

PROGRAMME NOTE

This work won the first prize in the “II Galician Composition Contest for Wind Orchestra” (symphonic section), in 2009 and also was the test piece in the “IV Galician Bands Competition” (1st category), in 2010.

Dedicated to Andrés Valero-Castells.

This symphony is my first work catalogued (opus 1), wrote when I was just 15 years old. Therefore, is one of my most appreciated and immature works, but also one which have been most played around the world. The whole symphony follows a symphonic (poem) structure, divided in four movements that describe the natural catastrophe produced by Prestige oil spill.

The Prestige oil spill was an oil spill in Galicia caused by the sinking of the oil tanker MV Prestige in 2002. The spill polluted thousands of kilometers of coastline and more than one thousand beaches on the Spanish, French and Portuguese coast, as well as causing great harm to the local fishing industry. The spill is the largest environmental disaster in the history of both Spain and Portugal. In the subsequent months, thousands of volunteers joined the public company TRAGSA (the firm chosen by the regional government to deal with the cleanup) to help clean the affected coastline. The massive cleaning campaign was a success, recovering most portions of coastline from not only the effects of the oil spill but also the accumulated usual contamination. A year after the spill, Galicia had more Blue Flags for its beaches (an award for those beaches with the highest standards in the European Union) than in the previous years.

This symphony has received a huge influence of another works and authors as Symphony No.1 “La Vall de la Murta” & “Symphony No.3 “Epidemia Silenciosa” by Andrés Valero Castells, to who is dedicated this work; two quotes taken from Alfred Reed and Gustav Holst altogether with some cinematic sonorities influenced by Patrick Doyle and Kota Suzuki, which is the music that I had loved when I was 15. To complete the musical resources that conforms this work, each movement evokes a different Galician folk tune which help to develops a more realistic description of localizations in the work. These tunes are: “Alborada Galega”, “Himno Galego” by Pascual Veiga and “Negra Sombra” by Juan Montes.

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