

A rich musical heritage and vibrant contemporary culture intersect in Catalunya in north-eastern Spain. Granados's long-lost masterpiece *Song of the Stars* is comparable to a virtuoso piano concerto with chorus and organ rather than orchestra, gloriously combining Romantic-Modernista poetry with post-Wagnerian harmonies. The internationally famous cellist Pau Casals also composed a small body of very beautiful music, including the deeply spiritual choral works on this disc. Morera's *The Nightingale* and Blancafort's *Love Song* are evocative of their Catalan texts, while Oltra's *Echo* and *Prelude* explore themes of memory and hope through images of nature.



SPANISH CLASSICS

8.570533

DDD

Playing Time
62:44

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Booklet notes in English
Latin & Catalan texts & translations included
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Song of the Stars

1	9	PAU CASALS (1876–1973): Rosarium Beatae Virginis Mariae	10:41
10		PAU CASALS: Recordare, Virgo Mater	2:26
11		ENRIC GRANADOS (1867–1916): Salve Regina	5:06
12		PAU CASALS: Nigra sum	4:29
13		ENRIC MORERA (1865–1942): El Rossinyol*	1:32
14		ENRIC GRANADOS: Romanza	5:56
15		ENRIC MORERA: Ave Maria*	2:21
16		ENRIC GRANADOS: Escena religiosa*	4:32
17		MANUEL BLANCAFORT (1897–1987): Cant d'amor*	2:45
18		MANUEL OLTRA (b. 1922): Eco*	2:06
19		MANUEL OLTRA: Preludio*	1:46
20		ENRIC GRANADOS: Cant de les estrelles*	17:36

* WORLD PREMIÈRE RECORDINGS

Voices of Ascension 1–13, 15, 17–20

Dennis Keene, Conductor 1–13, 15, 17–20

Douglas Riva, Piano 14, 16, 20

Mark Kruczek, Organ 1–12, 15, 16, 20 • **Erica Kiesewetter, Violin** 14, 16

Dennis Keene and the Voices of Ascension appear courtesy of Delos International



Catalan Language and Culture

Sung texts are also available at www.naxos.com/libretti/570533.htm

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