

*Early Dreams:*  
The World of Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

**Marionas**

Santiago de Murcia (c.1682-c.1740) / Gaspar Sanz (c.1640- c.1710)

**Primero sueño**

(opening stanzas from Sor Juana's poem, recited)  
to *Jácaras* by Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz / Santiago de Murcia

**Prolija Memoria**

on *Marizapalos* by Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz; lyrics by Sor Juana

**Traigo conmigo un cuidado**

on *Pasesos* by Gaspar Sanz; lyrics by Sor Juana

**Que contiene una fantasía**

From *Tres sonetos* by Michael Oesterle (1968- ); lyrics by Sor Juana



**Canarios**

Gaspar Sanz

**Afuera, afuera, ansias mías**

Santiago de Murcia; lyrics by Sor Juana

**Fandango**

Santiago de Murcia

**Deténte, sombra de mi bien esquivo**

on *Españoletas* by Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz & Gaspar Sanz;  
lyrics by Sor Juana

**Paradetas**

Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz (c.1612-c.1667)

**Las fuentes mi voz socorran**

on *Gaytas* by Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz; lyrics by Sor Juana

**La Petenera / La Serena**

Mexican traditional / Judeo-Spanish poem

# CONSTANTINOPLE

KIYA TABASSIAN  
setar, musical direction

ZIYA TABASSIAN  
percussion

PIERRE-YVES MARTEL  
viola da gamba

ENRIQUE SOLINIS  
baroque guitar

&

FRANÇOISE ATLAN  
voice

*“I am the Light  
among the rays,  
enjoying the blazing sun.”*

Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz

*Early Dreams* is a journey of the senses through the passionate poetry of **Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz** (1648-1695), a legendary figure of the Mexican Baroque. Inflamed with an inextinguishable desire to learn, and to love, she was in turn a writer, mystic, scientist and musician, defying the laws and constraints of her era. To remember this extraordinary woman we selected some of her poems and set them to music over well-known bass lines of the period, drawn primarily from the works of **Lucas Ruis de Ribayaz** (ca.1626-ca.1667), **Gaspar Sanz** (ca. 1640-ca.1710) and **Santiago de Murcia** (ca.1682-ca.1740): Spanish composers whose works were widely performed in 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century Mexico. We moreover commissioned music from the Canadian composer **Michael Oesterle**, who shares our fascination for the poetry and times of Sor Juana. **Françoise Atlan**, a long term collaborator of the ensemble, lent her warm and unique voice to the project. The dialogue between the Baroque guitar, the Persian setar, the viola da gamba and the percussion instruments produces a unique sound, characteristic of our group: a sound both ancient and modern, Mediterranean and middle-Eastern, which we take today to New Spain. The result is a scintillating, virtuoso dialogue based on respect and admiration for a woman who was among the greatest scholars in Latin American history: Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz.

**Kiya Tabassian**

