

Alfonso
Montes

El Picaflor

guitare seule
solo guitar



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Responsable de la collection et gravure musicale / *Editor and music engraving*: Sylvain Lemay
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E-MAIL : info@productionsdoz.com WEB : www.productionsdoz.com
Dépôt légal 4^e trimestre 2018, Bibliothèque Archives nationales du Québec, Bibliothèque et Archives Canada

Imprimé au Canada
Printed in Canada

ISBN 978-2-89796-021-6

Born in Ciudad Bolívar, South Venezuela, in 1955, **Alfonso Montes** began music studies from a very early age. After having guitar lessons from Carlos Atilano, Leopoldo Igarza, moved to London where he studied with the guitar-composer John Duarte, (1976-1983) during this time he obtained the ARCM diploma at the Royal College of Music. He also studied conducting, analysis, and composition techniques with Adrian Thorne at the Guildhall School of Music (1980-1982).

Meeting the Venezuelan composer Antonio Lauro and having played for him all of his guitar compositions, countless encounters, talks, discussions is an important episode in his formation. He has held a variety of teaching and culture promoting positions: Cannington International Summer School (1980-1991), University College of Music in London (1980-1982), Instituto Universitario de Estudios Musicales de Caracas IUDEM (1985-1987), coordinator of the Sistema de Orquestas Juveniles de Caracas, (1985-87), Co-Director of the International Guitar Festival in Cambridge (1991-1992). Director of the Bolívar Hall in London (1992-1995), Culture Attaché for Venezuela in Germany (1995-1998), General Director for International Cultural Cooperation for the venezuelan Ministry of Culture (1998-2000). Because of his pro-democracy and anti-corruption stand, the militar regime of Hugo Chávez harrassed him, among hundres of thousand other venezuelans, and from the beginning of 2001, he is living in Germany with his wife Irina Kircher, noted guitarist and teacher.

Since 1983 both play as Duo Montes-Kircher considered to be one of the leading guitar ensembles of their generation, they both teach at the guitar department at the Stutgarter Musickschule. His output as a composer Includes concert as well as music for films and theater and is played and recorded worldwide by international Orchestras, ensembles, and soloist, among others, John Williams, Rolando Villazon, Irina Kircher, Costas Cotsiolis, The Berliner Symphoniker, The Venezuelan Simon Bolívar Orchestra, The Saint John Smith Square, The Zagerb Guitar Trio and Los Angeles Guitar Quartet, among many others.

Based on the deep rooted classic guitar tradition of right hand studies, to mention just two, El Colibrí by Julio Sagreras and El Abejorro by Emilio Pujol, I came up with this **El Picaflor** which is the name given in Venezuela to the Hummingbird.

In order to recreate the swift, effortless, magical wing flapping, the speed indicated (600 notes per minute) as well as the stability of Tempo, is essential.

After the momentary static, El Picaflor can unpredictably fly away at extraordinary speed, that action is musically represented with the unprepared modulations.

à Irina Kircher

EL PICAFLOR

Alfonso Montes

p a i p a i sim.

p *cresc.*

f

VII

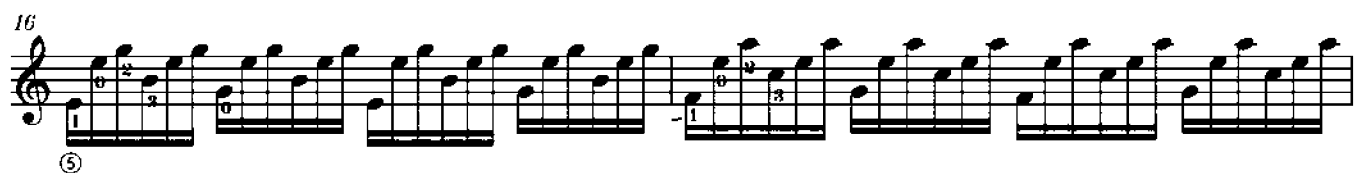
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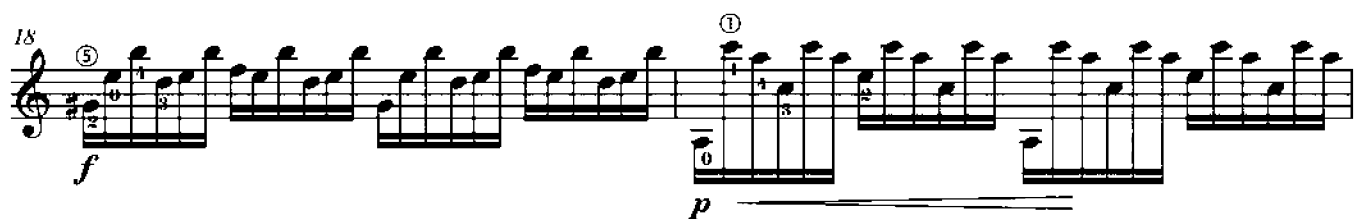


p CRE-SC.

16



18



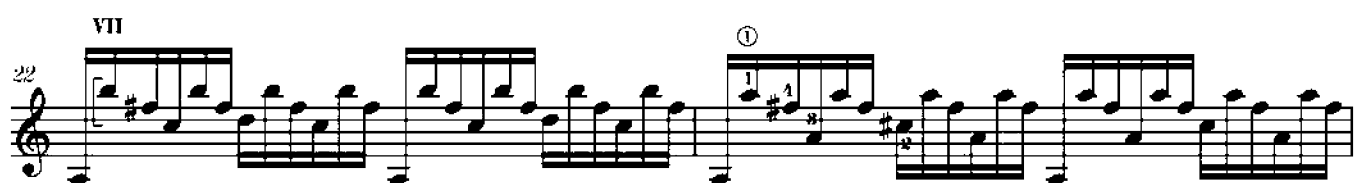
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VIII

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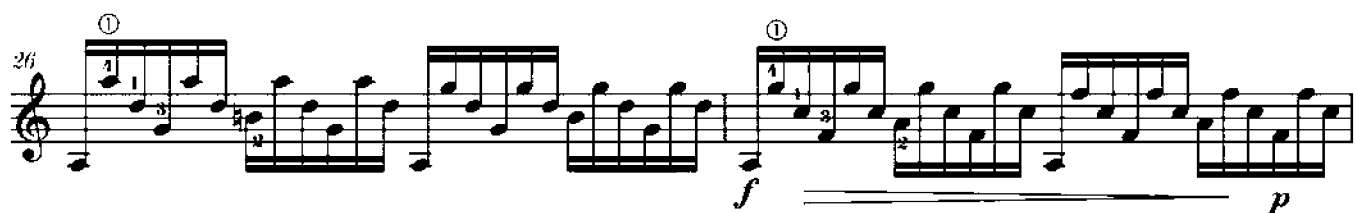
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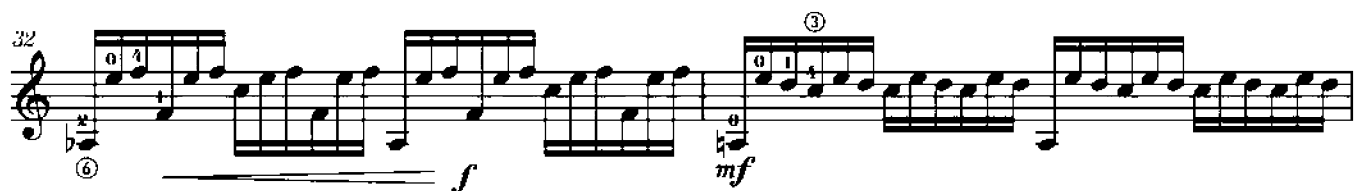
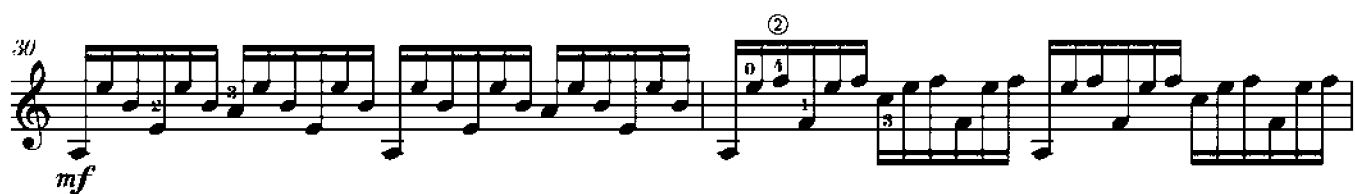
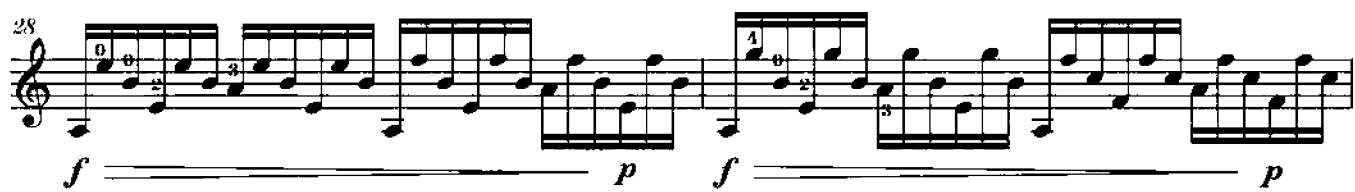


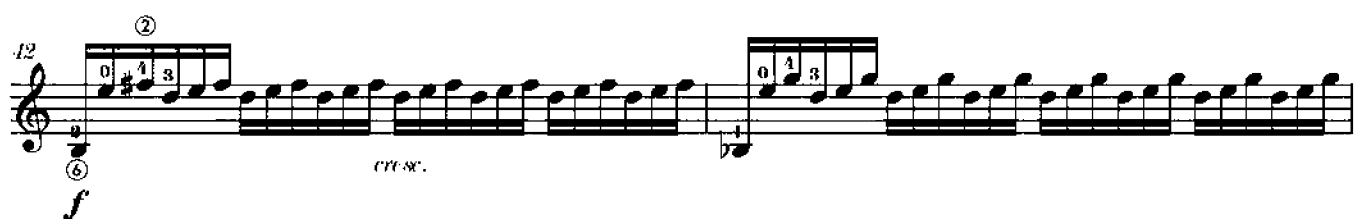
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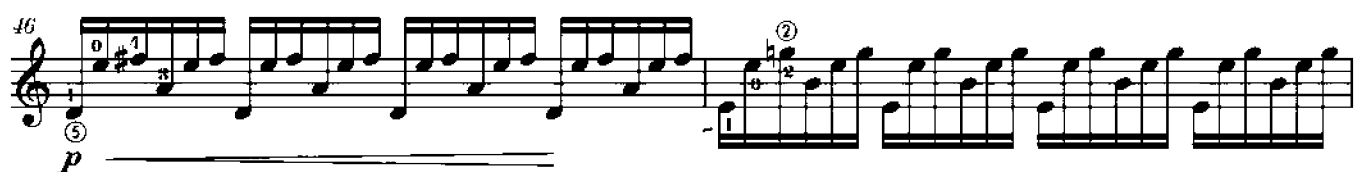


f *p*



42 
f *crt-sc.*

44 

46 
p

48 

50 
p

52 

54 

