Malinalli
(Concert Version)

A Mexican Chamber Opera In Three Acts
Music By Manuel Henríquez Romero
Libretto By Miguel Rodríguez Martínez

Jesus David Camalich, Conductor
Laura Black, Marina
Ivan Sotelo-Duran, Hernán Cortés
Jeremy Peterman, Piano and Sub-titles

DOCTORAL RECITAL SERIES
EVELYN SMITH MUSIC THEATRE
APRIL 2-3, 2008 • 7:30 PM
Malinalli is set during and after the Conquest of Mexico, 1521. The opera spans the relationship between Hernán Cortés and his mistress Marina (Malinalli). Marina starts as a single woman (first act), a mother (second act), and ending as a slave (third act). In the first Act, the couple talk about how their lives were before they met and shows Marina’s baptism when she converts to Christianity, how Marina helps Cortés as a translator, and the days during their trip to the Valley of Anáhuac (where the city of Tenochtitlán was founded, today known as Mexico City). The second act shows Marina as a mother. All her fears for Martín, son of Hernán Cortés and herself, how this baby is the communion between two cultures, and how Martín is the beginning of a new ethnic group. The third act shows Marina as a slave, she cannot say anything but must accept whatever Cortés tells her to do. Cortés sends the baby to Spain without Marina and decides that Marina must marry Juan de Jaramillo, one of his most loyal soldiers. Marina accepts saying Juan de Jaramillo will be honored as soon as the marriage takes place but she can’t forget her true love for Cortés.
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