

Virginia Paz Vergara Meneses, Chile

Violinist and Orchestra Conductor, she has studied with professors Macarena Ferrer, Ninoska Medel and Miguel Ángel Castro Reveco. She has also studied with Mario Brignardello, Fabiola Paulsen, Alberto Dourthé, Héctor Viveros, Felipe Hidalgo, Andrea Mijailovsky and Juan Pablo Aguayo. He studied at the Conservatory of Instituto de Música PUCV.

She has performed with Los Andes Child Symphony Orchestra and Youth Chamber Orchestra, the Metropolitan Students Symphony Orchestra and the National Youth Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Chilean Women Orchestra and the Santiago Soloist.

She was invited by the Soloists of Teatro Municipal de Santiago for the program *Viva Mozart* in November 2019, by the Maule Classic Orchestra in 2019, the Coquimbo Philharmonic Orchestra in 2023, and the Southerland Soloists Foundation in Santiago.

She has taught violin at the Los Andes Child Symphony Orchestra (2016-2017), the Los Andes Culture Center (2017), the San Miguel Youth Symphony Orchestra (2019-2022) and San Miguel Pablo Neruda School (2022).

She has attended master classes at the Teatro del Lago Frutillar (2019). She has taken classes with Elías Gurevich, concertmaster in Camerata Bariloche and violinist at the Teatro Colón (August 2019). She attended the International Chamber Music Course Teatro Del Lago (February 2020), and the on-line Violin Week, with classes by Dorian Lamotte, Francisco Rojas, Emmanuele Baldini (August 2020). She also received lessons from Rodolfo Fischer, Nicolas Rauss, Paolo Bortolameolli, Victor Hugo Toro and Maria Loudenitch.

She participated in the first version of *Vuelta la Culebra* in Valdivia. Also at the International Festival, Teatro Del Lago Academy with Paolo Bortolameolli in April 2019; at the 1st International Violin Festival "Sutherland Music Solistico" (June 2019) with Levon Ambarstumian (USA); at the International Music Festival in Patagonia (February 2020); and at the Lunigiana International Music Festival (July 2022) in Fivizzano, Italy.

Winner of the FOJI soloist competition in January 2018, of the soloist competition in LIMF 2022 (Italy) and of the Stradella LIMF 2022 prize (Italy).

She participated in a tour to Europe with the contemporary trio, Ensemble Alejandro Arevalo (Italy and France 2018), in the recording of the album "El grito de la Sangre" by Carlos Isamitt with "Solistico de Santiago" in Teatro Municipal, and in the concert "A mi maestro", with Gustavo Dudamel.

She has participated as guest conductor in the Orquesta de Cámara y Sinfónica de Los Andes (2015-2017), in the Orquesta Sinfónica infantil La Greda de Puchuncaví (2018), and in the Orquesta de mujeres de Chile (2019). She has also conducted the Orquesta Sinfónica Juvenil Regional de O'Higgins (2019), the Orquesta Sinfónica Juvenil de San Miguel (2019-2022), the Camerata Cordillera 2022, the Orquesta juvenil de San Pedro de Melipilla (2022) and the Camerata Estudiantil UChile.

She was musical director of PrimaveraFest 2022 at UTEM, and of Jesus Christ Superstar Sinfónico in 2023, at the Teatro Cariola.

She was an active conductor in the HUB of Women Conductors 2022, at the Teatro Municipal de Santiago.