talent the BSO boasts an enviable list of principal conductors, from Marin Alsop – the first female principal conductor of a major UK orchestra – to Constantin Silvestri, Paavo Berglund and Andrew Litton. It has given memorable performances at Carnegie Hall, the Musikverein, and Rudolfinum.
7. As a registered arts charity the BSO is increasingly reliant on the support of individuals, charitable trusts and companies. The income earned from ticket sales, commercial activity and grants from **public funding sources help the Orchestra greatly and is increasingly invaluable in supporting BSO's** on-going mission to enrich and inspire the cultural lives of many.
8. **The BSO is Classic FM's Orchestra in the South of England.**