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MY GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS

FRANCISCO LOPES
GUITAR CONCERT {GITARREKONZERT}

“ The painting by Hieronymus Bosch and the programme chosen combine to tell the history of our planet, from its creation to its destruction. This concert is intended to convey the message that man is responsible for climate change and devastating the planet. The combination of painting and music is clearly abstract; the goal is not to achieve a clear union between the two, but to create a guiding thread.

With only three pieces of music covering four obvious styles in the History of Music (Renaissance, Baroque, Romantic and Modern periods), these works are embedded in a triptych. In one sense, I think that **Partita No. 2 by J.S. Bach**, tells us about man's relationship with the Earth and with God. This is followed by **Sonata Romantica by Manuel Ponce** in four movements, which is part of the

central panel of the Bosch painting, where man discovers the pleasures of the flesh (he discovers himself). In the last panel of the painting, the most important factor is death. For the first time man is surrounded not by nature but by the man-made environment, which leads to chaos and the destruction of the planet. **The Nocturne by Benjamin Britten** is based on a song by John Dowland "Come, Heavy Sleep". This main subject-matter of this piece is death. It is a theme with rather improbable variations.

The theme on which the whole piece is based only appears at the end, and its form is completely different musically from the rest of the work. It is as if the Dowland theme wipes clean all the devastation created by Britten's variations. ”

by francisco lopes