

Alfonso Montes

Nueve preludios azules

Guitar

“My Nueve preludios azules (Nine blue preludes) are pieces about love, sensuality, poetry.”

– Alfonso Montes, Stuttgart, Spring 2019.

I Azul desde el chinchorro (*blue from the hammock*)

A vision of the blue sky while rocking on a *chinchorro* (hammock).

This piece should be played smoothly with rhythmic precision.

II Mañanita azul (*blue morning*)

This piece is about the very early-morning, hazy blue light.

Clear dynamic contrast is very important.

III Azul entre nubes (*blue between clouds*)

The image of clouds moving... a blue background.

Absolute differentiation of the simple and compound time signatures is required.

IV Entre azules (*between blues*)

In the sea, surrounded by different tonalities of blue.

This piece should be played like a popular song, fluently, pausing at cadence points and then regaining the tempo to continue.

V Azulejo (*bluebird*)

Azulejo is a beautiful blue bird, fragile.

Enjoy the gentle rhythmic patter that the bass produces with the melody suspended above it.

VI Azul oscuro (*dark blue*)

The dark blue in winter, Christmas.

Clarity of slurs (on both single and double notes) is needed.

VII Tu azul (*your blue*)

This is a love song.

Keep a *legato* line in the melody, and give enough space for the resonances to prevail.

VIII Azulcielo (*sky blue*)

Being overwhelmed by a wonderful spotless blue sky.

Play this piece with rhythm and energy.

IX Stay

A sad love song.

Leave the fingers in position to sustain the full chords, and play the accompaniment softly enough to allow the melody to ‘shine’.

Performance notes by Alfonso Montes