

MEMORIES

of the

ALHAMBRA

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Introduction

This superb song, written in 1896 by Francisco Tárrega y Eixea (its original title is "Recuerdos de la Alhambra" -"Memories of the Alhambra" - Francisco Tárrega y Eixea), is devoted to the Alhambra Palace, the most famous example of Moorish architecture, and, perhaps, the most known Muslim construction existing in the world.

The Alhambra situated in the Spanish city of Granada, the long-time capital of Moorish Andalusia, at the foot of Sierra Nevada mountains. The splendour of this unique palace makes it "one paradise in earth", as it was described by Washington Irving (1783-1859), the famous American author who wrote "Tales From Alhambra" after being there in 1829.

Alhambra was started as late as 13th century, and consists of a group of palaces built by several Muslim architects along the time.

Granada was Christian again in 1492. Then, the Catholic Kings, Isabel and Fernando, choose Granada for their burial.

There's a terrific trivia about Alhambra: the whole palace is, in fact... a gigantic sun clock! This must to that to the hour of the solar noon all the dependencies are divided exactly by half due to the shade. The spectacular sun effect is easier to observe in winter, due to the low orbit of the Sun, and it has been studied by several Astrophysicists.

For further information:
<http://www.alhambradegrana.org>

The composer Francisco Tárrega y Eixea (1852-1909) was born in Castellón and died in Barcelona. It was a very talented guitarist who was very poor during his childhood. He was a close friend of extraordinary musicians as Albéniz. The original score of "Recuerdos de la Alhambra" was written for guitar and it is one of the most played pieces.

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