

Jambalaya Rag

No trip to Louisiana would be complete without feasting on Jambalaya, the most celebrated food on Louisiana menus. This traditional and scrumptious dish is created by cooking rice with any combination of meat, poultry, seafood or game, along with peppers and other Creole seasonings. The word "jambalaya" comes from the French word for ham, "jambon," which was a prime ingredient when Jambalayas were first made in the 1700s. Gonzales, Louisiana, is called the "Jambalaya capital of the world" and hosts a Jambalaya Festival each spring.

Martha Mier

Moderately, with a steady beat

The musical score for "Jambalaya Rag" is written in piano format (treble and bass staves) in 4/4 time, B-flat major. The tempo/style is "Moderately, with a steady beat".

System 1 (Measures 1-4): Starts with a piano (*p*) dynamic. The right hand features a melodic line with slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 3, 5, 1, 2, 1, 5). The left hand provides a bass line with fingerings (5, 3, 2, 1, 5, 2, 1, 2/5). Dynamics shift to forte (*f*) in measure 3.

System 2 (Measures 5-8): Starts with a mezzo-forte (*mf*) dynamic. The right hand continues the melodic pattern with slurs and fingerings (1, 4, 1, 2, 5, 3, 1). The left hand has a steady bass line with fingerings (3, 1/2, 5, 3, 1/5, 1/2).

System 3 (Measures 9-12): Features a forte (*f*) dynamic. The right hand has slurs and fingerings (1, 2, 1, 3, 4, 1). The left hand continues the bass line with fingerings (4, 1/2, 5, 1/3, 1/3, 1/5, 1/2, 1/5).

System 4 (Measures 13-16): Starts with a mezzo-piano (*mp*) dynamic. The right hand has slurs and fingerings (1, 4, 1, 3). The left hand continues the bass line with fingerings (3, 1/2, 1/3, 1/3, 1/5).

French Quarter Blues

A visit to the French Quarter of New Orleans is a visit to the oldest part of the city that was ruled by the French for many years. The French Quarter boasts charming architecture, unique cultures, and most of all, the style of music known as the Blues. Blues music, an African-American creation, speaks to people of all ethnic backgrounds and is a famous ingredient of the French Quarter culture.

Martha Mier

Slowly, with swing (♩ = $\frac{3}{4}$ ♩)

mp

3

a tempo

rit.

mf

6

mp

9

rit.

mf

a tempo

Mardi Gras Magic

Mardi Gras in New Orleans is often called the “greatest free show on Earth.” As Carnival Season approaches, the residents decorate the city with streamers and flags in the traditional Mardi Gras colors of green, gold and purple. A sense of magic descends upon the city as the celebration begins with lavish balls and masked spectacles. There are numerous spectacular and unique parades that feature a reigning King or Queen, colorful floats, elaborate costumes, marching bands and dancing in the streets. Although New Orleans holds the most famous Mardi Gras celebration, many other Louisiana cities host their own events as well, including Lafayette, which has one of the largest.

Fast, with excitement

Martha Mier

The first system of musical notation is for the first three measures of the piece. It is written for piano in 2/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo/mood is 'Fast, with excitement'. The right hand (RH) features a triplet of eighth notes (G4, A4, Bb4) followed by a quarter note (C5), then a triplet of eighth notes (D5, E5, F5) followed by a quarter note (G5). The left hand (LH) plays a triplet of eighth notes (Bb3, C4, D4) followed by a quarter note (E4). The first measure is marked *ff* (fortissimo). The second measure is marked *mf* (mezzo-forte). The third measure is marked *mf*. Fingering numbers are provided for the right hand: 5, 3, 1 for the first triplet, and 5, 3, 1 for the second triplet. The left hand has a 3 for the first triplet.

The second system of musical notation covers measures 4 through 6. Measure 4 starts with a box containing the number 4. The right hand plays a quarter note (G4) followed by a quarter note (A4), then a quarter note (Bb4) followed by a quarter note (C5). The left hand plays a quarter note (Bb3) followed by a quarter note (C4), then a quarter note (D4) followed by a quarter note (E4). The first measure is marked *ff*. The second measure is marked *f* (forte). The third measure is marked *f*. Fingering numbers are provided for the right hand: 5, 1 for the first quarter note, and 5, 1 for the second quarter note. The left hand has a 5 for the first quarter note and a 1 for the second quarter note.

The third system of musical notation covers measures 7 through 9. Measure 7 starts with a box containing the number 7. The right hand plays a quarter note (G4) followed by a quarter note (A4), then a quarter note (Bb4) followed by a quarter note (C5). The left hand plays a quarter note (Bb3) followed by a quarter note (C4), then a quarter note (D4) followed by a quarter note (E4). The first measure is marked *f*. The second measure is marked *f*. The third measure is marked *f*. Fingering numbers are provided for the right hand: 5 for the first quarter note, and 2 for the second quarter note. The left hand has a 3 for the first quarter note and a 1 for the second quarter note.

The fourth system of musical notation covers measures 10 through 12. Measure 10 starts with a box containing the number 10. The right hand plays a quarter note (G4) followed by a quarter note (A4), then a quarter note (Bb4) followed by a quarter note (C5). The left hand plays a quarter note (Bb3) followed by a quarter note (C4), then a quarter note (D4) followed by a quarter note (E4). The first measure is marked *ff*. The second measure is marked *ff*. The third measure is marked *ff*. Fingering numbers are provided for the right hand: 3, 4 for the first quarter note, and 1, 4 for the second quarter note. The left hand has a 3 for the first quarter note and a 1 for the second quarter note.