

(The Magistrate and the Miller's Wife), built on Pedro Antonio de Alarcón's 1874 novel of the same title. The work premiered at Madrid's Teatro Eslava on April 6, 1917.

Sergei Diaghilev of the Ballets Russes had been introduced to de Falla by Igor Stravinsky during the company's first visit to Spain in 1916. He requested permission to use de Falla's already-completed *Noches en los jardines de España* (Nights in the Gardens of Spain) and the work-in-progress *El corregidor y la molinera* for future choreographies, but only managed to secure permission for the latter.

In preparation for producing Spanish choreography, Diaghilev and Leonid Massine enlisted the services of dancer Félix Fernández García, who accompanied the two men with de Falla on a tour of Spain in July 1917, introducing them to dancers and performances in Zaragoza, Toledo, Salamanca, Burgos, Sevilla, Córdoba, and Granada. Massine, Pablo Picasso, and de Falla worked separately on the choreography, sets/costumes, and music for the ballet over subsequent months; after some delays, the ballet was eventually premiered in London at the Alhambra Theatre on 22 July 1919. De Falla was called home to Granada at the last moment to see his dying mother; the premiere was conducted in his stead by Ernest Ansermet.

FALLA

THE THREE CORNERED HAT

(Complete Ballet)



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VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES
The Philharmonia Orchestra
RAFAEL FRÜHBECK DE BURGOS

Born in 1876 in Cadiz, the historical seaport town at the southern-most tip of Andalusia, Manuel de Falla is the greatest Spanish composer of this century. His formal musical education began with piano lessons, and when Falla was twenty his family moved to Madrid where he studied with the distinguished teacher José Tragó. He then went on to study composition with Felipe Pedrell, the teacher and scholar who led the revival of Spanish music which took place towards the end of the nineteenth century.

In 1904 Falla's one-act opera *La vida breve* (Life is Short) won the composition competition of the Real Academia de Bellas Artes and at the same time he was awarded a prestigious piano prize organised by the piano makers Ortiz y Cussó. In 1907 he achieved a long-held ambition of travelling to Paris and was welcomed there by Ravel, Debussy (with whom he had previously corresponded) and especially by Paul Dukas. He completed several chamber works and began work on *Noches en los jardines de España* (Nights in Gardens of Spain) before the outbreak of war in 1914 compelled him to return to his native country.

Two years later he was approached by Diaghilev to write a work for the Russian Ballet and in response composed a mime-play

in two tableaux, *El corregidor y la molinera* (The Magistrate and the Miller's Wife) which, with some subsequent revisions, became *El sombrero de tres picos* (The Three-Cornered Hat), and was produced highly successfully in London in 1919 with choreography by Massine and designs by Picasso.

Following the deaths of his parents in 1919 he settled in Granada, where he remained until the end of the Civil War (1939), and composed several of his most important works including *El retablo de maese Pedro* (Master Peter's Puppet Show), *Psyché* and *Concerto per clavicembalo* (Harpsichord Concerto). He then moved to Argentina and worked there until his death in 1946 just a few days before his 70th birthday, leaving the vast oratorio *Atlántida* still unfinished.

El sombrero de tres picos (The Three-Cornered Hat or *Le tricorne*) is a ballet choreographed by Léonide Massine to music by Manuel de Falla. It was commissioned by Sergei Diaghilev and premiered in 1919. It is not only a ballet with Spanish setting but one that also employs the techniques of Spanish dance (adapted and somewhat simplified) instead of classical ballet.

In 1916-17, Manuel de Falla composed the music for Gregorio Martínez Sierra's two-scene pantomime *El corregidor y la molinera*

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VICTORIA DE LOS ANGELES

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|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Introduction 1:27 | 9 Fandango 1:57 |
| 2 The Afternoon 1:46 | 10 Dance of the Neighbours 3:16 |
| 3 The Dandy and the Procession 1:56 | 11 The Miller's 3:04 |
| 4 The Girl 1:09 | 12 The Arrest 1:33 |
| 5 The Corregidor :47 | 13 Nocturno 2:42 |
| 6 Dance of the Miller's Wife 2:34 | 14 Dance of the Corregidor 2:59 |
| 7 Minuet 1:04 | 15 The Confrontation 2:08 |
| 8 The Grapes 2:14 | 16 The Miller's Return 2:29 |
| | 17 Final Dance. Jota 6:28 |

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