

Gota de Noche

The work, commissioned by Maestro Luis Herrera de la Fuente and the Orquesta Sinfónica de Minería was composed between October of 1988 and March of 1989, during my second year as a graduate student at the Peabody Conservatory.

The general idea upon which Gota de Noche ("A Drop of the Night") is based emerged from my reading of the work of the Spanish-Mexican poet Tomás Segovia. Although it is not intended to be a programmatic work, Gota de Noche appeals to the same atmosphere of "ancestral serenity" which Segovia suggests in some of his work.

The piece gravitates around a series of chords which are based on perfect and augmented/diminished fourths and fifths. The initial theme, which is introduced by the English Horn, is manipulated throughout the piece within a musical landscape of slight textural and harmonic processes of transformation.

Gota de Noche bears a double dedicatory: to my wife Josefina and to my teacher Jean Eichelberger Ivey.

©1988, Carlos Sanchez-Gutierrez