

Jorge Amado (b.1997)

Amado is a Cuban-born composer, violinist, and violist whose music bridges Afro-Cuban traditions with contemporary classical language. His work explores the cultural memory of his homeland while embracing modern aesthetics, creating a distinctive voice rooted in rhythm, lyricism, and identity.

His compositions have been performed in major venues such as **Carnegie Hall**, **Chicago Symphony Center**, **Merkin Hall**, **Concertgebouw Amsterdam** and **Wiener Konzerthaus**, commissioned by artists and ensembles including the **Orpheus Chamber Orchestra**, **Catalyst Quartet**, **Niurka González**, **Chicago Civic Fellows**, **Jon Kimura Parker**, **Alexandria Symphony Orchestra**, **Desirée Ruhstrat**, **~Nois Quartet**, **Flannau Duo**, and **Quijote Duo**.

His music spans chamber, orchestral, and stage works, often marked by intricate textures, expressive lyricism, and a profound sense of cultural storytelling, and has premiered at festivals including **Ear Taxi Festival**, **Virginia Arts Festival**, **Annapolis Chamber Music Festival**, and **Shenandoah Valley Bach Festival**.

A recipient of numerous international honors, Amado was awarded 2nd Prize at the 2025 **Green Mountain Chamber Music Festival Call for Scores**, **Cubadisco Award** for his album *Ofrenda*, and several First Prizes at major composition competitions, including **8SW Composition Competition**, **Musicalia**, and **Nuestra América**. In 2025, he was Composer Fellow at the **Imani Winds Chamber Music Festival** at the **Juilliard School** and received a 2023 **Jeff Award** nomination for his original theater music for *Measure for Measure* at **Chicago Shakespeare Theater**, in collaboration with **Orbert Davis**.

Amado earned his Master of Arts in Music Composition (with Distinction) from **DePaul University**, studying with **Dr. Osnat Netzer** and **Dr. Christopher Jones**, and his Bachelor's degree in Composition and Violin Performance (summa cum laude) from the **University of the Arts in Havana**, studying with **Juan Piñera** and **Carmen Amador**.

Based in **Chicago**, he is Teaching Artist and Assistant to the Artistic Director of the **Chicago Jazz Philharmonic**, while maintaining an active studio in violin, viola, and composition.

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