



COLLEGE OF MUSIC

University of North Texas College of Music

Doctoral Lecture | Wednesday, March 6, 2024 | 6:30 pm | Recital Hall

Maria Vallejo, flute

COMPOSITIONAL LANGUAGE OF GABRIELA ORTIZ IN CÓDIGOS SECRETOS (FOR FLUTE & ELECTROACOUSTIC SOUNDS)

This dissertation provides a performance guide of *Códigos Secretos* for flute and electroacoustic sounds (2004) written by Gabriela Ortiz and commissioned by flutist Alejandro Escuer. Ortiz's compositional language reflects the influence of her teachers in Mexico and London, and the exposure to the evolving musical landscape during her formative years. Her decision to explore the electroacoustic realm stemmed from her fascination with the unlimited possibilities offered by working with a variety of acoustic sources and technological equipment that allowed her to experiment with different musical ideas, compositional processes and unique soundscapes. *Códigos Secretos* presents challenges for flutists due to various unfamiliar elements and the absence of a preface or guide, making it difficult or inaccessible for performers to understand and perform the piece. The performance guide offers detailed explanations for the flute and computer scores, addresses discrepancies in the score and between different versions, and provides guidance on improvisatory sections and the execution of extended techniques to enhance the performer's understanding of the piece and enable an artistic performance. This dissertation aims to inform performers and researchers about Ortiz's compositional language, raise awareness about the diversity of Mexican music, and bring Ortiz's compositions to a broader audience, making her works more accessible. It also seeks to encourage performances of *Códigos Secretos*, recognizing its significance as a valuable addition to the flute repertoire.

Five hundred eighty-fifth program of the 2023–2024 season
Photography and videography are prohibited