

Musical America's Artist of the Month, María Dueñas, is making a spectacular impact on the classical music world as a soloist. Born in Granada, Spain, she is a student of well-distinguished pedagogue Boris Kuschmir at the Music and Arts University of the City of Vienna and at the University of Music and Performing Arts of Graz.

Dueñas came to public attention after winning the 1st Prize at the Zhuhai Mozart International Competition in China and at the Vladimir Spivakov International Competition in Russia, which led to subsequent inspiring projects with Maestro Spivakov, as well as relevant debuts with some of the most prestigious orchestras in Europe and abroad, namely the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under Marek Janowski, her 15-year-old-debut at the Golden Hall in the Vienna Musikverein, the Tchaikovsky Concert Hall in Moscow with the National Philharmonic Orchestra of Russia or at the Elbphilharmonie. World-leading Festivals have counted on María's presence, including the International Festival "Arts Square" in St. Petersburg, Schloss Elmau in duo with Itamar Golan and the Verbier Festival.

Highlights for the upcoming season include her debut with Manfred Honeck and the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, her return to St. Petersburg under Vassily Sinaisky and the Dresden Philharmonic under Marek Janowski.

María Dueñas plays on the Niccolò Gagliano violin 17?4, kindly on loan from the *Deutsche Stiftung Musikleben* and on the Guarneri del Gesù "Muntz" 1736, on generous loan from the *Nippon Music Foundation*.