

## EDITOR'S NOTES FOR "SALVE A TRES VOCES"

This beautiful "Salve Regina" is written in four movements, with the first three elegant movements very distinctive from each other, and the fourth echoing the first. Most of the composition is written in the key signature of G-minor. This Salve Regina was most likely intended for three solo voices with a small orchestra accompanying. It could be sung as a choral piece as well. The "Salve Regina" (meaning "Hail Queen") is a Marian hymn and one of four Marian antiphons sung at different seasons within the Christian liturgical calendar of the Roman Catholic Church. Eslava wrote several different versions of the Salve Regina, and I suspect this one is among the least known for reasons expounded on below.

The source document for this piece consisted of 90 pages of instrumental or vocal parts. Upon close inspection I found two or three versions of each part, which looked to be written at three different times by at least two different people. Besides out of order pagination, there were numerous inconsistencies, ambiguities, contradictions, and errors in each and every part. It was quite the jigsaw puzzle, and I had to make a lot of judgment calls that I can only hope reasonably reflect Eslava's original intent. While there were two organ parts provided in the source material, both looked to be later supplements and reductions of questionable accuracy. Therefore, I wrote my own reduction for this score, which of course is primarily for rehearsal assistance.

There are abundant resources describing and translating the Salve Regina to any language you wish, so I will not provide a translation here.

For more information about Eslava and his work, see <https://hilarioneslava.org/home/home-en/>