

Editor's Notes for the *Coplas a la Inmaculada Concepción "Todo el mundo en general"*

The text of these *Coplas*, particularly the *estribillo* or refrain ("*Todo el mundo en general...*"), attributed to the Sevillian poet Miguel (del) Cid (1550-1615), has been one of the most popular and enduring Spanish hymns to the Immaculate Conception of Mary. Written probably in 1614, the *Coplas* (formatted as *redondillas*, or groups of four A-B-B-A rhyming verses) were first set to music by the priest Bernardo de Toro (1570-1643). They were intended to support a popular petition that began in Sevilla, addressed to the Pope (Paul V, known also for his interactions with Galileo Galilei) to issue a decree declaring Mary as having been conceived without the stain of original sin. The petition, solemnly accompanied to Rome by a Spanish royal embassy, succeeded in its goal, resulting in a Papal brief containing the declaration. Bernardo de Toro's original music, based on a *zorongo*, a popular form of Andalusian song and dance, was later transcribed by the famous Spanish Renaissance organist Francisco Correa de Araujo (or Araujo, 1584-1654) as two of his *tientos* for organ, preserved to this day.

In 1854, the Immaculate Conception of Mary was elevated by Pope Pius IX to the status of dogma of the Roman Catholic Church with the Papal bull *Ineffabilis Deus*. In Catholic Spain, and specially in Sevilla, with its already strong Marian tradition, the news was received with much rejoicing. It was probably at this point that Hilarión Eslava composed his version of "*Todo el mundo en general*" to Miguel Cid's *Coplas*. Although Eslava was no longer Master of the Chapel at the Cathedral of Sevilla (he had left the post in 1844 to become Master of the Royal Chapel in Madrid), he was still immensely popular there, and his version of the *Coplas* was immediately adopted, replacing the original tune.

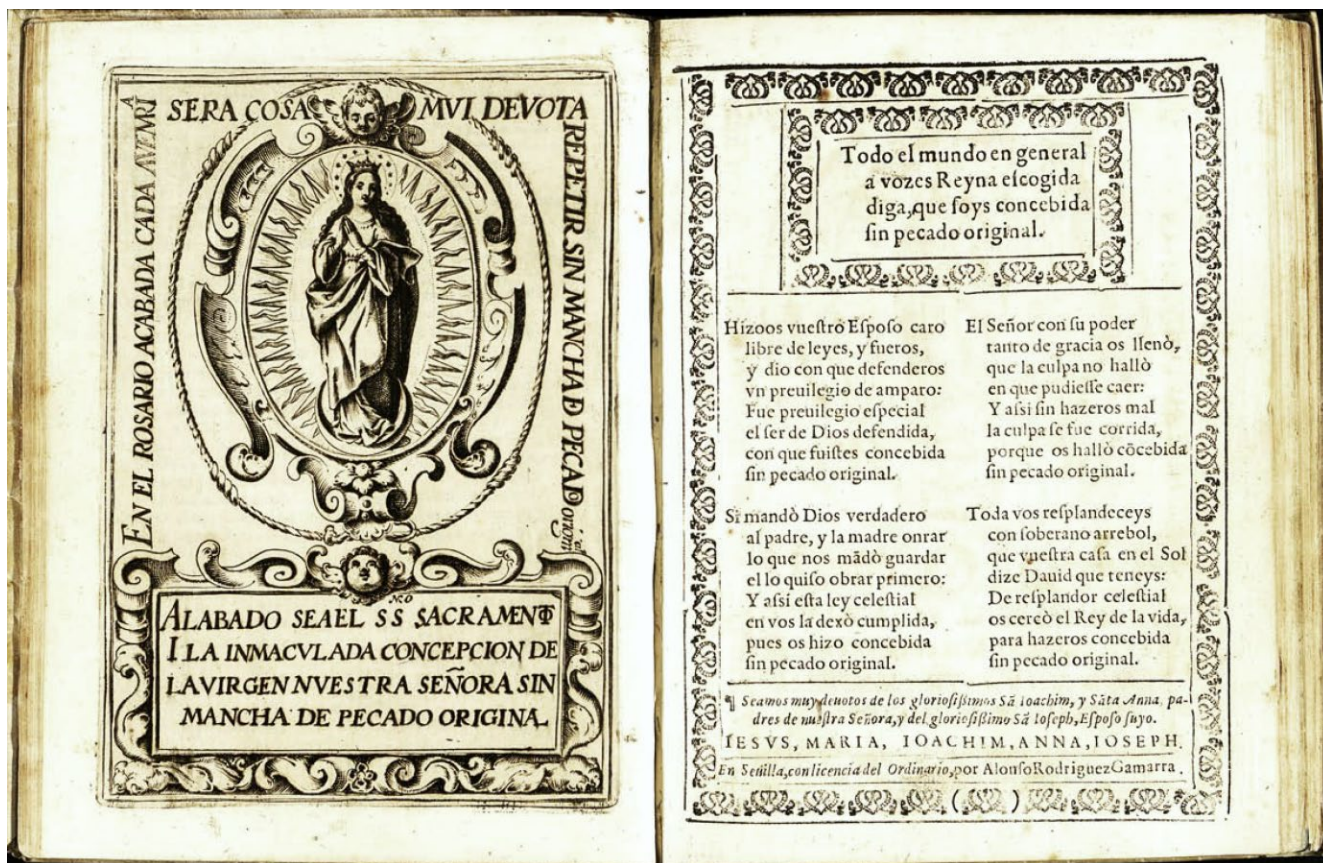
The original score for this transcription comes to us from a manuscript copy of the *Coplas* found in the book by Manuel Serrano y Ortega "*Glorias Sevillanas*", Sevilla [1893], which notes that it was for a long time a tradition to have the *Seises* (the young boys who sang and performed the famous ritual dances at the Cathedral of Sevilla) to sing the *Coplas* at the *Misas de Cofradía* and during the Saturday Masses at the Chapel of *Nuestra Señora* (or *La Virgen*) *de la Antigua* at the Cathedral.

Eslava's two-part and keyboard (organ) arrangement of the music and the accompaniment are very simple, meant for singers and an accompanist of limited talents, obviously in consonance with the great popularity of the *Coplas*. The manuscript in Serrano's book only contained the first stanza. The other three have been added here (in updated Spanish) from the 1615 printed paraphrase of Miguel Cid's poem extant at the Universidad de Salamanca, an image of which is reproduced below.

Note: In addition to the sources already cited, some of the background information used here comes from the article by Ignacio Otero Nieto "*Sevilla y la música concepcionista*", *Temas de Estética y Arte XIX*, Real Academia de Bellas Artes de Santa Isabel de Hungría, Sevilla [2005] (in Spanish, available online at <https://www.realacademiabellasartessevillacom/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2.5.-IGNACIO-OTERO-NIETO.pdf>)

The lyrics and an approximate translation into English follow next:

Spanish Lyrics	Approximate English Translation
<p>Todo el mundo en general a voces Reina escogida diga que sois concebida sin pecado original.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Hizoos vuestro Esposo caro libre de leyes, y fueros, y dio con qué defenderos un privilegio de amparo: fue privilegio especial el ser de Dios defendida, porque fuisteis concebida sin pecado original.<li>2. Si mandó Dios verdadero al padre y la madre honrar, lo que nos mandó guardar Él lo quiso obrar primero: y así esta ley celestial en vos la dejó cumplida, pues os hizo concebida sin pecado original.<li>3. El Señor con su poder tanto de gracia os llenó, que la culpa no halló en que pudieses caer: y así sin haceros mal la culpa se fue corrida, porque os halló concebida sin pecado original.<li>4. Toda vos resplandecéis con soberano arrebol, que vuestra casa en el Sol dice David que tenéis: de resplandor celestial os cercó el Rey de la vida, para haceros concebida sin pecado original.	<p>Let the whole world in its entirety with a loud voice, chosen Queen, say that you were conceived without original sin.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Your loving Bridegroom made you free from laws and obligations and gave you the means to defend you a privilege of protection: it was the special privilege that by God you would be defended, because you were conceived without original sin.<li>2. If the true God commanded father and mother to honor, that which He commanded us to keep He willed it to do first: and so this celestial law in you is fulfilled, for He made you to be conceived without original sin.<li>3. The Lord with his power filled you with so much grace that he found no guilt in which you could fall: And so without harming you the guilt was removed, because He found you conceived without original sin.<li>4. All of you shines with sovereign radiance, a house in the Sun David says you possess: of heavenly brightness the King of life enveloped you, to make you conceived without original sin.



Copy of a 1615 printing of the *Coplas* by Miguel Cid, “*Todo el mundo en general a voces Reyna escogida diga que soys concebida sin pecado original*”, En Sevilla: Alonso Rodríguez Gamarra [1615], from the Biblioteca Histórica de la Universidad de Salamanca, Spain.

(<https://gredos.usal.es/handle/10366/125592>)