

Siete Canciones Populares Españolas (Seven Spanish Folk Songs)

by Manuel de Falla
Movements 1-3

El paño moruno

Al paño fino, en la tienda,
una mancha le cayó.
Por menos precio se vende,
porque perdió su valor.
¡Ay!

Text: Gregorio Martínez Sierra

The Moorish Cloth

On the delicate fabric in the shop
there fell a stain.
It sells for less
for it has lost its value
Ay!

Seguidilla Murciana

Cualquiera que el tejado
tenga de vidrio,
no debe tirar piedras
al del vecino.
Arrieros semos;
¡puede que en el camino,
nos encontremos!
Por tu mucha inconstancia,
yo te comparo
con peseta que corre
de mano en mano;
Que al fin se borra,
y créyendola falsa
nadie la toma!

Text: Anonymous

Seguidilla from Murcia

People who live
in glass houses
shouldn't throw stones
at their neighbour's.
We are drovers;
it may be
we'll meet on the road!
For your many infidelities
I shall compare you
to a peseta passing
from hand to hand,
till finally it's worn down –
and believing it false
no one will take it

Asturiana

Por ver si me consolaba,
arrimeme a un pino verde,
Por verme llorar, lloraba.
Y el pino como era verde,
por verme llorar, lloraba!

Text: Anonymous

Asturian Song

To see if it might console me
I drew near a green pine.
To see me weep, it wept.
And the pine, since it was green,
wept to see me weeping!

Translations by Jacqueline Cockburn and Richard Stokes, "The Spanish Song Companion"
(Gollancz, 1992)