

**Pantaléon Enrique Costanzo Granados y Campiña** (27 July 1867 – 24 March 1916) is one of the most famous Catalan pianists and composers, but he was also a talented painter in the style of Francisco Goya.

After his musical instruction in Spain he moved to Paris for 2 years (1887-89). The *Valses Poéticos H 147* for piano, considered Granados' earliest mature work, were completed around this time. The *Valses* are constituted of a brilliant introduction (not in waltz rhythm) and 7 short, poetic waltzes, each one depicting a special fragrance and mood. Their light texture and atmosphere fits perfectly to the harp as well as the selection of 4 *Danzas* taken from one of the most successful Granados' mature work: *12 Danzas Españolas Op. 37*.

Granados composed the *Danzas Españolas Op. 37* in support of his own pianistic career at various times during the late 1880s and early 1890s and later collected the pieces into four published books. They are short works that draw on Spanish dance rhythms and forms: Granados had immersed himself in Spanish folk music as a result of studies with the pioneering Spanish musicologist Enrique Pedrell. All *Danzas* has been transcribed for several instrument, ensembles and orchestra and remain even today a symbol of Spanish music.

The 4 *Danzas* selected in this collection are:

*No. 2 - Orientale* (dedicated to Julián Martí) from Book 1

*No. 5 - Andaluza* (dedicated to Alfredo G. Faria) from Book 2

*No. 7 - Valenciana* (dedicated to Cesar Cui) from Book 3

*No. 8 - Asturiana* from Book 3

FLORALEDA SACCHI

The *Valses Poéticos H 147* and *Danzas* No. 2 and 5 are part of the CD "Harp Dances" by Floraleda Sacchi (Decca Records).