

El Coqui

(Little Frog)

arr. Di3n Morales

INSTRUMENTATION

1 Conductor Score
8 Violin 1
8 Violin 2
5 Viola
5 Cello
5 Double Bass
1 Rehearsal Piano

Notes from the Editor:

In this new arrangement set in 3/4 time, the orchestra embarks on a journey to the island of Puerto Rico with a fun melody that gets shared across the orchestra.

Students will enjoy counting their 123s while learning about Puerto Rico and the catchy melody of El Coqui. A must-have fall, spring, or Latin-themed concert!

-Nicol3s Repetto

Full Set \$55.00

Extra Score \$10.00

Extra Part \$5.00

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THE ARRANGER



Di3n Morales (b. 1987) (pronounced: Dee-oan) was born, raised, and lives in Chicago, Illinois, with his wife and two daughters. He began his orchestral studies as a high school student at Lane Tech College Prep High School in the Chicago Public School system. Di3n received his undergraduate degree in music education from VanderCook College of Music in 2010 and for his Master's degree which he completed in 2021. He has taught elementary and middle school orchestra in Des Plaines District 62 since 2010. Additionally, as of 2024, he is an adjunct professor of String Arranging and String Music Education at VanderCook College of Music, and as of 2025, he is String Editor for DogSmile Music LLC. His journey as a composer and arranger started with the development of the "Composers of Color Project," through which he arranged for school orchestra programs, music written by minority composers. The publication of the works from this project led to opportunities to add his own musical ideas to the orchestral repertoire, including original educational compositions and music for various media projects. In addition to writing for his own students, Di3n has been commissioned by multiple schools and districts to compose pieces for special events and performances. Di3n has also had the honor of being a judge, guest conductor, and clinician across the United States, where he uses his experience as an educator to give students a positive and memorable experience. His full catalog, resume, and contact information can be found on his website, dionmorales.com.

THE WORK

The coqui is a small frog native to Puerto Rico. At night, these frogs fill the air with continuous chirping that sounds exactly like its name. The refrain of this song imitates the call of the coqui. There is evidence of these small frogs existing on the islands for thousands of years. The Taino tribes that were native to the island documented the existence of the coqui through many examples of cave paintings and carvings that feature the shape of a small frog.

PERFORMANCE NOTES

When arranging this piece I had 3 goals:

- 1. Teach/Reinforce Hook Bows.** Students should work on making sure that the bow fully stops for both notes in each hooked bow, but be careful to avoid choking the sound. Use plenty of bow for each note. Additionally there are a few phrases that start with a hooked bow after an extended rest or playing pizzicato, be sure that students start their bow at the tip at the moments. This helps to avoid accidentally running out of bow or going in the wrong direction.
- 2. Teach/Reinforce 3/4 time.** The beginner friendly note range and rhythms allow students to focus on internalizing the feeling of 3/4 time and keeping a steady beat.
- 3. Share my culture!** The island of Puerto Rico is full of unique nature and traditions that I hope to share with all students. Fun Fact! Did you know that Puerto Rico is a territory of the United States? This means that all the people born in Puerto Rico are United States citizens.

Score
Grade 1
Duration 1:20

El Coqui

(The Little Frog)

Puerto Rican Folk Song
arr. Di3n Morales

With Joy ♩ = 150

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola
Cello
Double Bass
Rehearsal Piano

Musical score for measures 1-5. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The tempo is marked 'With Joy' and the metronome marking is ♩ = 150. The dynamics are marked 'mf' (mezzo-forte) and 'pizz.' (pizzicato). The score shows the first five measures of the piece.

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Reh. Pno.

Musical score for measures 6-11. The score is for Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, Cello, Double Bass, and Rehearsal Piano. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The dynamics are marked 'mp' (mezzo-piano) and 'mf' (mezzo-forte). The score shows measures 6 through 11, including a section marked 'arco' (arco) and 'soli' (soli) for the string instruments.



El Coqui
Score

Musical score for measures 12 through 17. The score is for a string quartet (Violin 1, Violin 2, Viola, and Violoncello) and a double bass. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. The music features a melody in the violins and viola, with the cello and double bass providing a harmonic accompaniment. A piano (*p*) dynamic marking is present in measures 16 and 17. A circled measure number '17' is located at the end of the first system.

Musical score for measures 18 through 24. The score continues from the previous system. It features a double bar line at the beginning of measure 18. The dynamics shift to forte (*f*) in measures 23 and 24. A circled measure number '24' is located at the end of the second system.

12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24

El Coqui
Score

Musical score for measures 25-30. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measures 25-30 show a rhythmic pattern with accents and slurs. The Vc. staff has fingering numbers 1 and 0. The Reh. Pno. staff has a double bar line at the end of measure 30.

Musical score for measures 31-37. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 33 is marked with a box containing the number 33. Dynamics include *mf*, *pizz.*, and *arco*. Fingering numbers 1 and 2 are present. The Reh. Pno. staff has a double bar line at the end of measure 37.

El Coqui
Score

41

Musical score for measures 38-44. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 38 has a '4' above the first staff. Measure 41 has a circled '41' above the first staff. Dynamics include *p* (piano) in measures 40, 41, 43, and 44. There are various articulation marks such as accents and slurs throughout the passage.

48

Musical score for measures 45-51. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. Measure 48 has a circled '48' above the first staff. Dynamics include *f* (forte) in measures 47, 48, and 49. There are various articulation marks such as accents and slurs throughout the passage.

El Coqui
Score

55

Musical score for measures 52-58. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Measure 55 is marked with a box containing the number 55. Dynamics include *p* and *f*. A large watermark "for Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.

Musical score for measures 59-65. The score includes staves for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., and Reh. Pno. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 3/4. Dynamics include *f*, *p*, and *f*. A large watermark "for Preview Only" is overlaid on the score.