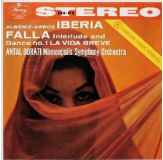


Albéniz – Iberia Falla - Interlude & Dance N°1 La Vida Breve (1958)

Written by bluesever

Monday, 12 October 2015 15:58 -

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Albéniz - Iberia (Orch. Arbós) 1. *Evocación* 2. *El Corpus En Sevilla* 3. *Triana* 4. *El Puerto* 5. *El Albaicín* Falla - La Vida Breve 6. *Interlude And Dance No. 1*

Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra Antal Dorati – conductor

I started here with the Vida Breve extracts -the atmospheric Interlude and the gay First Dance. Excellent playing, and very life-like recording in both mono and stereo versions. A slight lift of the eyebrows at what struck me as an exaggerated broadening of the tempo at the heavy string theme in the Dance, but on the whole very good indeed.

And then, having dug out the Argenta version for comparison, I settled down to the Arbós orchestrations of five of the Iberia suite-*Evocación*, *El Corpus en Sevilla*, *Triana*, *El Puerto* and *El Albaicín*. Critics seem to spend most of their time sighing "If only..." In this case, faced with first-rate playing by the Minneapolis Orchestra and fine recording by Mercury, one's constant thoughts are "If only Antal Dorati weren't in such an almighty hurry all the time..." and "If only Argenta could have had the advantage of this orchestra and the best modern recording..." --- L.S., The Gramophone, archive.constantcontact.com

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