

EDITOR'S NOTES FOR GOZOS A LA VIRGEN EL CARMEN

In Spanish tradition, the “Virgen del Carmen” is venerated as the patroness and protector of seafarers and fishermen. Known by a several names (e.g. Virgin Mary of Mount Carmel, Maris Stella), she is celebrated at the July 16th Virgen del Carmen Festival in many coastal towns and villages throughout Spain, from Andalusia to Catalonia, and places in between. A brief description of this festival can be found at <https://www.spanish-fiestas.com/festivals/virgen-del-carmen/>

This piece is a more or less a trio for Soprano, Tenor, and Bass voices, with the four verses set as solos alternating between the Soprano and Bass. That said, it could also be performed by a choir. The accompaniment can be played by piano or organ, but is likely best on the organ to achieve a fuller sound. I have rendered it electronically using dry string sounds, because the organ soundfonts available to me don't reflect the proper stops suggested by the composer, and the piano sound was a bit too simple.

Here are the lyrics and an approximate translation into English:

Astro hermoso del amor, dulce Madre Inmaculada.	Beautiful star of love, sweet Immaculate Mother.
Tiende pía una mirada sobre el triste pecador.	Lend in compassion a gaze at the forlorn sinner.
1. Quien acuda en su quebranto, a buscarte como égida, tú le acoges condolida bajo el cielo de tu manto, mas si así de nuestro llanto pones fin a la jornada.	1. When someone comes in their brokenness, seeking you as their shield, you welcome them, sharing in pain under the heaven of your cloak, and thus you put an end to our weeping in our daily toil.
2. De tus dones, de tu anhelo, de tú, excelsa y alma gloria, guardan pura una memoria las Colinas del Carmelo, mas si allí con santo celo por tus hijos fuiste honrada.	2. Of your gifts, of your longing of you, exalted, and soul's glory, keeping pure a memory are the Hills of Carmel, and there with holy zeal by your children you were honored.
3. Nubecilla de oro y rosa, del profeta a los cantares, tú surgiste de los mares pura aérea vaporosa. ¡Quien al verte tan hermosa no exclamara Madre Amada!	3. Little cloud of gold and rose, of the prophets in their songs, you emerged from the seas pure vaporous air. Who, upon seeing you so beautiful cannot but exclaim Beloved Mother!

4. Mas tan grande eres, María y del hombre protectora, no abandones desde ahora la desgracia y la agonía, y en la duda, en la falsía de esta vida emponzoñada.	4. And so great are you, Mary and so protective of mankind, do not abandon from now on the misfortune and the agony, and in the doubt and in the falsehood of this poisoned life.
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The original score included the following footnote (hardly legible):

El órgano tocará en los fuertes con un clarín suave o cornete y a los pianos con flautado.

The organ shall play at the *fortes* with a soft trumpet or cornet and at the *pianos* with a flute.