

## EDITOR'S NOTES FOR *CANCIÓN A LA VIRGEN*

*Canción a la Virgen* is a cheerful, lilting villancico (carol) in praise of the Virgin Mary. The lyrics are very similar to a piece contained in an 1844 songbook printed in Córdoba, entitled "Canciones y afectos sagrados a la Santísima Virgen, que se cantan en el mes de Mayo". See <http://docplayer.es/32892582-Que-se-cantan-en-el-mes-de-mayo.html>, pages 36-37.

In the Roman Catholic tradition, "May devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary" refer to special Marian devotions held during the month of May honoring the Virgin Mary as "the Queen of May". There is no firm structure as to the content of a May devotion. It usually includes the singing of Marian anthems, Scripture readings, and a sermon. The last devotion on May 31 is often followed by a procession, during which a statue or portrait of the Virgin Mary is carried back into the church. Some May devotions may take place outside in a forest or a dedicated special place.

Presumably this piece was specifically intended for such May devotions. Although it could be done with a choir, it could also be beautifully performed with just three strong voices. With its limited instrumentation and speedy tempo, it is appropriate for a celebration in a variety of indoor or outdoor settings, and one can easily envision people dancing and tossing flower petals to the music!

<p>CORO:</p> <p>Llegad, y presentemos a la Virgen sagrada, guiraldas entrelazadas de respeto y amor. Llegad, y presentemos a la Virgen sagrada, canciones entrelazadas de respeto y amor.</p> <p>COPLAS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Humildes a tus plantas nos miras gran Señora consuelo del que llora, alivio en el dolor. Las flores halagueñas, que todos te ofrecemos, te demuestran queremos el mas grato fervor.</li><li>2. Sednos dulce y propicia en esta vida enojosa comprime valerosa, de Satanás su furor, y a la mansión nos llesves do vive en regocijo, tu Padre, Esposo, e Hijo, a quien se dé loor.</li></ol>	<p>CHORUS:</p> <p>Come, and let us present the Holy Virgin, intertwined garlands of respect and love. Come, and let us present the Holy Virgin, songs intertwined of respect and love.</p> <p>VERSES:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Humble at your feet you gaze at us great Lady, consolation of those who weep, relief in sorrow. The merry flowers, that we all offer you, show you we love (<i>you with</i>) the most joyous fervor.</li><li>2. Be sweet and auspicious in this annoying life protect the courageous from Satan's wrath, and take us to the mansion where they live in joy, your Father, Husband, and Son, to whom praise is given.</li></ol>
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3. Cuán tiernas tus miradas  
son Madre hermosa y bella  
y con ellas nos pruebas  
tu afecto y tierno amor.  
Ora Madre pedimos  
tu auxilio y santa gracia,  
y luego tu eficacia,  
alcánzanos perdón.

3. How tender are your looks,  
beautiful and lovely Mother  
and with them you prove to us  
your affection and tender love.  
Now Mother we ask  
your help and holy grace,  
and then your efficacy,  
to obtain for us pardon.

**GANCIONES**  
**Y AFECTOS SAGRADOS**

A LA

**Santísima Virgen.**

Que se cantan en el mes de Mayo,



CÓRDOBA :

—  
Imprenta de García 1844.

**ESTRIVILLO.**

*Llegad, y presentemos  
A la Virgen sagrada  
Guirnalda entrelazada  
De respeto y amor.*



Las flores alagüeñas,  
Que todos te ofrecemos,  
Te demuestran queremos  
El mas grato fervor.

Graciosa las acoje,  
Las pon en la cabeza,  
Donde mayor lindeza  
Adquieran y candor.

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Por ellas nos concede  
Las gracias que en tu mano  
Para bien del humano  
Depositó el Señor.

Sénos dulce y propicia  
En la vida enojosa,  
Comprime valerosa  
De Satan el furor.

Y á la mansion nos lleva  
Do vive en regocijo  
Tu Esposo, Padre, é Hijo,  
A quien se dé loor.