



Manuel de Falla working in his carmen in Granada, c. 1928.

THE MANUEL DE FALLA ARCHIVE

When Manuel de Falla left Granada for Argentina in September 1939, he left behind not only the best years of his adult life but also his personal belongings, including books, music manuscripts, and correspondence, which remained in the modest dwelling on Antequeruela Alta, near the Alhambra, where he had lived with his sister María del Carmen since January 1922.

After Falla's death in 1946, his brother Germán, who was in Cádiz, started gathering together the composer's legacy; this included items brought from Argentina. In 1961, the books and other documents

Moving his belongings.
Granada. c. 1962.



which had been entrusted to the care of Falla's friends in Granada were collected and transferred to Madrid, where the first steps in sorting and classifying the material were taken. At the same time, the composer's former residence on Antequeruela Alta was converted into a museum which the City of Granada opened in 1965. Drawings made by Hermenegildo Lanz in 1941, when the contents of the house were removed at Falla's request, served as a guide; it was thus possible to reinstall the original furnishings exactly as they had been previously.

Under the auspices of Isabel de Falla, the musician's niece, the groundwork for the present Archive was laid. The next milestone in the history of the Archive occurred in 1978, when the Manuel de Falla Cultural Centre – the work of architect José María García de Paredes – was inaugurated in Granada, adjacent to the Manuel de Falla Museum. The Centre, which houses the Music Auditorium and which was planned as a location for the Archive, was a pioneer among buildings designated for musical purposes in Spain. More than that, it constituted a challenge which was met in the spirit



which inspired Falla's life and work: an almost monastic austerity, a vast conceptual flawlessness, together with the utmost economy of resources. The Manuel de Falla Archive Foundation. established in 1988 with headquarters in Madrid, agreed to deposit its entire holdings in Granada. Subsequently, in March 1991, the Manuel de Falla Archive was inaugurated here, the result of an institutional agreement signed with the City of Granada. This agreement was later expanded to include the Ministry of Culture and Sport, the Regional Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport of Andalusia, and the University of Granada. As a research centre which preserves the composer's documentary legacy as well as his library, the Manuel de Falla Archive was awarded the UNESCO International Music Prize in 1998.



Poster of the Festival devoted in Paris to Manuel de Falla, 1928.

SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION

The holdings of the Manuel de Falla Archive comprise two main sections. The historical collection consists of material generated or acquired by Falla, while the contemporary collection encompasses material relating to Falla and the period in which he lived, acquired after the composer's death. The significance of the historical collection is due to Falla's very personality; he was a truly cultivated person who was in contact with many of the outstanding personalities of his time, musicians, poets, painters, and politicians, among others. He was as well a meticulous individual who carefully saved even the minutiae of his everyday life, such as invoices, streetcar tickets, concert tickets, and so on. The contemporary collection, therefore, accurately reflects the Archive's efforts in keeping the holdings which pertain to Falla's interests up-to-date and of acquiring material which is relevant to his influence on today's culture, research, and music.



Autograph manuscript of the *Concerto*, 1923-1926.

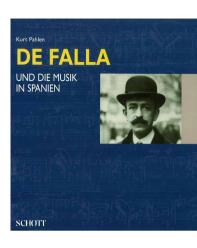


His personal library.

THE HISTORICAL COLLECTION

Falla's personal library, which consists of more than 4,000 books and scores (some of which have been annotated by the composer or dedicated by their authors), and correspondence -25.415 letters- constitute the two pillars of this collection. There are, moreover, some 2.400 concert programs and 223 magazine titles of the period, as well as 3.900 press clippings from Spain and abroad dating back to the end of the 19th century. The music manuscripts -cataloged by prof. Antonio Gallegowhich number more than 6.000 pages in either Falla's hand or that of a copyist, allow us to follow the evolution of much of Falla's oeuvre from his first drafts through to the final versions. This collection also includes posters publicizing various premières and performances of Falla's works, sketches, watercolours, engravings, diplomas, and other material. In addition, there is an extensive collection of hand-written records and personal documents -over 4.000- which enable researchers to become familiar with Falla's multifaceted world of ideas and creativity. Sound recordings, among them early recordings of Falla's works, constitute a part of this section, and over 2.000 original photographs which portray the composer at different stages as well as the people and places that were a part of his life. Over the years, the original holdings have been enhanced through acquisitions, donations, and legal deposit, from individuals as well as from public and private institutions.

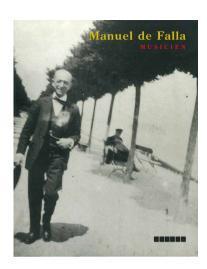
German Edition of one of Manuel de Falla's reference biographies.



THE CONTEMPORARY COLLECTION

The Archive continues to acquire scholarly works and documents published in Spain and abroad which relate to Manuel de Falla and the society of his day; this reference collection currently includes more than 7.300 titles. The ongoing acquisition of clippings from the Spanish press results in the addition to the collection of some 1.000 items annually. Similarly, the number of concert programs in the collection has grown, to more than 7.000, and there are now 269 periodical titles. Audiovisual material (vinyl discs, CDs, videos, DVDs, etc.) comprises over 2.200 titles.

The Manuel de Falla Archive is the primary location for researchers, musicians, scholars, educators, and students, as well as private individuals, who wish to gain a more profound knowledge of Falla or to become better acquainted with the composer's works and character, as well as the era and the circumstances in which he lived, tracing his influence right up to the present day.



French edition of the magazine Poesía devoted to Manuel de Falla.

SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

As well as making its holdings accessible to researchers, the Manuel de Falla Archive carries out various fundamental services such as conservation, cataloguing, and acquisitions. Furthermore, its activities continue to increase from one year to the next. At present, the Archive maintains a catalogue of scholarly reference publications for researchers and specialists. The Archive has also prepared numerous exhibitions which have scrupulously elaborated concrete aspects of the works and life of Falla or of some of the artists closely associated with the composer. Every year since 1995, the Archive, together with the City of Granada Orchestra and the Manuel de Falla Cultural Centre, has organized the Encuentros Manuel de Falla (Encounters with Manuel de Falla). This event takes place in November. The program includes an exhibition, a course in music analysis, concerts, educational activities, colloquia, and conferences, which are coordinated according to a particular theme. The Archive also collaborates with other institutions in related projects or receives support in the development of its objectives.





UNIVERSO MANUEL DE FALLA

The main purpose of this permanent exhibition is to provide a carefully planned display for the public to enjoy. The items shown allow visitors to contemplate in a comprehensive manner all the aspects of Manuel de Falla's vitality and creativity. A visit to the exhibition can be combined with a visit to the nearby Manuel de Falla Museum, where a portrayal of the composer's daily life complements the impressions and information presented in the Universo Manuel de Falla exhibit. In this way, visitors can become acquainted with the noble and complex character of Falla, who was a witness to and protagonist in one of the most volatile and difficult periods of modern history and art.



Rafael Puyana moving one of his harpsichords.

RAFAEL PUYANA LECTURE ROOM

The great harpsichordist Rafael Puvana decided to donate its valuable library and archive documentary to our Foundation, as well as several musical instruments that had collected throughout his extraordinary career. This exceptional donation forced the Archive Manuel de Falla to expand its areas with the construction of a Rafael Puyana lecture room, generously contributed by the Manuel de Falla Cultural Centre, creating a unique environment for research and interpretive study, and a background of tremendous value to those interested in keyboard repertoire and in the musical heritage of Manuel de Falla and Wanda Landowska.

