

PROGRAM NOTES

by Elisenda Fábregas

Colores Andaluces was written at the request of cellist Françoise Groben.

I had the chance to experience the artistry and charisma of Françoise at several extraordinary performances of *Voces de mi tierra*, a work written for the Meininger-Trio, where Françoise enjoyed an extended cadenza. At one of these performances she mentioned that she liked the way I treat Spanish music in *Voces de mi tierra* and asked me if I would be interested in writing a work consisting of short pieces in the Spanish style. François Groben will premiere this work at Celloherbst in Germany on October 13, 2006.

Colores Andaluces is the product of intense and focused inspiration, a very spontaneous work written in a few days. I remember sending Françoise piece after piece by email and her encouraging comments only reassured me and facilitated its rapid completion.

I. *Tres morillas* is inspired by a poem by Federico García Lorca. A beautiful singing line in different registers with piano accompaniment.

II. *Duende* is a soul searching type of piece - sometimes a little dark and restless but always generous in its conception. It is my homage to Françoise and her "duende"... A term coming from Southern Spain, only certain singers and players have "duende" : inspiration, magic, fire, spirit...

III. *Nana* is a lullaby, a transcription of a piano work of the same title from my Album for the Young.

IV. *El Jinete* is a playful but driven piece that describes the trails of a horseman in the Spanish countryside.

V. *Zapateado* is a "flamenco" type piece, full of zapateado (feet work) and guitar strumming that accompanies short vocal lines. The rhythm and meter are constantly changing - full of unexpected rhythms and turns - and make it a very exciting ending piece.