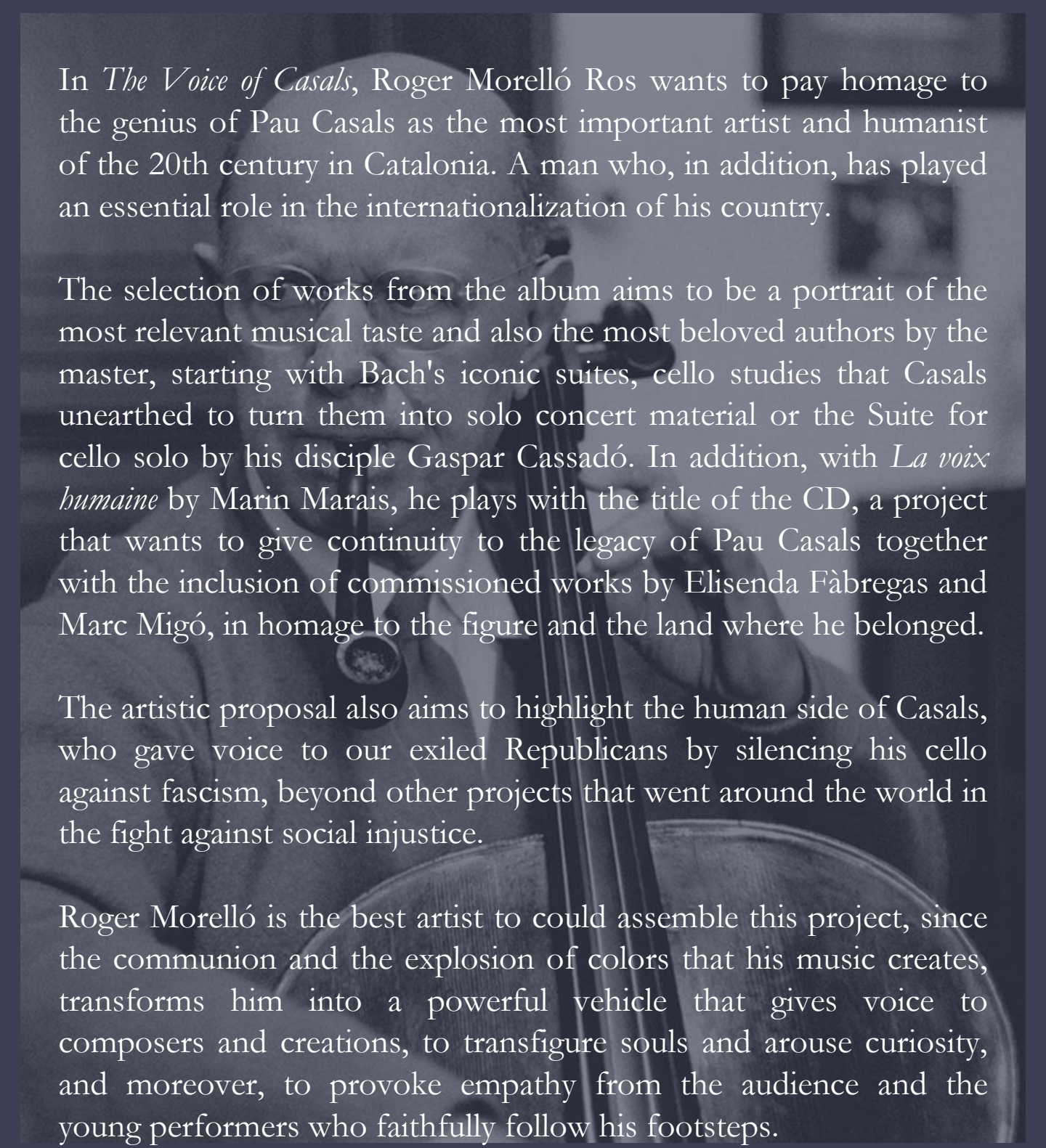




The Voice of Casals

Roger Morelló Ros

Catalan folklore



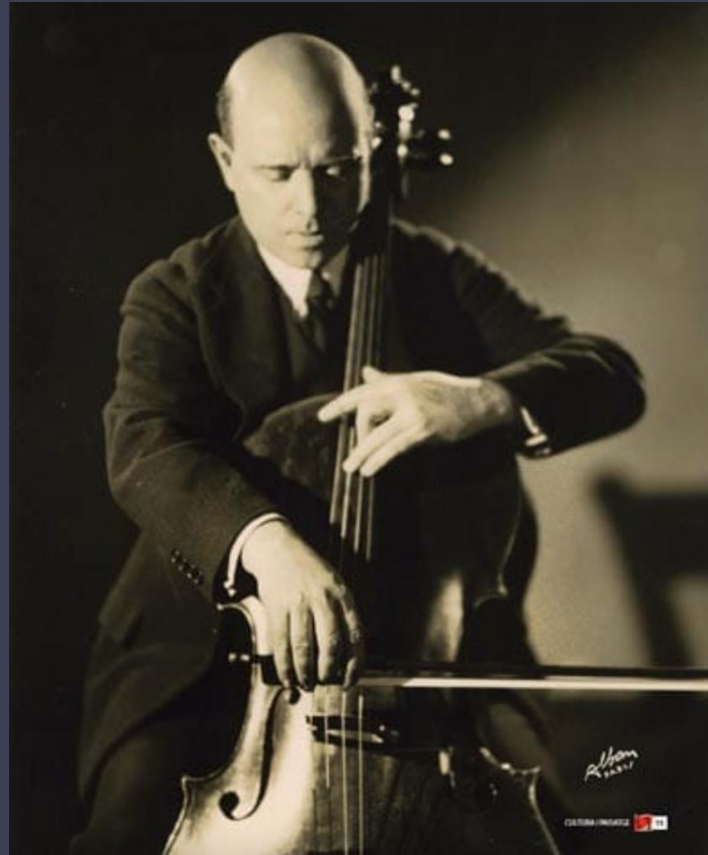
In *The Voice of Casals*, Roger Morelló Ros wants to pay homage to the genius of Pau Casals as the most important artist and humanist of the 20th century in Catalonia. A man who, in addition, has played an essential role in the internationalization of his country.

The selection of works from the album aims to be a portrait of the most relevant musical taste and also the most beloved authors by the master, starting with Bach's iconic suites, cello studies that Casals unearthed to turn them into solo concert material or the Suite for cello solo by his disciple Gaspar Cassadó. In addition, with *La voix humaine* by Marin Marais, he plays with the title of the CD, a project that wants to give continuity to the legacy of Pau Casals together with the inclusion of commissioned works by Elisenda Fàbregas and Marc Migó, in homage to the figure and the land where he belonged.

The artistic proposal also aims to highlight the human side of Casals, who gave voice to our exiled Republicans by silencing his cello against fascism, beyond other projects that went around the world in the fight against social injustice.

Roger Morelló is the best artist to could assemble this project, since the communion and the explosion of colors that his music creates, transforms him into a powerful vehicle that gives voice to composers and creations, to transfigure souls and arouse curiosity, and moreover, to provoke empathy from the audience and the young performers who faithfully follow his footsteps.

The Voice of Roger Morelló Tribute to Casals



Roger Morelló shared with Casals the need for communication with the audience and with the world. Their will as artists are, first of all, to be faithful to the authors and their music, as was the case of Casals -who had a very important role in rereading works of the past that have been interpreted without historical criteria and was a leader in the interpretation of contemporary creation. But, above all, Casals and Morelló share an intrinsic need to connect with everyone who listens to their music. In addition, the album is a showcase of love for Catalan culture and the authors of the land who make their music a universal language but who nevertheless have a strong Catalan accent.

Pau Casals

Roger Morelló

Booklet by Mònica Pagès Santacana, author of *Gaspar Cassadó - La veu del violoncel*

Pictures will be taken at Museum Villa Casals, El Vendrell.

As part of the release of *The Voice of Casals* there will be a concert organized by the **Pau Casals Foundation**. The CD will be sold in the Casals Museum. Furthermore, the foundation will promote the album through its institutions, such as the Pablo Casals Festival in Prades or the Pau Casals Festival in the Pau Casals Auditorium. Letter of recommendation by the Pau Casals Foundation will be available.

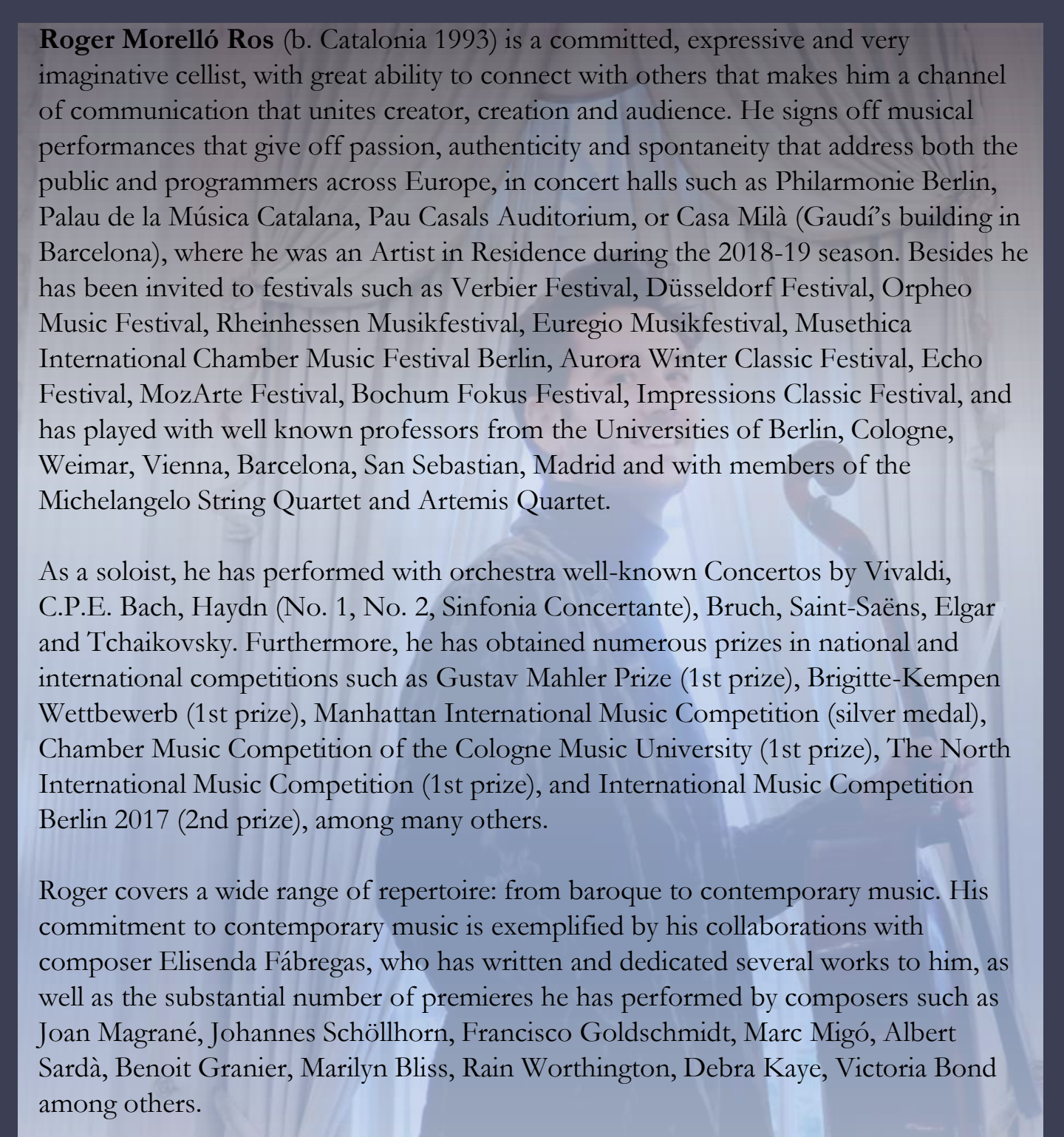
The CD will have a lot of presence in the Barcelona of Gaudí, so the album will be probably sold in Casa Milà, where Roger Morelló was Artist in Residence, and in Palau Güell, one of Roger Morelló's sponsors, both very special buildings designed by Gaudí, in Barcelona.

The **Ramon Llull Foundation** will probably cooperate with the project, the aim of which is to internacionalize Catalan culture abroad. With their help, concert presentations will be arranged in New York and other cities nearby.

The Deutsche Musikrat supports the CD release as well.

Sound master & recording will be made by the German radio Südwestrundfunk (SWR), which will also broadcast it.

The Voice of Casals About



Roger Morelló Ros (b. Catalonia 1993) is a committed, expressive and very imaginative cellist, with great ability to connect with others that makes him a channel of communication that unites creator, creation and audience. He signs off musical performances that give off passion, authenticity and spontaneity that address both the public and programmers across Europe, in concert halls such as Philharmonie Berlin, Palau de la Música Catalana, Pau Casals Auditorium, or Casa Milà (Gaudí's building in Barcelona), where he was an Artist in Residence during the 2018-19 season. Besides he has been invited to festivals such as Verbier Festival, Düsseldorf Festival, Orpheo Music Festival, Rheinhessen Musikfestival, Euregio Musikfestival, Musethica International Chamber Music Festival Berlin, Aurora Winter Classic Festival, Echo Festival, MozArte Festival, Bochum Fokus Festival, Impressions Classic Festival, and has played with well known professors from the Universities of Berlin, Cologne, Weimar, Vienna, Barcelona, San Sebastian, Madrid and with members of the Michelangelo String Quartet and Artemis Quartet.

As a soloist, he has performed with orchestra well-known Concertos by Vivaldi, C.P.E. Bach, Haydn (No. 1, No. 2, Sinfonia Concertante), Bruch, Saint-Saëns, Elgar and Tchaikovsky. Furthermore, he has obtained numerous prizes in national and international competitions such as Gustav Mahler Prize (1st prize), Brigitte-Kempen Wettbewerb (1st prize), Manhattan International Music Competition (silver medal), Chamber Music Competition of the Cologne Music University (1st prize), The North International Music Competition (1st prize), and International Music Competition Berlin 2017 (2nd prize), among many others.

Roger covers a wide range of repertoire: from baroque to contemporary music. His commitment to contemporary music is exemplified by his collaborations with composer Elisenda Fábregas, who has written and dedicated several works to him, as well as the substantial number of premieres he has performed by composers such as Joan Magrané, Johannes Schöllhorn, Francisco Goldschmidt, Marc Migó, Albert Sardà, Benoit Granier, Marilyn Bliss, Rain Worthington, Debra Kaye, Victoria Bond among others.

Roger Morelló Ros Bio

Roger Morelló initially studied in Spain with David Blay, Damian Martínez (Musikene) and then moved to Germany to do a Master and a Soloist-Diploma with Maria Kliegel at the University of Music in Cologne, finishing with honors and with the financial support of the Deutschlandstipendium and the Güell Scholarship. Other relevant personalities in his artistic development have been Marta Casals, Anthony Spiri, Harald Schoneweg, Benedicte Palko, Andoni Mercero and Megumi Hashiba. He has also received masterclasses from Steven Isserlis, Frans Helmerson and Cuarteto Casals, among others.

Roger is an Honorary Member of *Une Clé de Sol pour une Étoile*, an organization that works on behalf of disadvantaged children through music, and is also a member of the Yehudi Menuhin Foundation, which includes playing social concerts. He has been a fellow of the New York Woman Composers Association, the Deutscher-Musikrat, the GVL-Neustart, the NRW-Künstlerstipendium, the Dörken Stiftung and was the winner of a Wardwell Fellowship from the Humboldt Foundation. Furthermore, his performances are often broadcasted by the National Radio of Spain, Catalan Radio, SWR, and by the BBC.

With his desire to appeal to a wider audience, the album *Schumann goes Tango* was released with pianist Alica Koyama Müller by Austrian Gramophone in early 2022. He has been Artistic Director of the Festival *Bach 2 Basics* (2021) in Málaga, which culminated in a CD recording.

To perform the best musical work, Morelló brings together his physical, mental and emotional abilities and uses the technique consciously with the combination of methodology and effort as a vehicle to sing the music with the intonation it needs, with the colors that best suit him and with the most authentic expression. This way, the excitement on the stage with Morelló is moved from the bow of the instrument to the senses of the audience. The communion created by his music and the explosion of colours that he ignites, makes him a powerful vehicle that gives voice to composers and their creation to transfigure souls and arouse the curiosity and empathy of the audience and those young interpreters who faithfully follow in his footsteps.

Roger Morelló Ros Bio

Liebesträum – *Love dream* (arr. Roger Morelló), **Franz Liszt**

<https://youtu.be/I5GBg40ok3I>

Sonata No.2 op.99 in F-Major, **Johannes Brahms**

<https://youtu.be/IDAkAwL9eAc>

Cello Concerto, **Edward Elgar**

<https://youtu.be/eIVuIKw8IaY>

Suite for Cello Solo, **Gaspar Cassadó**

<https://youtu.be/nkIDQaEVI8E>

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