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VENEZUELAN HAPIST MARISELA GONZALES TEACHES MASTER CLASSES IN BOGOTA **Classes Offered Through the Salvi Master Class Series**

Well-known Venezuelan harpist, Marisela Gonzalez completed a two-day harp master class in Bogota, March 2 and 5, for students of the Conservatory of the National University of Colombia and the Juan N. Corpas University. The classes were part of the Salvi Master Class Series, which took place in León de Greiff Auditorium of the National University and the Roberto Arias Pérez Theater. Arrangements were made through the Bogotá Philharmonic Orchestra, the National Association of Music, the National University of Colombia and the Juan N. Corpas University.

According to Bibiana Ordoñez, harp teacher of the National Music Conservatory, "Having an opportunity to study with Marisela Gonzales was a great experience for young Colombian harpists." "Marisela is an excellent teacher who has dedicated her career to learning more about the harp and furthering the Latin American harp repertoire; her visit to Colombia made an important contribution to the group of harpists who have been participating in the Salvi Harp Masterclass Series. To be able to study with Marisela and to be able to learn from her experience was a unique opportunity for our musicians".

Marisela Gonzales began her musical studies at the Escuela Superior de Música José Angel Lamas. She earned a Master's degree in Harp (1980) and Master in Wind Instruments (1982) from the New England Conservatory of Music in Boston.

As a soloist she has performed with the Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela, the Caracas Sinfonietta, the Boston Civic Orchestra, the Tel Aviv Chamber Orchestra, Istanbul Chamber Orchestra, the Bachiana Brazilian Compay and the Municipal Orchestra of Caracas.

Executive Director and Founding Member of the Venezuelan Association of harpists ARPAS A.C., Marisela Gonzales has also been member of the Board of the World Harp Congress (1995 - 2001) and soloist harpist of the Symphonic Orchestra of Venezuela, a position she held until 2001. Currently, she is harp teacher at the Simón Bolívar University at Caracas.

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