

La Cumparsita Tango

Gerardo Matos Rodriguez
Arranged by David Marlatt

La Cumparsita was written by Uruguayan composer Gerardo Matos Rodríguez in 1919. It is one of the most famous and recognizable tango songs of all time. It was initially a little march, composed by the young student of architecture, for the carnival marching band organized by the Federation of Students of Uruguay.

It made little impact when it was originally published and recorded but then, years later, after some revisions and change to lyrics, the popularity of the piece was launched and was played by orchestras and sung by singers all over the world.

Though it was written in Uruguay by a Uruguayan musician, Argentinians sometimes claim this famous tango to be theirs.

ISBN: 9781554738243

CATALOG NUMBER: LBE1234

COST: \$12.00

DURATION: 2:40

DIFFICULTY RATING: Medium-Difficult

2 Euphoniums, 2 Tubas

LA CUMPARSITA

Tango

G.M. Rodriguez
(1897-1948)

Arranged by David Marlatt

Tango $\text{♩} = 120$

The score is arranged for four parts: Euphonium 1, Euphonium 2, Tuba 1, and Tuba 2. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 120. The music begins with a dynamic marking of *p* (piano). The score is divided into three systems of four staves each. The first system contains measures 1-5, the second system contains measures 6-9, and the third system contains measures 11-15. Measure 10 is omitted. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, often beamed together, and rests. A large red watermark reading 'Preview Only' is superimposed over the score.

Musical score for LA CUMPARSITA pg. 2. The score consists of four staves of music. The first system (measures 16-20) features a melody in the top staff with a 'lead' marking at measure 17. Dynamics include *f* and *mf*. The second system (measures 21-25) continues the melody, with dynamics *mf* and *f*. The third system (measures 26-30) shows the melody moving to the second staff, with dynamics *f* and *mf*. The fourth system (measures 31-35) features a melody in the third staff with dynamics *f* and *p*. A large red watermark reading 'Preview Only Legal Use Requires Purchase' is overlaid diagonally across the score.

36 37 38 39 40

41 43 45

46 47 48 49 50

51 52 53 54 55

f *mp*

f *mp*

lead *mp*

f *mp*

f *mp*

f *mp*

56 57 58 59 60

61 62 64 65

66 67 68 69 70

71 72 73 75

not lead
mp
lead
f

f
f
f
p
p

3 3 3

Musical score for LA CUMPARSITA, page 5, measures 76-79. The score is written in bass clef with a 4/4 time signature. It consists of four staves. Measure 76 shows a bass line with a quarter note G2, a quarter rest, and a quarter note G2. Measure 77 features a bass line with a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note C3. Measure 78 continues with a bass line of a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note C3. Measure 79 shows a bass line with a quarter note G2, a quarter note A2, a quarter note B2, and a quarter note C3. The score includes dynamic markings such as *f* and *fz*, and articulation marks like accents (^) and slurs.

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