

Isaac Albéniz - Suite Espanola for Orchestra

Written by bluesever

Friday, 08 July 2011 18:45 - Last Updated Saturday, 27 July 2013 11:08

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01 Castilla (Seguidillas) 2:30 02 Asturias (Leyenda) 6:27 03 Aragon (Fantasia) 5:05 04
Cadiz (Cancion) 4:52 05 Sevilla (Sevillanas) 4:15 [play](#) 06 Granada (Serenata) 5:36 07
Cataluna (Corranda) 3:01 08 Cordoba 5:30

New Philharmonia Rafael Frühbeck De Burgos – conductor Transcription by Frühbeck de
Burgos Recorded at the Kingsway Hall, London, July 1967.

The Suite Espanola, written by the piano virtuoso and composer Isaac Albéniz, is one of the most outstanding works in the history of Spanish music. Albéniz invites the listener to join him on a musical journey through eight great Spanish cities, each steeped in tradition, investing each scene with local colouring as an homage. Albéniz made full use of musical folk idioms combined with dazzling virtuosity in many of his other works too, and deeply impressed Debussy and Ravel, as is testified by their own compositions.

Originally conceived for the piano, the Suite has been arranged for large orchestra by Rafael Frühbeck de Burgos who makes the most of the orchestra's tonal palette to underline the expressivity of the music. The final movement (Cuba) is replaced by Cordoba, a piano piece from Albéniz's Cantos de Espana, op. 132, also arranged by Frühbeck de Burgos for orchestra. The obvious advantages of the arranger himself conducting the orchestra are well demonstrated by the present highly successful recording. The precision of the rhythmic interjections and the melodic flow are highly impressive. The music evokes various scenes, such as the impression of a barren Spanish landscape in the shimmering heat or bustling life in the various cities of Spain. --- xrcd.pl

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Rafael Fruebeck de Burgos took this lovely Albeniz piano piece and turned into a spectacular orchestral marvel! His use of percussion is particularly notable -- perhaps even cutting edge, considering that he uses various percussion instruments to contribute importantly to melodic passages. Although this is an old recording, the digital remastering is truly masterful and there is no sense that it was recorded any earlier than yesterday. --- Pegleg Pete "Non-fiction Author". Amazon.com

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