



Enrique
GRANADOS

DDD

8.553037

Twelve Spanish Dances
Escenas Poeticas, Book 1

Norbert Kraft, Guitar
Razumovsky Sinfonia
Peter Breiner, Conductor



Enrique Granados (1867-1916)

Twelve Spanish Dances (arr. for guitar and orchestra by Peter Breiner)

No. 1 Allegro - Andante

No. 2 Orientale: Andante

No. 3 Energico

No. 4 Villanesca: Allegretto, alla pastorale

No. 5 Andantino quasi allegretto

No. 6 Rondella aragonesa: Allegretto, poco a poco accelerando

No. 7 Allegro airoso

No. 8 Assai moderato

No. 9 Molto allegro brillante

No. 10 Allegretto

No. 11 Largo a piacere - Andante con moto

No. 12 Andante

Escenas poeticas, Book 1

(arr. for guitar and orchestra by Peter Breiner)

Berceuse

Eva y Walter

Danza de la rosa

Enrique Granados y Campiña was born in Lerida, the son of an army officer. He studied music in Barcelona with Francisco Jurnet and Joan Baptista Pujol and later took private piano lessons with Charles de Bériot of the Paris Conservatoire, to which, as a foreigner, he was not admitted. He returned to Spain in 1889 and made his career there, taking lessons with the founding father of Spanish musical nationalism, Pedrell, and drawing inspiration from Goya. The work of the latter suggested to him the piano pieces, *Goyescas*, based on paintings by Goya, and these were later to form the basis of his opera of the same title. Granados won a firm position for himself in Spain, contributing to the popular *zarzuela* and writing a series of pieces of clear Spanish character. He was drowned in the English Channel in 1916, on his way back from America, where he had travelled for the performance in New York of his opera *Goyescas*. His return to Europe had been delayed by a recital for the American President, and he found himself obliged to take a ship to England and thence to the continent for the last lap of his journey. The ship was torpedoed and Granados and his wife were drowned, the former, according to later rumour, weighed down by his money-belt.

The *Danzas españolas*, written for piano, have appeared in various subsequent arrangements. The dances are well suited to the guitar, making use as they do, of idiomatic material most natural to that instrument. They are otherwise varied in character, from the opening *Minuet* and the *Oriental*, with its ostinato accompaniment, to a *Zarabanda*, a *Villanesca* with a minor central section entitled *Canción y estribillo*, a fifth *Andaluza*, followed by a *jota* from Aragon, a *Valenciana*, an *Asturiana*, a dance from Mallorca, a tenth *Danza triste*, a *Zambra* and a final *Arabesca*.

The *Escenas poeticas* were also written for piano, the first a gentle lullaby, the second here transcribed of ultimate Wagnerian provenance, based on elements from Wagner's *Die Meistersinger*, and the third a brief *Dance of the Rose*.

Norbert Kraft

The guitarist Norbert Kraft won early distinction in 1975, when he was awarded the Grand Prize in the Canadian CBC Radio Competition, following this in 1985 with first prize in the Segovia International Competition in Mallorca. He enjoys a substantial career as a concerto soloist and appears regularly with important orchestras, particularly in Canada and in the United States of America, as well as in Europe and the Far East. He was chosen to represent Canada at World Expo '90 in Osaka and again in Seville in 1992. Norbert Kraft is a faculty member of the Manhattan School of Music in New York and professor of guitar and chamber music at the University of Toronto and the Royal Conservatory of Music. He is founder and director of the Toronto Guitarfest.

Peter Breiner

Peter Breiner was born in 1957 at Humenne in Eastern Slovakia where he started piano lessons at the age of four. He went on to study at the Bratislava Conservatory and then at the Prague College of Music and Drama, concentrating at the latter in composition. On completing his studies he began work as musical supervisor of the Czechoslovak Radio in Bratislava and for OPUS Records and Publishing House. He has had a varied career which has involved the conductorship of the Czechoslovak Radio Children's Choir, regular piano performances at jazz concerts and working as an orchestral conductor and arranger.

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COMPACT
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STEREO

DDD

Playing
Time:
72'16"Enrique
GRANADOS

(1867 - 1916)

Twelve Spanish Dances
Escenas Poeticas, Book 1

Norbert Kraft, Guitar

Razumovsky Sinfonia • Peter Breiner, Conductor

Twelve Spanish Dances

(arr. for Guitar and Orchestra
by Peter Breiner)

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|---|---|--------|
| 1 | No. 1 Allegro - Andante | (3:01) |
| 2 | No. 2 Orientale: Andante | (5:18) |
| 3 | No. 3 Energico | (3:37) |
| 4 | No. 4 Villanesca:
Allegretto alla pastorale | (7:14) |
| 5 | No. 5 Andantino quasi Allegretto | (4:30) |
| 6 | No. 6 Rondella aragonesa:
Allegretto poco a poco accelerando | (5:55) |
| 7 | No. 7 Allegro airoso | (4:35) |

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|----|--|--------|
| 8 | No. 8 Assai moderato | (4:07) |
| 9 | No. 9 Molto allegro brillante | (6:02) |
| 10 | No. 10 Allegretto | (4:03) |
| 11 | No. 11 Largo a piacere
- Andante con moto | (7:57) |
| 12 | No. 12 Andante | (5:36) |

Escenas Poeticas, Book 1

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| 13 | Berceuse | (5:11) |
| 14 | Eva y Walter | (2:33) |
| 15 | Danza de la Rosa | (1:48) |

Recorded at the Moyzes Hall, Bratislava,
from 31st August to 2nd September 1994.

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GRANADOS: Twelve Spanish Dances

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