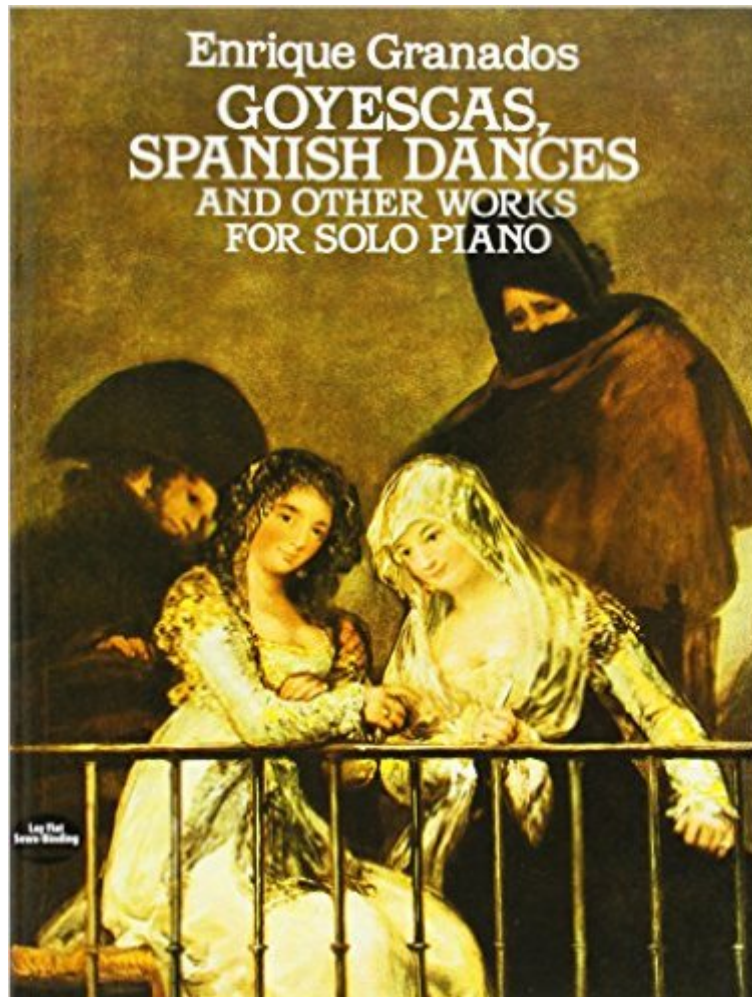


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Goyescas, Spanish Dances And Other Works For Solo Piano (Dover Music For Piano)



Synopsis

This remarkable book brings together in one sturdy, yet inexpensive volume four of the most memorable and frequently played sets of works for the piano by Enrique Granados (1867–1916), one of Spain’s greatest modern composers. They are reprinted here from early editions. The piano suite *Goyescas*, first performed in Barcelona in 1911, would bring Granados his greatest, most enduring success. In each of its six pieces, the composer employs wild, insistent melody and highly individual rhythm, harmony, and coloring to create dramatic impressions of paintings by Goya, to whose work Granados was deeply drawn. The exquisite *Spanish Dances*, a suite of early works, were much admired by the leading composers of the day, among them Massenet, Saint-Saëns, and Grieg, not only for their distinctive musical qualities, but also for the new direction in Spanish music which they heralded. They remain today perhaps the most performed of Granados’s work. Less well known in America are the beautiful *Escenas poéticas* and *Escenas románticas*, two suites which reflect Granados’s interest in the music of Grieg, Schumann, and Liszt, yet are filled with the great Spanish composer’s original modulations and characteristic melodic writing. Together, the four suites offer performing artists, teachers, students, and music lovers a rich treasury of the finest and most enduring of Granados’s compositions for the piano.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Enrique Granados was a wonderful composer of Romantic Era Spanish music. Born in 1867 in

Spain, he studied music early in life and went to Paris, not at the famous Conservatory, but in private lessons with Beriot, who was a professor there and whose mother was a Spanish singer. For a while, Granados had to play piano at restaurants to keep body and soul together. But he began to have success and became a well-known and eventually a composer with global fame. In fact, he died at 48 when he was travelling back from New York and the premier of his opera *Goyescas* that was written using music from the famous piano suite of the same name. It was 1916 and World War I was raging. He was killed on the S. S. Sussex, a Channel ferry, when it was hit and badly damaged by a torpedo from a German U-boat in the English Channel. These two volumes from Dover are quite nice. They bring a nice large format reprint of earlier editions to us in a durable binding and their very nice lay flat sewn-binding. This means it is meant to be used by players. You can set it on your music rack and play from it. And they are inexpensive enough that you can afford to replace them if you wear them out. I did not know anything about Granados until I heard his Spanish Dance No. 5 played by Rubinstein on his recording *Music of Spain* and I fell in love. In listening to his music more and more over the years I, and millions of other people, are beguiled by its beauty, easy charm, and musical sophistication. To play his music requires skill, musical sensitivity, and a feel for Spanish sensibilities.

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