



AMERICAN RECORD GUIDE

MAY/JUNE 2015

CANCIONES ESPAÑOLAS

Granados, Falla, Turina

Danielle Talamantes, s; Henry Dehlinger, p

MSR 1476—51 minutes

Don't be fooled by the cover art! The terrible photography in the booklet belies the fine performances. Talamantes sings with great warmth and consistently even tone in her entire range; she is stylistically perfect and never indulgent. I like Dehlinger's playing, too—strong and clear in every piece. These two aren't afraid to take risks, either. Their performances are bold and deliberate.

I've heard the Falla songs several times in the past year (Romeo 7302, July/Aug 2014; Navarre 5365, Nov/Dec 2014) and this is by far the best. 'El Paño Moruno', 'Seguidilla Murciana', and 'Polo' were so exciting I barely recognized them, and this interpretation of 'Nana' felt new to me. Dare I say it? Talamantes's vocal choices make the pieces sound somehow more Spanish. We don't hear as much Turina as we do the other two composers, and his *Three Arias* are big, dramatic songs. Talamantes and Dehlinger are perfect; the music was practically leaping out of my speakers.

An outstanding program. Excellent notes, texts, and translations (the latter by Dehlinger, incidentally).

HEISEL