



COMPOSER SPOTLIGHT



ENRIQUE GRANADOS

1867–1916

Style: Romantic



Early Studies

In 1887, Granados went to Paris to study piano. He was unable to become a student at the Paris Conservatoire, but he was able to take lessons with one of the professors there. In 1903, he won a concerto composition competition with his *Allegro de concerto*, Op. 46. The jury declared him a winner with nearly a unanimous vote!

Rise to Fame

Granados' first big success came after he wrote his opera *Maria del Carmen*, which attracted the attention of the King of Spain, Alfonso XIII. His piece *Goyescas*, written in 1911, became his most famous work. It is a set of six piano pieces based on the paintings of Francisco de Goya.



El pelele
(The Straw Man)
by Francisco Goya



New York Premiere

In 1916, he sailed to New York City to premiere a new opera based on *Goyescas*. While there, he was even invited to perform a piano recital for President Woodrow Wilson.



Tragic Death

Unfortunately, because Granados accepted the recital invitation from the president, he missed his originally planned voyage back to Spain. Instead, he took a different travel route that passed through the English Channel—this was during World War I. His ship was torpedoed by a German submarine, and sadly, Granados and his wife did not survive.

Significant works:

- Goyescas
- Spanish Dances
- Valse Poeticos