

= Viva el Príncipe =

Viva el Príncipe ( English : Long Live the Prince ) is the thirteenth studio album by Mexican recording artist Cristian Castro , released on November 30 , 2010 by Universal Music Latino . It is a tribute album to Mexican singer José José , Castro 's musical idol . The album was produced by Rafael Pérez @-@ Botija who also produced for José José . Viva el Príncipe covers twelve songs by José José and includes a poem recited by Castro 's idol . Recording took place on August 2010 at The Hit Factory Criteria in Miami , Florida .

To promote the recording , Castro released " La Nave del Olvido " , which peaked at No. 48 on the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart . Castro toured for the release in United States , Latin America and Spain . The album became successful in Mexico and the United States where it topped both the Mexican and Billboard Latin album charts . It was certified diamond by the Asociación Mexicana de Productores de Fonogramas y Videogramas ( AMPROFON ) in Mexico and double platinum ( Latin field ) by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) in the United States . In South America , it peaked at No. 5 on the Argentine Chamber of Phonograms and Videograms Producers ( CAPIF ) album chart and received gold certifications in Colombia and Venezuela . It had sold over 800 @, @ 000 copies worldwide as of November 2011 .

Viva el Príncipe received a positive review from David Jeffries of Allmusic praising Botija 's production and Castro 's vocal delivery . It earned a negative review from an editor of Terra Networks who felt that the album did not add anything to the originals . The album received a nomination for a Latin Grammy , two Billboard Latin Music Awards nominations , and an Oye ! award . The success led to a 2011 release of more José José songs titled Mi Amigo El Príncipe .

= = Background = =

The project for Viva el Príncipe began in 2008 after Castro , who was one of the selected artists , interpreted one of José 's songs during a tribute concert . José believed that it was the right time for Castro to record a cover album with his songs and recommended that he seek the help of Rafael Pérez @-@ Botija and Chucho Ferrer , who were responsible for producing José 's albums . Castro recalled growing up in the same neighborhood with José , who often invited him over for parties and studied with his children in the same college . When he heard José 's song " La Navel del Olvideo " for first time , Castro said : " I promised to be a singer someday and to sing ballads . José José is my musical father and biggest inspiration " . Castro expressed hope that the album would allow José 's songs to be heard by a newer generation . The album was officially revealed by Castro alongside José after his concert in Argentina . The title of the recording is a reference to José 's honorary title " The Prince of Song " ( " El Príncipe de la Canción " ) .

= = Recording and production = =

The album was recorded on August 2010 at The Hit Factory Criteria in Miami , Florida , produced by Botija . Along with Botija , the album includes arrangers Angel " Cucco " Peña and Jorge Calandrelli . The album covers ten of José 's most recognized works such as " La Navel del Olvido " , " El Triste " , and " Gavilan o Paloma " . " Lo Pasado , Pasado " features a duet with José José using the original recording . The album contains " Poema al Cantante " recited by José . In the poem , José conveys that the singer cannot live if he cannot sing ( " Ya no podrá vivir , si ya no canta " ) ; an allusion to losing his singing voice from the effects of alcoholism .

Castro was initially disappointed with the project as he did not want to solely imitate José 's vocals , Ferrer 's absence and his desire to record Jose 's lesser known songs . According to Castro , it was the decisions of the executive producers of his record label , Universal Music Latino , to only have Botija produce the album and to record José José 's more recognized songs . He later retracted his statement , commending Botija and referred to the disc as his best , only lamenting he could not record José 's lesser known songs . José expressed satisfaction with the result .

= = Promotion = =

To promote the album , " La Nave del Olvido " was selected as the lead single from the album and was released on September 28 , 2010 . It peaked at No. 48 on the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart and No. 22 on the Billboard Latin Pop Songs chart . The music video was directed by Ricardo Moreno and filmed in Los Angeles . Three promotional singles were released on iTunes : Amor , Amor , Volcán , and Mi Niña . The standard track listing contains ten tracks and the poem . The deluxe edition contains two additional songs , a cover of " Gracias " and " Mi Niña " and a DVD which includes Castro performing each song at The Hit Factory Criteria and the music video for " La Nave del Olvido " .

= = = Tour = = =

On June 2 , 2011 , Castro announced the " Viva el Príncipe Tour " consisting of 121 shows including the United States and twelve countries in Latin America . The tour began in Mexico where he performed in Guadalajara on June 24 , 2011 , and sang in Tabasco , Jalisco , and Puebla . During the concert in the National Auditorium he was accompanied by José José and his parents Manuel Valdés and Verónica Castro . On July 28 , 2011 , Castro began the tour 's US leg in Chicago , Illinois , performing in Texas , California , Florida and Puerto Rico . The tour continued on to South America where Castro performed in Chile , Argentina , Bolivia , Peru , Ecuador and Colombia . Castro also performed in Spain and mentioned the difficulty of promoting in the country , as ballads are generally not well @-@ received on radio stations .

In the first part of the show , Castro performed songs from the disc sporting a white tuxedo . In the second he performed hits from his earlier career .

= = Commercial reception = =

The album was released on November 30 , 2010 worldwide . In Mexico , the album spent fifteen weeks on top of the Top 100 Mexico chart . It was ranked as 2011 's third best @-@ selling album in Mexico and was certified diamond by AMPROFON for shipping 300 @,@ 000 copies .

In the United States , it debuted at No. 157 on the Billboard 200 and No. 2 on both the Billboard Top Latin Albums and Billboard Latin Pop Albums charts selling over 7 @,@ 000 copies its first week . The album reached No. 1 on the Top Latin Albums and Latin Pop Albums charts in the week of January 29 , 2011 succeeding Shakira 's album Sale el Sol where it spent seven weeks on top of Latin Albums and ten weeks on top of Latin Pop Albums . It peaked at No. 49 on the Billboard 200 on the week of March 21 , 2011 .

On the Billboard year @-@ end charts of 2011 , the album ranked as the second @-@ best selling Latin album of the year after Prince Royce 's eponymous album and the best @-@ selling Latin pop album of the year . It was certified double platinum ( Latin field ) by the RIAA for shipments of 200 @,@ 000 copies in United States . In Spain , it peaked at No. 44 on the Productores de Música de España album chart . In South America , Viva el Príncipe peaked at No. 5 on the Argentine Chamber of Phonograms and Videograms Producers pop charts and received gold certifications in Colombia by the Asociación Colombiana de Productores de Fonogramas and in Venezuela by the Association of Venezuelan Phonograph Producers . As of November 2011 , the album had sold over 800 @,@ 000 copies worldwide .

= = Critical reception and accolades = =

David Jeffries of Allmusic gave the album a positive review believing that José José 's " spirit fills the album " and commended Botija for his role in the production and Castro for bringing " the sense of tradition as he delivers this material with respect " . He observed that it doesn 't stop Castro from " pouring his heart into the songs " and perceived mimicry as a non @-@ issue . Jeffries closed the review affirming that the album " winds up a tribute that will please fans of either artist " . An editor of

Terra Networks gave the album a negative review . Although the editor complimented Castro 's ability to imitate José José 's music , he felt that the audience were better off listening to the original recordings as Castro did not take the risk of adapting the tunes to his own style .

At the 12th Latin Grammy Awards , Castro received a nomination for Best Male Pop Vocal Album , which went to Franco De Vita for *En Primera Fila* . At the 2012 Latin Billboard Music Awards , the album received two nominations for Latin Album of the Year and Latin Pop Album of the Year losing the first award to Prince Royce 's eponymous album and the second award to *Drama y Luz* by Maná . At the 2012 Billboard Music Awards , it was nominated Latin Album of the Year but lost to *Formula* , Vol . 1 by Romeo Santos . At the 2012 Mexican Oye ! Awards , it received an award for Male Pop Album of the Year and a nomination for Album of the Year .

= = Legacy = =

A follow @-@ up to *Viva el Príncipe* was announced by Castro on September 13 , 2011 titled *Mi Amigo El Príncipe* . As with its predecessor , *Mi Amigo El Príncipe* was produced by Botija . The disc was released on November 1 , 2011 . A two @-@ disc compilation titled *Viva El Príncipe : Edición Especial* , Vol . 1 & 2 was released on February 7 , 2012 with the tracks from both albums . Another compilation album featuring covers of José 's songs was released in 2012 titled *Celebrando Al Príncipe* which contains thirteen previously recorded songs and two covers of " *Mi Vida* " and " *Pero Me Hiciste Tuyo* " . Sony Music Latin released a greatest hits albums featuring José 's and Castro 's songs titled *El Romántico & El Príncipe* in 2012 .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

The following credits are adapted from Allmusic and the album liner notes .

= = Chart performance = =

= = = Weekly charts = = =

= = = Album certifications = = =