

Enrique Crespo

Biography

Enrique Crespo (1941–2020) was a distinguished Uruguayan trombonist, composer, and arranger who made major contributions to brass music.

Born in Montevideo, he studied both music and architecture in Montevideo and Buenos Aires. In 1967, he earned a scholarship to study at the Hochschule für Musik in Berlin, where he focused on trombone and composition. He completed his degree in 1969.

Crespo then became principal trombonist with the Bamberg Symphony Orchestra (1969–1980) and later held the same role with the Stuttgart Radio Symphony Orchestra. During this time, he also built a private recording and film studio, where he produced numerous albums, films, and television projects.

In 1974, he founded the German Brass Quintet, which later evolved into the renowned ensemble German Brass in 1985. The group gained fame for its innovative performances and genre-blending arrangements, mixing classical, jazz, and folk styles.

As a composer, Crespo fused diverse musical traditions in his works. Some of his most well-known pieces include *Suite Americana No. 1*, *Bruckner Etüde für das tiefe Blech*, and *Improvisation No. 1 for Trombone*, now a staple of the solo trombone repertoire.

Crespo left a powerful legacy through both his performances and compositions, inspiring generations of brass musicians and expanding the scope of ensemble repertoire.

