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16. Diskografentag

Albéniz, flamenco and other rarities within the Regordosa-Turull collection

Biblioteca De Catalunya
Biblioteca de Catalunya
Sound & AV archive
(Barcelona)

Why the Regordosa-Turull collection? (1898-1918)

It is one of the most fascinating private brown cylinders collection in Spain, together with those preserved in Euskadi (Ibarra collection) Aragón (Marro collection) and Andalousia (Jerez collection).

Available in Biblioteca de Catalunya Catalogue.

Why other rarities? (1898?1899?1900?1901?...)

Catalan national anthem had a very rich ethnographic evolution. There is one cylinder in the collection that could be considered the first recording of one quite controverted version made by the Orfeó Català (Palau de la Música Choir).

Available discography. Only one cylinder known.

Why flamenco?

Most of historical music recordings in Spain included a variety of regional popular music (Sardanas in Catalonia, Jotas in Aragon, Zarzuela in Madrid, and flamenco everywhere, but mainly in Andalousia and Madrid).

Available discographies. Available catalogues of cylinders.

Why Albéniz? (1903-1907)

Isaac Albéniz (1865-1909), Catalan pianist and composer, never recorded himself for commercial purposes. But he did it in 3 unique cylinders with improvisations, ca. 1903-1907.

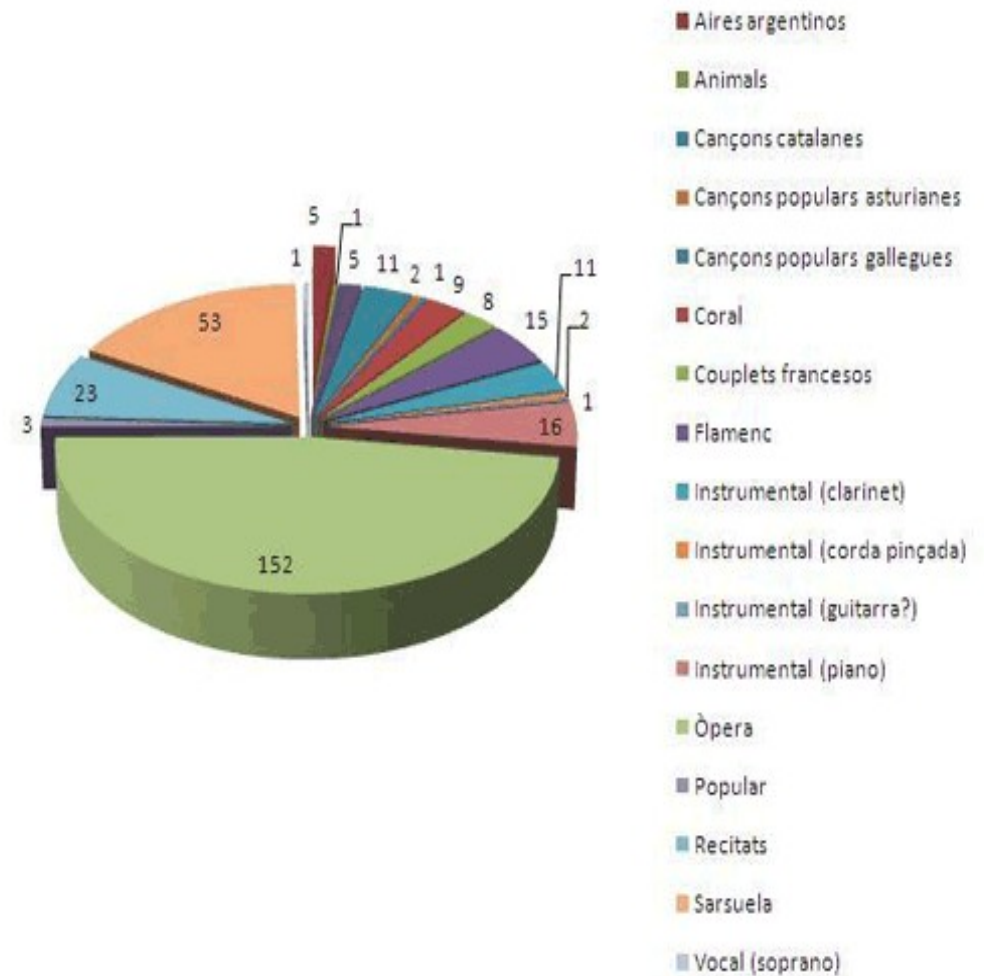
Available discographies. No cylinders, exception made of the only 3 surviving.

1. The Regordosa-Turull Collection



- Formed by Ruperto Regordosa Planas (18??-1918), a rich Catalan business man from Tiana (Barcelona).
- Acquired by the Biblioteca de Catalunya in 2000 from the violinist and composer Xavier Turull (1922-2000).
- 358 brown wax cylinders, most of them of no brand.
- In a wood case with 187 holes (upper part) and 180 holes (lower part).
- 4 phonographs (pictured, the Edison Suitcase “A”, Serial number S4880).
- Some documentation (original list, photographs, correspondence, one cylinders catalogue).

The Collection



Regordosa's Family



Regordosa's inicial in the family grave



Mariano Regordosa's grave in Montjuïc (Barcelona)

- Mariano and his siblings were part of the industrial upper class in Barcelona.
- His son Ruperto Regordosa Planas (+1918) continued his father's business in fabrics and dye production.
- Ruperto was also very interested in photography and opera and flamenco music.
- Not being a politician himself, he and his brother attendend federal republican and liberal Catalanist Congress in 1880.

Regordosa's Family

We didn't find any portrait of Ruperto Regordosa. His family only kept a picture of him, which needs some restoration and its not available.

Regordosa's country-side home in Tiana, a small village 15 km away from Barcelona.

Catalan flag coat in the façade of Regordosa's home, a sign of Regordosa's national feelings.



Tiana used to be frequented by wealthy people. There was a health resort at the end of the XIXth Century in the village. It was also well known because of the carthusian Cartoixa the Montalegre, an impressive building.

Xavier Turull i Creixell



Violinist and composer, Xavier Turull was also director of the city of Barcelona Conservatoire. He toured all over the world, premiered many violin works by Catalan composers and acquired Regordosa's collection at the end of the sixties.



Turull showing his cylinder's collection to Yehudi Menuhin, probably in Barcelona. (196-?)

More about the collection

The screenshot shows the Biblioteca de Catalunya catalog interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the library logo, 'Catalog', and links for 'Biblioteca de Catalunya', 'e-Cercador', and 'On-line services'. Below this is a search bar with a 'Start Over' button, a 'Limit/Sort Search' button, and a 'Search History' dropdown. The search criteria are set to 'AUTHOR' with the value 'fons regordosa-turull'. There are also buttons for 'View Entire Collection', 'System Sorted', 'Sort', and 'Search'. Below the search bar, there are navigation links for 'Result Page 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 Next' and buttons for 'Save Marked Records', 'Save All On Page', and 'Save to My Lists'. The main content area shows 'AUTHORS (1-50 of 301)' and a section for 'Fons Regordosa-Turull (Biblioteca de Catalunya)'. The first record is for 'A ella Puig, Sr. [1898-1918]' with a music icon and the year '1898? - 1918?'. Below this is a table with columns: Location, Call No., Volum Copy, Reading Room, Loan Type, and Note.

Location	Call No.	Volum Copy	Reading Room	Loan Type	Note
Sala de Reserva	CSFon-CD 1050	c.3	SALA RESERVA	ONLY LIB USE	Còpia en Mp3 (2007)
DG Hospitalet	CIL-146		ALTERNATIVE SUPPORT	ONLY LIB USE	Caixa 25
DG Hospitalet	CSFon-CD 1055	c.2	SALA GENERAL	ONLY LIB USE	Còpia en mp3

The second record is partially visible: '2 (Check for saving record) A los toros pasodoble'.

<http://scur.cat/46900D>

More about the collection



<http://scur.cat/3BHX20>



<http://scur.cat/FDDZ90>



<http://scur.cat/XX4262>

2. Rarities within the collection



Els segadors

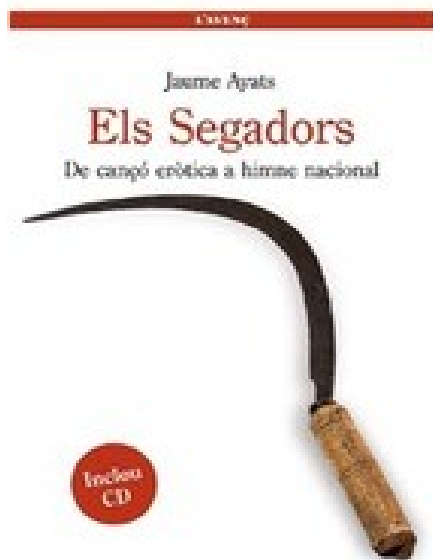
- Originally a traditional song, it became the Catalan National Anthem in 1993.
- Cylinder performed by the Orfeó Català, conducted by Lluís Millet.
- Undated. Probably recorded in 1901 in Tiana.
- Traditional (unadapted) text. The song ends with hurrays to Catalonia.

Els Segadors in the WDL



<http://www.wdl.org/en/item/14162/>

Els Segadors. Datation



Between 1905-1915



Visit of the Orfeó Català to the Cartoixa de Montalegre, Tiana, in April 1901.

Was Ruperto Regordosa with his phonograph there?

(Centre de Documentació de l'Orfeó Català. MDC).

Flamenco cylinders

According to Rafael Chaves, one of the expert discographers of flamenco music, *Paco el de Montilla*, was one of the first *cantaors* to record on cylinders in Spain.

There are 6 cylinders by Paco el de Montilla in the Regordosa-Turull Collection.

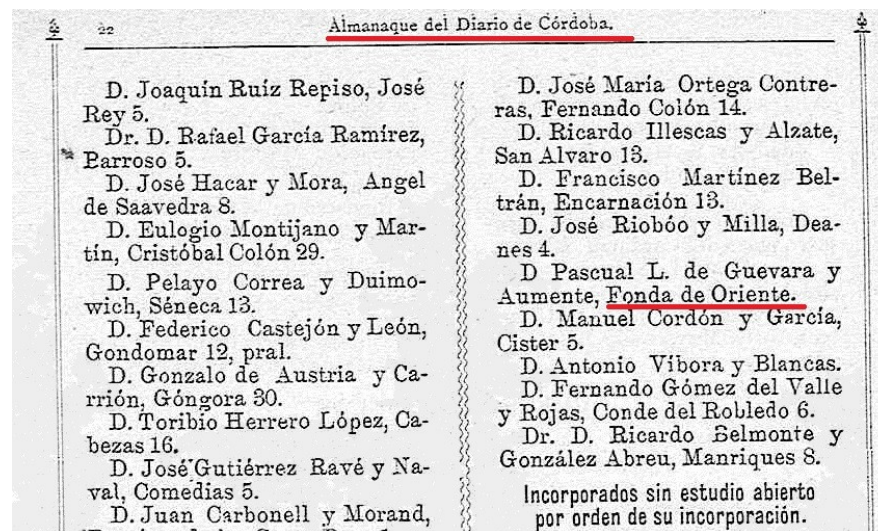
In some of them, it can be clearly heard the title of the song, the name of the *cantaor*, and the words “grabado por el señor Regordosa en la Fonda de Oriente, Córdoba”.

Copies of some of these cylinders can be also found in private hands (Manuel Cerrejón).

Rafael Chaves Arcos y Norman Paul Kliman - “Los Cantos Mineros a través de los registros de pizarra y cilindros”

Flamenco cylinders. Datation.

Chaves, in a private correspondance with the Biblioteca de Catalunya, admitted to have dated those cylinders around 1898 or 1899, for the place where they were recorded, the Fonda Oriente in Córdoba (Andalously) was closed down in 1900.

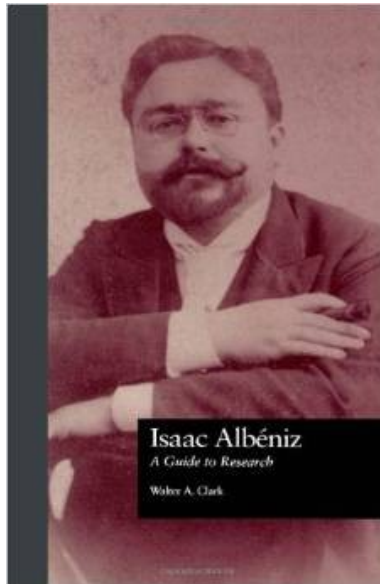


"Almanaque del Diario de Córdoba para 1900". Ilustre Colegio de Abogados de esta Capital.

Malagueña

Late notice on Fonda de Oriente in the "Almanaque del Obispado de Córdoba", 1899.

Albéniz cylinders.



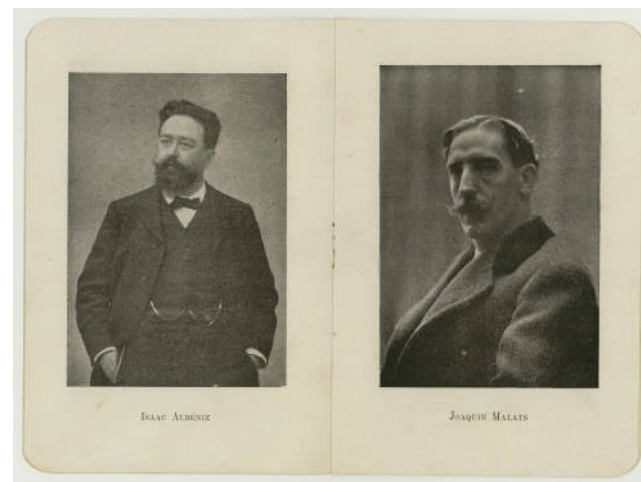
- Isaac Albéniz (1860-1909), Pianist and composer. Author of the piano work *Iberia*.
- Never recorded commercially.
- Albéniz has a comprehensive discography by W.A. Clark, in which he states the existence of 3 cylinders on which Albéniz recorded three improvisations.
- Those cylinders were recorded by Ruperto Regordosa in Tiana, between 1903 and 1907.
- Datation is uncertain, but Albéniz was living in Niza at that time and he only came to Barcelona and Tiana, where his wife Rosina's family had a residence.

Albéniz cylinders. Datation.

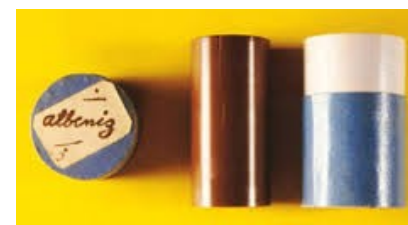
Joaquim Malats, one of the closest friends of Albéniz, was a pianist himself, and was one of the finest Albéniz works performer.

He also was recorded by Regordosa. Three cylinders came from the Manuel Valls collection. It is probably that an interchange of cylinders between Valls and Turull could happen, as both were close friends.

After “La Vanguardia” newspaper, Albéniz and Malats played together in Tiana during the summer festivities of this village, in September 1906.



Concierto Malats, Palau de la Música Catalana, 10 de març 1910. Centre de Documentació de l'Orfeó Català, E:Boc PMC 1910-03-10. (Iberia)



Albéniz cylinders. The transfers

Xavier Turull had good friends in New York. Alicia de Larrocha (1926-2005), the great pianist, was one of them.

Alicia de Larrocha put Turull in contact with the International Piano Archives, and the transfers of two of the three cylinders were made. The third was broken and needed restoration. An LP entitled *The Catalan Piano Tradition* was published. Together with two of the three cylinders, the LP also included the playing of Granados, his pupil Frank Marshall and Alicia de Larrocha's first recordings.

In 1995, VAI reissued the LP to a CD that this time included the third cylinder, now restored.

The Biblioteca de Catalunya made a new transfer of the whole Regordosa collection in 2008. This time, it was made in Seville by Fonotrón.

Albéniz cylinders. The files

One of the transfers made by IPA were shown in the Miguel de Cervantes Digital Library. But, once the new transfers were made, some recording companies were interested in reissuing the cylinders, putting some editing in the transfers.

LA MÀ DE GUIDO

Equalization, cleaning and decliking

ZENPH

After research on pitch, speed, order of performing, Zenph launched a CD of the cylinders reperfomed in a piano .

Albéniz cylinders. The sound

- ♪ Improvisación (Cil 167)
- ♪ Improvisación (Cil 168)
- ♪ Improvisació (Cil 169)

Cylinders aspects for dating

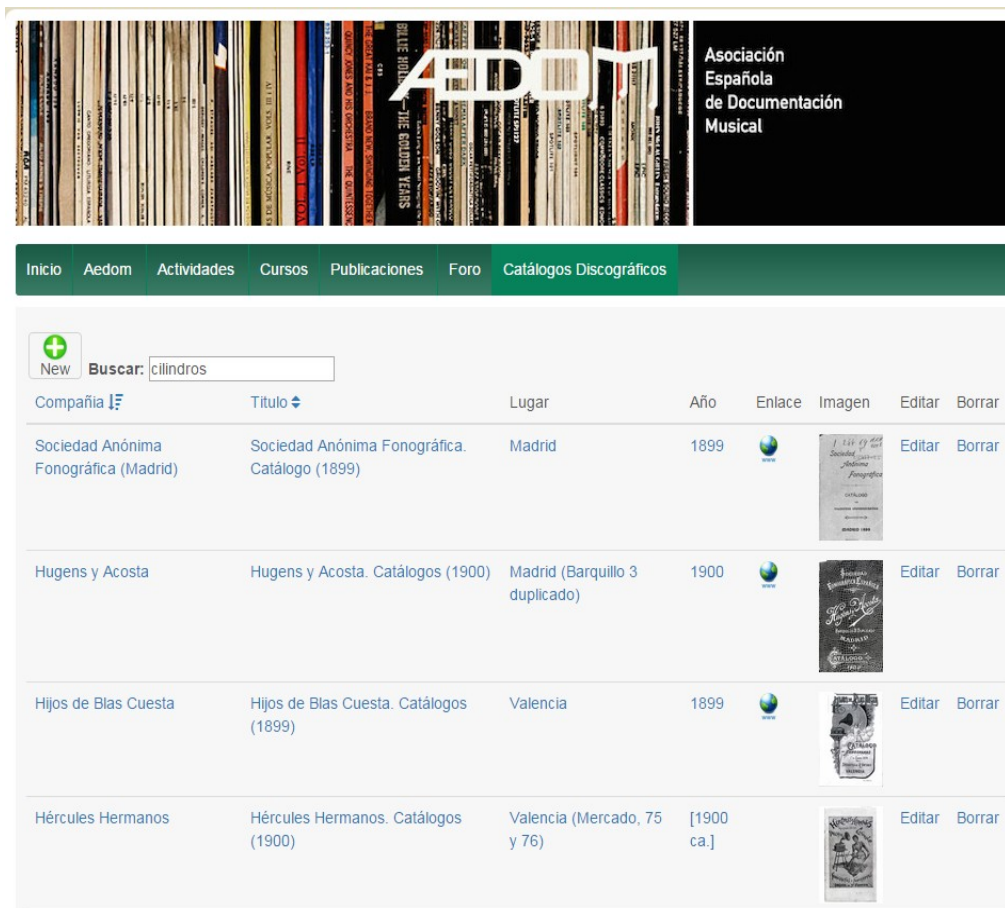


Cylinders aspects for dating










1892? 1899?

Cylinders aspects for dating



The screenshot shows the website of the Asociación Española de Documentación Musical (Aedom). The header features the Aedom logo and the organization's name. Below the header is a navigation menu with the following items: Inicio, Aedom, Actividades, Cursos, Publicaciones, Foro, and Catálogos Discográficos. A search bar is present with the text 'Buscar: cilindros'. Below the search bar is a table listing discographic catalogs.

Compañía	Título	Lugar	Año	Enlace	Imagen	Editar	Borrar
Sociedad Anónima Fonográfica (Madrid)	Sociedad Anónima Fonográfica. Catálogo (1899)	Madrid	1899			Editar	Borrar
Hugens y Acosta	Hugens y Acosta. Catálogos (1900)	Madrid (Barquillo 3 duplicado)	1900			Editar	Borrar
Hijos de Blas Cuesta	Hijos de Blas Cuesta. Catálogos (1899)	Valencia	1899			Editar	Borrar
Hércules Hermanos	Hércules Hermanos. Catálogos (1900)	Valencia (Mercado, 75 y 76)	[1900 ca.]			Editar	Borrar

<http://www.aedom.org>

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