



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **Closing event of the ECB Cultural Days dedicated to Spain**

The Cultural Days of the European Central Bank (ECB), this year dedicated to Spain and organised jointly with the Banco de España, were brought to a close this afternoon by a concert held in the Mozart Hall of the Alte Oper, Frankfurt, attended by Her Majesty Queen Sofía. The event was addressed by Mario Draghi, President of the European Central Bank, and Luis M. Linde, Governor of the Banco de España, and was also attended by the Mayor of Frankfurt, members of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank, the Spanish Ambassador to Germany and the Governor of the Central Bank of Lithuania, which will be the featured country of the ECB Cultural Days in 2018.

The Cultural Days dedicated to Spain began on 24 August with an open air concert by the Frankfurt Radio Symphony on the banks of the river Main, conducted by Pablo Heras-Casado, who took the audience on an evocative journey through Spain's cultural heritage with pieces by composers such as Ravel, Chapí and Giménez. On 26 October, the art of flamenco took the stage, with a show in which flamenco singers and dancers brought their voices and choreography to the old Paulskirche, an emblematic venue in the cultural life of the German city.

Today's concert, conducted by Paul Goodwin, was given by young musicians from the prestigious Reina Sofía School of Music, with which the Banco de España has been involved since it was founded in 1995. The programme, comprised entirely of Spanish music, featured compositions by Granados, Falla, Boccherini, Toldrá and Sarasate. The first part was performed by the Banco de España Arriaga Ensemble and the second part by the Camerata, a string ensemble from the School. The concert included a performance by the mezzo-soprano Beatriz Oleaga, also from the Reina Sofía School of Music.

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