

CLASSICAL

GUITAR

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SPANISH ALBUM

JOSE VINAS: *Andante Apasionado; Vals; Fantasia - Capricho a Imitacion del Piano; Vals de Concerto.* FEDERICO CANO: *Estudio.* JULIAN ARCAS: *El Postillon de la Rioja; Bolero; Vals; Danza Americana; Schotisch.* VALENTIN BORRERO: *Polo del Contrabandista 'Fandango'.* LUIS SORIA: *Marcha Funebre 'Homenaje a Julian Arcas; Petenera; Tango; Seguidillas Manchegas; Paquito Vals; Malagueñas con Variaciones.*

Agustin Maruri

EMEC Distribution, Spain E-042

This album pays respect to some of the lesser-known names of 19th century Spanish guitarist-composers and claims to be first recordings of each composition played from the original editions. Agustin Maruri performs these works on an original instrument on loan from the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. The instrument is one of only two known to exist and was

built by Pedro Fuentes, who, in the mid-19th century was appointed guitar maker to the Spanish Royal Chamber. It has a clear and responsive quality ideally suited for the works on this programme.

The music is elegant, lyrical and, without exception, very entertaining. It is particularly interesting to compare the differing styles of composition of the five represented composers.

Agustin Maruri plays with clarity and an understanding of the stylistic nature of this music. The sleeve notes contain some interesting historical facts and several fascinating photographs. Altogether this is a worthy venture from an enterprising record company and a welcome addition to the new releases.

Steve Marsh