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## Ortiz brings unique musical style to MSU

*Award-winning composer from Mexico presents four opportunities for local music fans.*

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EAST LANSING, Mich. – [Gabriela Ortiz](#) is among the most prominent composers in Mexico, and her varied and distinct work is a unique blend of high art, folk music and jazz. From October 26-30, the artist residency with the Michigan State University College of Music brings unique opportunities for the Greater Lansing community to experience her beautifully energetic music performed by top ensembles from MSU.

The main highlights include concerts with the MSU Wind Symphony and the MSU Symphony Orchestra. Funded by the [Sam and Mary Austin Fund for New Music](#), the Ortiz residency also includes a performance with MSU small orchestral ensemble Musique 21 and a master class with MSU Music students that is open to the public.

Honored with the National Prize for Arts and Literature, known as the most important award for writers and artists given by the government of Mexico, Ortiz has traveled the world with her music. From studying in London to performances of her music in Scotland, Hungary, and throughout the United States, her work gains appreciation from artists everywhere. Los Angeles Philharmonic Conductor Gustavo Dudamel described her piece called *Téenek* as "one of the most brilliant I have ever directed." He also chose Ortiz to curate the philharmonic's Pan-American Music Initiative in 2022, which commissioned MSU's Ricardo Lorenz who then [composed \*Todo Terreno\*](#) (which will be performed in one of the programs during the Ortiz residency).

"The music of Gabriela Ortiz is very powerful, beautiful, and very suggestive. Her music is performed by the best orchestras around the world and she has become a reference and a beacon in the music world," said conductor and MSU Director of Orchestra Programs [Octavio Más-Arocas](#). "Our audience will be wowed by the sheer excitement of her music, and our students will have the invaluable opportunity to work side by side with one of the most respected composers of the moment. It is an honor and a privilege to host her on campus, and we are all very excited for the concerts and the work with her."

### Upcoming events featuring works composed by Gabriela Ortiz:

- **10/27 Friday, [Wind Symphony and Symphony Band](#)** ( 8 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center)  
Featuring *Kauyumari* by Gabriela Ortiz and MSU cellist Suren Bagratuni and members of the Wind Symphony and Symphony Band. Kevin L. Sedatole and David Thornton, conductors.
- **10/29 Sunday, [Symphony Orchestra: The Power of Rhythm](#)** (3 p.m. Cobb Great Hall, Wharton Center)  
Featuring *Concierto Voltaje* by Gabriela Ortiz with timpani solo by MSU percussionist Gwendolyn Dease and performances of other select works. Octavio Más-Arocas and Sally Yu, conductors.
- **10/30 Monday, [Musique 21: Lively Rhythms](#)** (7:30 p.m. Fairchild Theatre, MSU Auditorium)  
Featuring Ortiz's *Atlas Puma* and *Corporea* and MSU's Yvonne Lam, violin, and Gwendolyn Dease, percussion, with MSU's new music ensemble Musique 21. Octavio Más-Arocas and Sally Yu, conductors.
- **10/26 Thursday, [Composer Presentation, "The Music and Life of Gabriela Ortiz"](#)** (8 p.m. 103 Music Practice Building) Open to the public, attendees can learn about her vision and perspective on making music.

General admission seating for large and other ensemble performances are \$12 for adults, \$10 for seniors (age 60 and older), and free for students and those under 18 with valid ID. Tickets can be purchased online ([music.msu.edu](http://music.msu.edu)), by calling (517) 353-5340, or at the door. More information on these and other events in the 2023-24 season is at [music.msu.edu/events](http://music.msu.edu/events). Admission to student master classes and workshops is free.

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