A Short History Of Spanish Music

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The history of Spanish chart music is inseparable from the politics of the country. Necessarily safe and conformist in the long years of fascist dictatorship, the release of pent-up creativity in the late 70s and early 80s gave the country a scene every bit as exciting as the more acclaimed British new wave or German neue Deutsche welle. Click here to view video His plaintive balladry might have paved the way for nine tenths of the most boring music Spain would produce over the course of the next 50 years but Raphael deserves to be remembered as much more than a precursor to snooze-inducing crooners such as Julio Iglesias and Alejandro Sanz. The history of Spanish music continued to evolve with the dawning of the Renaissance period. Instrumental music emerged and flourished, most notably with the influence of Arabic music and the development of the Spanish guitar. After the reconquista of the 16th century, the polyphonic singing style, featuring complementing voices, developed probably through contact with Spain's northern neighbors France and Flanders. These years of exponential development yanked Spain from anonymity and placed it firmly on the musical map as great classical composers like Francisco Guerrero and Tomás Luis de Victoria surged to the forefront. 17th and 18th Centuries. One of the greatest manifestations of Spain's musical talents appeared during this next period of the history of Spanish music.