

Malibran Reborn™

A Biographical Music Series & Digital Repertoire Recovery Project

Project Title: Malibran Reborn: A Biographical Music Series

Created and developed by: Massiel Rodriguez Bautista

Production entity: Blue Box / BBox Creative

Location: Miami Beach, Florida

Amount Needed: CHF 85,000

Initial U.S. Copyright Office Case: *Le Ménéstrel* — *Malibran Reborn™*, Case # 1-15190164541

Short Description

Malibran Reborn™ is a biographical digital music series dedicated to María Felicia García Malibran, designed to revive her forgotten personal repertoire through music research, digital score recovery, score-based sonic restitution, filmed performances and narrative audiovisual storytelling.

Led by Massiel Rodriguez Bautista, a pianist graduated from the **Escuela Nacional de Música de La Habana**, the project combines professional score reading, historical musical comparison, AI-assisted audio prototyping and audiovisual production to create a contemporary listening bridge for selected works from Malibran's forgotten repertoire.

Project Description

Malibran Reborn™ is a cultural heritage and biographical music series dedicated to María Felicia García Malibran, one of the most legendary voices of the nineteenth century.

Although Malibran is widely remembered as an extraordinary bel canto singer, her own compositions and personal vocal repertoire remain largely forgotten, scattered and underperformed. This project seeks to recover, study and reinsert Malibran's own repertoire into contemporary musical circulation.

The goal is not only to tell her story, but to make her music heard again.

The series will combine historical biography, musicological research, digital score recovery, AI-assisted sonic restitution, filmed performances and educational storytelling. Each episode or audiovisual capsule will explore a chapter of Malibran's artistic life while introducing one or more works connected to her creative legacy.

Artistic and Research Background

The project is led by **Massiel Rodríguez Bautista**, a pianist graduated from the **Escuela Nacional de Música de La Habana**, with professional training in piano performance, score reading, musical interpretation and comparative study of written music.

This background allows the project to approach Malibran's repertoire not merely as a digital experiment, but as a serious process of musical research and sonic restitution. Original scores are studied, compared and used as reference materials in order to obtain professional sound reconstructions that can serve as first listening models for further musicological review, human performance and editorial development.

The AI-assisted process is guided by musical criteria: score comparison, stylistic listening, vocal character, piano accompaniment, historical context and interpretive coherence. The objective is not to replace musicians, scholarly editions or historically informed performance, but to create a responsible bridge between surviving historical materials and their possible contemporary performance life.

Initial Proof of Concept

As an initial proof of concept, three works associated with María Malibran — **Le Ménéstrel**, **I Saw Thee Weep** and **Nuova Tarantella** — have been digitally reactivated through AI-assisted musical exploration using Suno.

These preliminary versions are not intended to replace scholarly editions, archival verification or historically informed performances. Instead, they function as listening models: preliminary audio sketches that help sonify, compact and explore musical information contained in historical score materials.

The project proposes to move from this first AI-assisted reactivation toward a rigorous process of musicological research, archival verification, digital score preparation, human performance, recording, filmed interpretation and publication.

Its long-term editorial objective includes the possible authorized recovery and publication of **L'Oubliée**, Malibran's final unpublished work, reportedly preserved in a Belgian repository connected to her legacy.

Main Objectives

The project has two central objectives:

1. Repertoire Recovery

To recover, study and digitally reactivate selected works from María Felicia García Malibran's personal repertoire through score-based research, musical comparison and professional sonic restitution.

This objective includes:

- identifying and comparing available historical scores and editions;
- preparing selected works for future performance and recording;
- creating AI-assisted listening models guided by musical criteria;
- developing a digital catalogue of selected Malibran repertoire;
- restoring visibility to Malibran as composer, singer-author and early female publishing figure.

2. Biographical Digital Music Series

To create a biographical digital music series that tells Malibran's story through the recovery and presentation of her own repertoire.

This objective includes:

- producing audiovisual capsules or pilot episodes;
 - connecting each musical work with a chapter of Malibran's artistic life;
 - developing filmed performances, documentary fragments and educational storytelling;
 - making the recovered repertoire accessible to singers, conservatories, researchers and general audiences;
 - building the foundation for a future full biographical series dedicated to Malibran's life, repertoire and legacy.
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Pilot Phase

The first phase will focus on research, development and production of the initial audiovisual materials.

The pilot phase may include:

- musicological research;
 - identification of available editions and archival sources;
 - comparison of historical scores;
 - digital preparation of selected works;
 - AI-assisted sonic restitution;
 - scriptwriting and narrative development;
 - recording or filmed performance of selected works;
 - visual identity and project design;
 - short documentary capsules;
 - online project presentation;
 - outreach to musical institutions, singers, researchers and foundations.
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Private Audiovisual Preview Links

Three private audiovisual proof-of-concept previews are included for foundation review:

Le Ménestrel — Malibran Reborn™

Private preview link:<https://youtu.be/ybK2HNBdtNE>

I Saw Thee Weep — Malibran Reborn™

Private preview link:https://youtu.be/gU__C75KayM

Nuova Tarantella — Malibran Reborn™

Private preview link:<https://youtu.be/Qz5xchn1jsY>

These links are shared only as private proof-of-concept materials for cultural funding review. They should not be considered public releases or final scholarly editions. The videos are intended to demonstrate the expressive potential of Malibran's forgotten repertoire and the project's proposed method of score-based sonic restitution, audiovisual storytelling and future musicological development.

Expected Outcomes

The project aims to produce:

- a refined digital project presentation;
 - one or more pilot biographical audiovisual capsules;
 - recovered and edited performance materials for selected works;
 - filmed or recorded interpretations;
 - educational capsules for singers and conservatories;
 - a digital catalogue of selected Malibran repertoire;
 - a foundation for a future full biographical music series;
 - a possible recital or streamed concert titled “**Malibran as Composer.**”
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Cultural Impact

This project contributes to music research, women’s music history, vocal repertoire recovery and digital preservation. It gives renewed visibility to a neglected dimension of María Malibran’s legacy and makes her own creative voice accessible to a new generation of singers, researchers and audiences.

By combining biography, performance, digital reconstruction and public dissemination, **Malibran Reborn™** seeks to transform historical recovery into living musical circulation.

Why This Project Matters

Malibran’s image has survived as myth, legend and dramatic memory. However, her authorship remains underrepresented.

Recovering her personal repertoire allows us to reconsider her not only as an interpreter, but as a creator. This initiative offers a contemporary way to reconnect audiences with forgotten nineteenth-century repertoire while highlighting the role of women as composers, performers, editors and cultural entrepreneurs.

Funding Use

The requested support of **CHF 85,000** would finance the two central areas of the project: **repertoire recovery** and the development of the **biographical digital music series**.

1. Repertoire Recovery

Funding would support:

- historical and musicological research;
- location, verification and comparison of original scores and available editions;
- digital score preparation;
- professional score-based sonic restitution;
- editorial work and preparation of performance materials;
- archival consultation and documentation;
- development of a digital catalogue of selected works by María Felicia García Malibran.

2. Biographical Digital Music Series

Funding would also support:

- scriptwriting and narrative development;
- audiovisual concept development;
- filming and recording of selected works;
- musicians' and artists' fees;
- production and post-production;
- visual identity, design and digital presentation;
- educational capsules for singers, conservatories, researchers and general audiences;
- project administration, outreach and dissemination.

Rights and Copyright Statement

Malibran Reborn™ works with historical and public-domain source materials, including musical works attributed to María Felicia García Malibran and literary texts by historical authors such as Ambroise Bétourné and Lord Byron.

The copyright claim for the new project materials is limited to the newly created human-authored elements, including:

- audiovisual concept;
- creative direction;
- project writing;

- curatorial text;
- selection and coordination of historical source materials;
- score-based sonic restitution decisions;
- arrangement and production decisions;
- editing;
- compilation;
- video production;
- original project structure and presentation materials.

AI-assisted raw outputs and public-domain historical source materials are excluded from the copyright claim.

The first audiovisual prototype, **Le Ménestrel — Malibran Reborn™**, has been submitted as a U.S. Copyright Office case under **Case # 1-15190164541**.

Final Statement

Malibran Reborn™ is not only a documentary project about María Malibran. It is a cultural mechanism to return her own repertoire to contemporary musical life.

It begins with *Le Ménestrel*, *I Saw Thee Weep* and *Nuova Tarantella*: three works that allow Malibran's voice, authorship and musical imagination to return to circulation through research, reconstruction and audiovisual storytelling.

María Malibran should not only be remembered as a legendary voice. She should be heard again as a composer, singer-author and pioneer of her own musical legacy.

With admiration and respect,

Massiel Rodriguez Bautista
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