

The story of Christ's nativity is not a new subject in choral music, but John Adams' approach is certainly unique. "Unlike Handel's *Messiah*, which in most other respects is the obvious model, Adams's treatment of text moves freely over a long continuum of time and place."

Read more and hear an excerpt on the composer's website.



An ardent advocate for women's rights, "Sor Juana's most important plays include brave and clever women, and her famous poem, 'Hombres necios' (translated as 'Foolish Men'), accuses men of behaving illogically by criticizing women."

Learn more about Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz and her contributions to *El Niño* in her biography.



"Snouffer demonstrated a mastery of her soprano that was as inviting as it was well-tempered, as colourful as it was secure," (Sarah Batschelet for *Bachtrack*). Lauren Snouffer received this rave review for April her performance in *Girl with a Pearl Earring* at the Zürich Opera House. Don't miss her in John Adams' *El Niño* on MAY 20 with the May Festival.

Read the full review.

The New Hork Times

John Adams and Peter Sellars Join for Nativity Oratorio : 'El Niño':A Heavenly Force

The New York Times reviewed the world premiere of John Adams' *El Niño* in 2000, saying: "Adams is a charter member of the unofficial league of minimalist composers, but there is nothing minimal about this rich and elaborate score, and a strong element of lyricism both in the voices and the orchestra keeps the repetitive style of many passages from wearing out its welcome."

Read the full review.