

Music in Portugal and Spain

EXPERIENCING MUSIC, EXPRESSING CULTURE



OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

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Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco Susana Moreno Fernández

New York Oxford
OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford. It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship, and education by publishing worldwide. Oxford is a registered trade mark of Oxford University Press in the UK and certain other countries.

Published in the United States of America by Oxford University Press 198 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016, United States of America.

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Names: Castelo-Branco, Salwa El-Shawan, author. | Moreno Fernández, Susana, author.

Title: Music in Portugal and Spain: experiencing music, expressing culture / Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco Susana Moreno Fernández.

Description: New York, NY: Oxford University Press, [2018] | Includes bibliographical references and index.

Identifiers: LCCN 2018000341 | ISBN 9780199920617 (pbk.)

Subjects: LCSH: Music—Portugal—History and criticism.

Music—Spain—History and criticism. | Music appreciation.

Classification: LCC ML3717 .C4 2018 | DDC 780.946—dc23

LC record available at https://lccn.loc.gov/2018000341

987654321

Printed by Sheridan Books, Inc., United States of America

GLOBAL MUSIC SERIES

General Editors: Bonnie C. Wade and Patricia Shehan Campbell

TITLES IN THIS SERIES:

Music in East Africa, Gregory Barz Music in Turkey, Eliot Bates Music in Central Java, Benjamin Brinner Teaching Music Globally, Patricia Shehan Campbell Native American Music in Eastern North America, Beverley Diamond Music in Pacific Island Cultures, Brian Diettrich, Jane Freeman Moulin, and Michael Webb Music in Mainland Southeast Asia, Gavin Douglas Carnival Music in Trinidad, Shannon Dudley Music in Bali, Lisa Gold Music in Ireland, Dorothea E. Hast and Stanley Scott Music in Korea, Donna Lee Kwon Music in China, Frederick Lau Music in Mexico, Alejandro L. Madrid Music in Egypt, Scott L. Marcus Music in the Hispanic Caribbean, Robin Moore Music in Brazil, John Patrick Murphy Intertribal Native American Music in the United States, John-Carlos Perea Music in America, Adelaida Reves Music in Bulgaria, Timothy Rice Music in North India, George E. Ruckert Mariachi Music in America, Daniel Sheehy Music in West Africa, Ruth M. Stone Music in the Andes, Thomas Turino Music in South India, T. Viswanathan and Matthew Harp Allen Music in Japan, Bonnie C. Wade Thinking Musically, Bonnie C. Wade Music in Portugal and Spain, Salwa El-Shawan Castelo-Branco and Susana Moreno Fernández

Contents



Foreword ix
Preface xi
Acknowledgments xiii
CD Track List xvii
Educational Examples on the Companion Website xix

1. Portugal, Spain, and the World 1

The Setting 1
A Glimpse at Iberian Music and Dance 4
The Jota 6
The Vira 10
The Romance 11
Historical Trajectories on the Iberian Peninsula 14
A Shared Heterogeneous Early History 14
Maritime Expansion 18
From Authoritarian Regimes to Democracy 20

2. The Construction of Region and Nation through Music and Dance 27

Nineteenth-Century Nationalism and
Regionalism 27

The Sardana: The "National Dance"
of Catalonia 28

Dictatorships, Nationalism, and Expressive
Culture 30

Music and Dance Traditions in Democracy 32
Singing Alentejo 33
Staging Cantabrian Identity 35
Piping in Galicia and Terras de Miranda
do Douro 38

3. Music in Fiestas 45 The World of Fiestas in Portugal and Spain 45 The Fiestas de San Juan de Soria 51 The Romaria de São João d'Arga 55 Final Observations 59 4. Fado 61 An Evening of Fado in Mouraria 61 What Is Fado? 63 Lyrics 64 Performance 64 Repertoire 70 The Fado Icon Amália Rodrigues 77 Origins and Historical Trajectory 80 Fado in the Twenty-First Century 84 5. Flamenco 86 A Session at the Peña Flamenca de Córdoba 86 What Is Flamenco? 88 Repertoire 91 Musical Characteristics and Lyrics 92 Rhythm and Meter 92 Tonality and Harmony 96 Form 97 Lyrics 98 Origins and Early History 101 La Niña de Los Peines 102 Revitalization 107 New Paths 108 Icons of Nuevo Flamenco: Camarón de la Isla, Enrique Morente, and Paco de Lucía 109 Flamenco as Heritage 114 Glossary 115 References 122

Resources 128

Index 130

Foreword &

During the past five decades, interest in music around the world has surged, as evidenced, for instance, by the proliferation of courses at the college level and the extent to which musical performance is evoked as a lure in the international tourist industry. This interest has encouraged an explosion in ethnomusicological research and publication, including production of reference works and textbooks. The original model for the "world music" course—if this is Tuesday, this must be Japan—has taken multiple paths, ranging from a series of articles in single, multiauthored volumes that subscribe to the idea of "a survey" and have created a canon of cultures for study to single-authored volumes that offer the same sort of broad survey, with glimpses of music in many parts of the world, and purport to cover world musics or ethnomusicology. Since 2004, the *Global Music Series* has provided another textbook option.

The Global Music Series offers choices so that instructors can now design their own courses. Choosing from a set of case study volumes, they can decide which and how much music they will teach. In addition, case studies offer two formats—some focused on a specific culture, and some on a discrete geographical area. In either instance, each volume, authored by a specialist ethnomusicologist, offers greater depth than the usual survey. Themes significant in each case study guide the choice of music that is discussed. Some of the themes occur in multiple case studies, contributing to depth and permitting comparative study. Drawing on two or more of the case study volumes, new courses can be designed to focus on a world region, such as East Asia, South Asia, or the Americas. The contemporary musical situation is the point of departure in all volumes, with historical information and traditions addressed as they elucidate the present. The framing volume, Thinking Musically (Wade), sets the stage for the case studies by introducing topics such as gender and globalization that recur in multiple volumes. The goal of Thinking Musically is to suggest many different perspectives on how people make music meaningful and useful in their lives. Thinking Musically also presents the basic elements of music as they are practiced in musical systems around the world so that authors of each