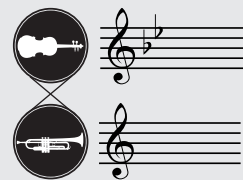


INTERMEDIATE



LA CUMPARSITA

GERARDO MATOS RODRIGUEZ
arr. DAVID R. SILVA

INSTRUMENTATION

Violin 1	5
Violin 2	5
Trumpet 1 in B \flat	3
Trumpet 2 in B \flat	3
Armonia	6
Vihuela, Guitar	
Guitarrón (Opt. Harp)	4

Arranger's Notes

Known as the anthem of tango music, *La Cumparsita* will be sure to provide enjoyment to your audience and students. Written by a young 17-year-old Gerardo Matos Rodriguez in 1917, it is one of the most recorded tango songs of all time. Its minor key melodies build tension and resolutions that convey a passionate mood. *La Cumparsita* epitomizes the tango style of syncopation, timing, melodic repetition, and rhythmic variation.

Although the tango is not normally performed by the mariachi ensemble, *La Cumparsita* will fit perfectly with its instrumentation. Provide your students and audience with a captivating piece of music that offers a blend of cultural richness, musical complexity, and opportunities for creative expression and skill development.

About the Arranger

David Silva is a certified teacher and professional musician from San Antonio, Texas. After graduating from Eagle Pass High School, he attended Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos, Texas and founded the University's first Mariachi ensemble in 1997 where he held the position as musical director. After graduating with a Bachelor's in Music Education in 1999 he acquired the position of band director at San Marcos CISD and formed the school district's first Mariachi troupe. As a band and mariachi director Silva has participated in UIL sanctioned Concert and Sight-Reading contests, Marching band contests, and Solo & Ensemble events. While completing his Masters in Music Education and Composition in 2002 from Texas State University, Silva created a Mariachi certification for the educational degree program for the School of Music that is still in use for certifications of many upcoming music majors with an emphasis in mariachi. In 2011 Silva graduated with a Masters in Educational Leadership from the University of Texas at San Antonio for the certification of a school administrator.

La Cumparsita

GERARDO MATOS RODRIGUEZ

Arranged by David R. Silva

♩ = 114

Violin 1, 2

unis., pizz.
mp

Trumpet 1, 2
in B♭

a2, mute
mp

Armonia
(Vihuela,
Guitar)

(muted)
mp

D7

Guitarrón
(optional
Harp)

mp

1 2 3

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Gm D7

Guitn.

4 5 6 7

Vln. I, 2

mf

10

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Gm Cm

Guitn.

8 9 10

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

11 12 13 14

open

mf

Gm D7

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

15 16 17

arco

f

Gm D7 Gm (muted)

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

18 19 20 21

19

2.

unis.

f

Gm D7 Gm Gm

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm. ^{D7}

Guitn.

22 23 24 25

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm. ^{Gm}

Guitn.

26 27 28

mf

1.

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm. ^{G7}

Guitn.

29 30 31

^{Cm}

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

Gm D7 Gm

32 33 34

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

36 piaz., pizz. mp

a2, mute mp

(muted) D7 mp

35 36 37

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

Gm D7

38 39 40

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

41 42 43

Gm

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

44 45 46 47

Cm Gm

mf open *mf*

Vln. I, 2

Tpt. 1, 2

Arm.

Guitn.

48 49 50

D7 Gm D7 Gm

f arco *f*


MARIACHI

PERFORMANCE GUIDE



NOTATION

Mariachi standard score order is: Violin(s), Trumpet(s), Voice(s), Armonía (Vihuela/Guitar), and Guitarrón (Harp).

If this piece is a *son jalisciense*, Violins and Trumpets may “swing” eighth notes, and this is understood even if not noted on the score. 

Vocals are traditionally sung *al gusto* with rhythmic freedom, not always as strictly notated in the score.





Vocals are notated in mid-range, but can be transposed depending on the singer’s voice type (baritone, tenor, alto).

The Guitarrón sounds one octave below written pitch, and is traditionally written within the staff with exceptions for octaves.






Harpists play from the Guitarrón part, but are free to improvise.

SYMBOLS

Violins:

-  = down bow
-  = up bow
-  = bow lift
-  = glissando

Armonías:

-  = down strum
-  = up strum
-  = apagón (stopped note)
-  = rolled chord
-  = rasgueado (strumming style using fingernail on down strums)



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