

Woodwinds Adjudicator



Born in Moncofa into a family of clarinetists and Zarzuela singers, Jose Franch-Ballester began clarinet lessons at the age of nine with Venancio Rius, and graduated from the Joaquin Rodrigo Music Conservatory in Valencia. In 2005, he earned a bachelor's degree from the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia, where he studied with Donald Montanaro.

As a concerto soloist he made his New York debut in 2006 with the Orchestra of St. Luke's at Lincoln Center. He has also performed with the BBC Concert Orchestra, Louisville Orchestra, Princeton Symphony Orchestra, Santa Barbara Chamber Orchestra, and various orchestras. He performs regularly in Spain and with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center both in New York City and on tour, and serves as principal clarinet of Camerata Pacifica, a chamber music collective in Santa Barbara, California. Mr. Franch-Ballester's recordings include a Deutsche Grammophon CD of Bartók's Contrasts, "Piazzolla Masterworks," and "Jose Franch-Ballester & Friends," a CD of chamber music. In 2010 he was awarded the Midem Prize for "Outstanding Young Artist."

Mr. Franch-Ballester is artistic director of miXt, an ensemble of award-winning soloists from the Young Concert Artists roster that he founded in 2012. He is also a dedicated music educator, as assistant professor of clarinet and chamber music at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada. Mr. Franch-Ballester is also the founder of *Jose Franch-Ballester i amics* (and friends), a series of concerts in which young musicians from all over the world are presented in Mr. Franch-Ballester's hometown of Moncofa and throughout the Valencia area.

Highlights Concert May 2, 2019
Phillip T. Young Recital Hall, 5pm
B125, MacLaurin Building, University of Victoria, Ring Rd