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10 Piano Solos Inspired by International Dances



by Wynn-Anne Rossi

Book 1 **Elementary/Late Elementary**

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Flame of Spain

Spain ~

Derived from the Spanish word for flame, Flamenco dancing is known for its passion and intensity. Bright costumes bring flair to dramatic movements, including feet stomping and hand clapping.

Wynn-Anne Rossi













Raqs Sharqi

- Egypt -

Raqs Sharqi, or Egyptian Belly Dance, began as a well-respected solo dance performed by women in the palaces of kings. The term belly dance comes from the French phrase "dance du ventre," which translates as "dance of the stomach."





Teacher Duet: (Student plays 1 octave higher)



Flying Dragon

∽ China ∾

Rooted in farming communities of the Han Dynasty (180-230 AD), the Dragon Dance promises good fortune at the Chinese New Year. A team of dancers imitates the undulating movements of a brightly-colored dragon.









Alunelul

🛹 Romania 🔨

Alunelul is a family of dances from Romania.

One version is a children's dance, often taught in elementary schools.

While holding hands, the dancers combine sideways movements with playful stomps.







Daffodil Waltz

- Germany -

Originating in Germany, the waltz is one of the most-beloved partner dances of all time. The music follows a "123" beat, inspiring couples to swirl in flowing, romantic tandem.









Adumu Warrior Dance

∽ Tanzania, Kenya 🔨

The Adumu is an East African dance performed during the coming-of-age ceremony for Maasai warriors. Dressed in flaming red, the singing dancers form a circle and take turns jumping in a narrow, upright posture.









Tasty Cakewalk

- United States

This couples' dance was originally known as the "Prize Walk." The prize was an elaborately decorated cake. Steps included a high-stepping prance.







Teacher Duet: (Student plays 1 octave higher)



Story of the Kathak

 \checkmark India \checkmark

This classical dance form traces its roots to the nomadic bards of northern India, known as Kathakars. Kathak dancers tell stories with hand movements, footwork, and eloquent facial expressions.









Havana Salsa

∽ Cuba ∾

Salsa is the Spanish word for "sauce". This spicy, partner dance has Afro-Cuban roots. The movements include playful twists and turns.









Night of Kabuki

ー Japan ~

Kabuki is a classical, theatrical dance-drama of Japan. It is known for its elaborate makeup and costumes. Kabuki music often includes vocals with percussion and traditional instruments such as the three-string Shamisen.







