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BLANCAFORT: Complete Piano Music • 2

NAXOS

Manuel Blancafort grew up in a Catalonian family which owned a pianola rolls factory, a prime source of the composer's musical education. He believed strongly in the importance of nationalism in music and was keen to follow in the footsteps of Albéniz, Granados and Falla, but always with a Catalan bias. The short works recorded here, described by the composer himself as 'very intimate pieces showing my love for simplicity and for the characteristics of our native melodies', are from Blancafort's early career, a period of introspection, nostalgia and an 'incomprehensible sadness'. However, while *Intimate Songs I* is one of Blancafort's most heartrending works, *Country Games and Dances* exhibits a playful more extrovert side.

**Manuel
BLANCAFORT**
(1897-1987)

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1-6	6 peces breus (6 Short Pieces) (1918-19)	9:59
7-12	Jocs i danses al camp (Country Games and Dances) (1918-20)	15:23
13-20	Cants íntims I (Intimate Songs I) (1918-20)	18:13
21-28	8 Peces per a piano (8 Piano Pieces) (1920-1921)	17:54

Miquel Villalba, Piano



Tracks 1, 3-6 and 21-28 unpublished (Biblioteca de Catalunya)

Track 2 published by Amalgama, Berga (Barcelona)

7-12 published by Unión Musical Española, Madrid

13-20 published by Salabert, Paris

Dedicated to Núria

A complete track list can be found in the booklet.

Recorded at L'Auditorium, Jafre, Spain, on 4th and 5th January, 2003.

Producer and Engineer: Miquel Roger • Booklet Notes: Miquel Villalba / Susannah Howe

Cover image: *Untitled* by Albert Ràfols-Casamada

SPANISH CLASSICS

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Playing Time
61:29



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Kommentar auf Deutsch
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