Catalan Folk Song



El Mestre

arranged for Voice and Guitar by Timo Korhonen

TK EDITION

Catalonian folksongs share a common background with the medieval troubadour tradition. These secular songs were performed in a geographical region that covers the modern Italy, France and Catalonia.

- Alba: a morning song, song by a lover at dawn, often warning about the arrival of a jealous husband
- Dansa: a vivid dancelike song with a refrain
- Enuig: portrays the feelings of someone who has been offended
- Maldit: a lament on a woman's ill behavior and character
- Pastorela: a story of a knight's longing love for a shepherdess

El Mestre does not fit to mentioned types of most common topics of Catalan folk songs. This song gives us an interesting isight to world in where the idea #metoo was not yet established.

El pare i la mare no em tenen sinó a mi m'en fan anar a l'escola a aprendre de ilegir

Mes ai! ara tom patantom xiribiriclena tumpena tumpi Mes ai! Ara tom patatom xiribiriclon.

El mestre que m´ensenya s´ha enamorat de mi, m´en diu: - no et facis monja que et casaràs amb mi Mes ai! Ara tom etc...

Jo l'in faig de resposta Que no el sabré servir -Tu faràs com les altres, quan om veurás venir.

Mes ai! Ara tom etc....

My father and my mother have nobody but me they make me go to school to learn how to read

But oh! now tom patantom etc...

The teacher who teaches me has fallen in love with me he tells me – Don't become a nun you'll marry me.
But oh! now tom etc...

I answer him
I wouldn't know how to serve him
-You'll do like all the others
When you see me coming

But oh!now tom etc...

Timo Korhonen, (b. November 6, 1964 in Rautalampi, Finland) is one of the most versatile proponents on his instrument in the world. Freedom of interpretation, bearlike strength and richness of sound are components of his deep-rooted artist persona. Korhonens interpretations are natural, strong in contrast and uncompromising in their aim at reprodusing the content of a composition in as true manner as possible and with the profound understanding of its style.

He has performed in more than 30 countries, at venues in Berlin, London, Vienna, Paris, Tokyo, Chicago, Toronto, St. Petersburg, Madrid, Buenos Aires, Havana, Los Angeles, Hong Kong and at the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival among others. He has appeared with orchestras under Esa-Pekka Salonen, Sakari Oramo, Osmo Vänskä, Leif Segerstam, Jukka-Pekka Saraste, Susanna Mälkki, Tuomas Hannikainen, Joseph Swensen, Hannu Lintu and John Storgårds.

Timo Korhonen made his début at the age of 14 and began his international career at the age of 17 when he became the youngest ever winner of the guitar category in the ARD competition in Munich. He has studied with Oscar Ghiglia, Seppo Siirala and Pekka Vesanen. Korhonen's repertoire includes the entire core repertoire written for his instrument.

He has premiered more than 60 new works, and composers such as Magnus Lindberg, Leo Brouwer, Toshio Hosokawa and Kimmo Hakola have written works for him. From 1998 to 2008 Timo Korhonen was the artistic director of the international GUITARISTIVAL competition and festival, and from 1998 to 2000 he was the artistic director of the Suomenlinna Culinary Concerts in Helsinki.

Currently he works as a Docent at the Turku Music Academy. From January 2005 to the end of June 2007 he worked as guest professor at the Luigi Cherubini Conservatory in Florence. He was teacher at the Sibelius Academy in 1989-1999. His several students have won dozens of prizes in international competitions. Korhonen is an enthusiastic evangelist of eLearning.

Korhonen's recordings have been acclaimed by critics and have received several awards. For example, the disk containing Concerto of Helsinki, written for Timo Korhonen by Leo Brouwer, with the Tampere Philharmonic conducted by Tuomas Ollila (Hannikainen), won the Cannes Classical Award 2003 (ODE 979-2). "Grammophone recommends" and "Record of the year" awarded by the Finnish Broadcasting Corporation twice.

Timo Korhonen plays guitars built by "Weissgerber" (Richard Jakob) in 1925, 1928 and 1930 and a guitar built by Brian Cohen in 1996. Timo Korhonen, 2018

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The art work is by Artemisia Gentileschi: "Autorretrato con laúd, c. 1617-1618 Creative Commons Licences

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Trad./T.Korhonen

