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THE DANCE OF MALAGA

In their travels up and down the southern coast of Andalucia, the

Phoenicians also found Malaga. At Malaga, they established a huge fish

factory for the purposes of processing the huge blue fin tuna that were caught ritualistically once a year. Fortunately the Phoenicians did not interfere with this important ritual and today it can still be seen in some of the Mediterranean Sea.

The Phoenicians also brought their black eyed beautiful maidens to Malaga and it was not long before the Phoenician fandango was leaving its sensuous influences on the Dance of Malaga or Malaguena as it is known. These influences may still be seen in some of the ritualistic dances performed by the Andalucian Gypsies. The dances are a closely guarded secret and unfortunately anyone who is not a gypsy cannot see them. One of the Phoenician fandango influences you will hear in the piece I am going to play for you is a strong, hypnotic kind of rhythm which is repeated over and over.

the making of the fish some Both still exist today in some areas of Andalucia.

GRANADA

In 1241 the Kingdom of Granada was established by the Nasrite King, Mohammad Vth. It was the richest, most opulent Arabian kingdom ever to be established in Andalucia.

At the heart of the kingdom was the great Arabian palace known as the Alhambra. Constructed from shimmering red stones it was called the Red Palace.

Let us go now to the Alhambra. It is evening. Somewhere behind heavy curtains in the palace, a lute is softly playing. Gentle night breezes from the nearby Sierra Nevada mountain range blow through arched windows, cooling the Palace down after another day of intense heat. The sound of water can be heard, melodiously trickling into a courtyard pool.

Outside in the Plaza of Wells, the last of the wine merchants are trying to persuade obstinate camels to pass through the Gate of Wine so that they too, can go home and enjoy the cool evening.

Here is the beautiful Granada by Isaac Albeniz.

2 ambra Granadira Many of the Arabian Califies loved the arts
perpecially the dame. At was not unusual
for a failer to rapid forthe competition in for a couph to conferred and comparition from advantage on the sample from advantage on the sometimes from advantage on the most perist folly for a near pane from the King. many of the beautiful more nexts of the Phoenician landhurs. One of these movements was called In Proposition The empression was tollowed the artistic one line that was described as an un problem unpropose in the the consular motion of the hands populants The tendrils of regetation. bested feet generas elland for resmot set with small exercise in a rhithm that was

Now its time for us to go to the very special gypsy celebration known as a

Juerga. We are going to go outside the city of Granada to an isolated area in the hills. Here we shall find a gypsy encampment getting ready for this special celebration. A little distance away the women have already set up their huge pots. They hang from hooks on a framework over a campfire and contain special foods for the celebration. There will also be music, dancing and singing to go along with the food.

traditional

The juerga begins with the lighting of the bonfire that is in the center of a circle. The men only sit in this circle around the fire. They wear caps and brightly coloured kerchiefs knotted at the neck. The work wear

a bandera in the color of the dan. When the

A handsome gypsy rides into the camp. He is mounted on a spirited white horse. He wears a black cape lined with red silk, the colors of Andalucia and carries two revolvers. Flinging his cape over his shoulders he begins to recite some of the ancient poetry in the Gypsy language. After the

One of the men in the circle starts to clap out a rhythm with his hands. Another taps out a different rhythm with the heels of his feet. Yet a 3rd rhythm is heard being beaten out on the rungs of an old chair.

A woman steps inside the circle. She begins her own palmadas or hand claps. As the rhythms intensify she slowly raises her arms over her head and as the flames of the fire leap up into the night she begins the sensuous, ritualistic Danza de la Seduccion. Rake orms our from

SACROMONTE

At to, the amost

Without pause a beautiful gypsy woman steps into the circle. She is one of the clan's dancers that entertains the gajos outside the camp from time to time.

There are appreciative murmurs from some of the men who already know the results of her fiery temper and the small dagger she carries.

PLAYERA

There is much discussion after the fiery Sacromonte. Cups are refilled with the favorite golden manzanilla wine. Injustices are remembered. Conwas at 100 mars and 100 mars and 100 mars are remembered.

In the distance a lone figure dressed in black approaches. Her head is covered in a shawl. She holds a tambourine the mystical symbol for death.

Her shuffling step betrays the heavy burden of pain and sorrow she has carried for years. She still remembers and mourns the loss of a beloved husband and son torn from the family by the hated Guardia Civilia, never to be seen nor heard from again.

Her dance will express the ancient Gypsy Lament. Her beautiful arm movements will speak of her deep grief, her anger and her defiance against Fate. Yet they will at the same time express her resignation and acceptance of that which cannot be changed – DESTINY.....

Sipanish Dance After the old woman leaves the circle there is silence. I Each one helpots on past injustices. Mot even the damp dogs to filling the silence is knoken by a tore quitar filling the might with its own ladnest. It's safetness replected the books of the poe! when he winter never be the sley The some complains because it has no

And a god has 15 forever.