

Programme

Capricho Arabe
Fandanguillo, Op. 36
Invocation et Danse
Asturias (Leyenda)

Francisco Tárrega (1852 - 1909)
Joaquín Turina (1882 - 1949)
Joaquín Rodrigo (1901 - 1999)
Isaac Albéniz (1860 - 1909)

Selected piano solo compositions (1999 - 2000)

Anne Ku

Full Moon on Maui
Pentamine
Summer Solstice at Sunset
Autumn Shivers
Winter in July

Fantasia pour guitar et piano

Hans Haug (1900 - 1967)

Salsa Brasileira from the Happy Hour Sandwich

Gerald Schwertberger (b. 1941)

Fantasia for guitar and piano

Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco (1895 - 1968)

Programme Notes

Capricho Arabe (Arab Caprice)

Young Francisco Tárrega, having almost lost his sight in an accident, was sent to have piano lessons so that, in case he became blind, he could earn money by playing music. In those days, the piano was the most fashionable instrument, whereas the guitar had lost her prior prestige, often reduced to accompanying singers only. Francisco Tárrega is generally recognised as the person responsible for the rebirth of the guitar for the 20th century and was often called "Chopin of the guitar." Capricho Arabe is a tribute to Moorish history, with echoes of the Arabic lute and guitar harmonies.

Fandanguillo

Born in Seville, Joaquín Turina moved to Madrid where he met Manuel de Falla and became inspired by the emerging musical nationalism of the time. Turina's guitar compositions are rich in their evocation of the Iberian culture and often take their influence from Flamenco rhythms and modes, not least the Fandanguillo which is based on the fandango dance

Invocation et Danse

Blind from the age of three, Joaquín Rodrigo wrote all his works in Braille, dictating them subsequently to a copyist and later his Turkish pianist wife Victoria Kamhi, who gave up her own career for him. Dedicated to the famous South American guitarist Alirio Díaz, Invocation et Danse was based upon a theme from the short opera "El Amor Brujo" by Manuel de Falla.

Asturias (Leyenda)

Born in the Catalan province of Gerona in northeastern Spain, Isaac Albéniz was exceptionally gifted at the piano as a child, giving his first public performance in Barcelona at the age of four. The legend Asturias from the Suite Española creates the mood of that part of northern Spain. The main theme was used by the rock group The Doors in their song "Spanish Caravan."