Cha Cha This! Rhumba That!

VICTOR LÓPEZ (ASCAP)

- INSTRUMENTATION -

- 1 Conductor
- 8 1st Violin
- 8 2nd Violin
- 5 3rd Violin (Viola T.C.)
- 5 Viola
- 5 Cello
- 5 String Bass
- 1 Piano Accompaniment
- 1 Drumset

With a title like that, how can you go wrong! Give your students a taste of Caribbean music and a better understanding of the Latin music genre. Percussion and piano are great additions but not required.

NOTES TO THE CONDUCTOR

This piece is written with somewhat of a mixed Latin style. The bass line, doubled in the cello part, has a simple cha-cha-chá bass pattern, which is also used when playing a rumba; the piano has a traditional repetitive montuno pattern that provides a rhythmic element to the rhythm section, as well as the harmonic elements to the piece.

The essential percussion for this style of music is bongos, maracas, congas, cowbell, and clave. However, for this piece a drumset part is also included. If you so desire, and if the essential instruments are available, for example, the maracas and bongos may double the snare line, the congas may play a quarter note on beat 2 and the two eighth notes on beat 4, and the claves may replace the woodblock starting at measure 28. The drumset part has a basic bongo pattern to be played on the rim of the snare drum, with the two eighth notes on the 4th beat played on a medium tom, which is usually played on a conga drum, and the bass drum on 1 and 3.

Notice that the quarter notes in the string bass and cello are accented throughout. However, those quarter notes are to be played on the short side.

This piece provides several possibilities for performance and may be played 1) as written; 2) with strings and piano only; 3) strings and drumset only; or 4) feature the strings only. Enjoy and give your students an audience a taste of the Caribbean at your next concert.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

All Belwin string parts have been carefully bowed and fingered appropriately by level. The Yellow Very Beginning series includes many bowings as well as reminder fingerings for first-time readers. The Red Beginning series includes frequent bowings to assist younger players. Fingerings for altered pitches are often marked. The Green Intermediate series includes appropriately placed bowings for middle-level students. Fingerings and positions are marked for notes beyond first position. The Blue Concert series includes bowings appropriate for the experienced high school player. Fingerings and position markings are indicated for difficult passages.

Belwin/Pop String Editor



Cha Cha This! Rhumba That!











