

## **FERNANDO VILLEGAS OCAÑA**

Born in Seville, he began his studies at the Local Conservatory , where he won the prize of honor. Soon after he became a member of The Bética Philharmonic Orchestra and entered the Spanish National Youth Orchestra of Spain (JONDE) as principal violist.

Specialized viola seminars attended include those taught by Liviu Stanese, Miriam Deliberos and Garfield Jackson and chamber music Master Classes with members of the quartet "Endellion" and "Enesco. "

He was awarded a scholarship from the Spanish Ministry of Culture to continue his studies in Paris with Ana Bela Chaves (Orchestre de Paris Principal Violist ). Later on, thanks to a scholarship from the Andalusian Regional Government, he moved to the United States where he graduated with a Masters Degree at Yale University studying viola with Jesse Levine and chamber music with the Tokyo String Quartet.

He held the principal violist position with the National Chamber Orchestra of Andorra where he worked with musicians like Yehudi Menuhin, Jean Pierre Rampal, Maurice Andre and Narciso Yepes among others, combining his orchestral duties with a teaching position at the Conservatory of Music in Terrassa

He was a member of the group Barcelona 216, chamber ensemble dedicated to the contemporary music with which he toured Italy, France, Croatia and Luxembourg.

During these years he collaborated with the Barcelona Symphony Orchestra, Orquesta del Liceu in Barcelona, Asturias Symphony Orchestra, Malaga Symphony Orchestra, Galicia Symphony Orchestra and the Balearic Islands Symphony Orchestra.

He was a founding member of "trio'90" (flute, viola and harp) with which he recorded for the National Radio of Spain and performed concerts in Madrid, Barcelona....

He was a member of the Camerata Sa Nostra and the Baroque Orchestra of Mallorca, a group led by violinist Barry Sargent and dedicated to the Historical performance with period instruments and historical criteria.

Currently he is also viola professor at the Conservatory of Music and Dance in Mallorca and a founding member of Camerata Deia (ensemble in residence at the Deia International Music Festival), with which he has been invited to perform on several occasions at the Adriatic Chamber Music Festival (Italy), and various festivals in Germany and Sweden.