

La Llorona

For String Orchestra, Grade 2.5
by Jorge Vargas (BMI)

Instrumentation

1 - Full Score
8 - Violin 1
8 - Violin 2
3 - Violin 3 (Viola T.C.)
5 - Viola
5 - Cello
5 - Bass*
1 - Optional Guitar

Note from the Editor:

A follow up to his arrangement of La Bruja, Jorge Vargas has created another bridge between string ensembles and mariachi style music. This piece features the melodies paired in thirds either in the violin sections or the viola with cello, while bass provides a foundation. The optional guitar adds to the authenticity of the piece.

* A Cello 2 part (alternate to bass) is available as a free download at randallstandridge.com

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$60.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$10.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



Randall Standridge Music, LLC - 26 County Road 472 - Jonesboro, AR 72404 - 870-926-3479
www.randallstandridge.com - randallstandridge@yahoo.com

La Llorona

By Jorge Vargas, Grade 2.5

Program Notes:

The legend of La Llorona tells a tragic and haunting story of loss and remorse, centering on a woman whose actions led to a lifetime of sorrow and an eternity of restless wandering. As a spirit, she was condemned to roam the riverbanks, forever searching for her lost children. Over time, various interpretations and additions have been made to the original tale, resulting in many different variations.

The origins of La Llorona are a mystery, but it's believed to have roots in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which includes parts of Veracruz and Oaxaca, Mexico. La Llorona is considered a *Son Jarocho*. "Son" means "Song" and "Jarocho" is a word commonly used to describe the area of Southern Veracruz. The *Son Jarocho* is a style of music characterized by the use of the *Arpa Jarocha* (a type of harp that is commonly used in mariachi music), and a *Jarana* (an eight stringed instrument with a distinct, percussive sound).

La Llorona is a popular song in the *Día De Los Muertos* (*Day of the Dead*) holiday celebrated across Latin America, where families and friends come together to honor their loved ones who have passed away. This celebration often involves family members creating a place in their homes to leave *ofrendas*, which are offerings of favorite food and beverages that were enjoyed by the departed. The *ofrendas* are often decorated with marigolds to honor their memory, guide their spirits back, and symbolize the fragility and beauty of life.

From the Composer:

Día De Los Muertos is a traditional holiday celebrated on November 1st and 2nd. Consider setting up your own *ofrendas* with marigolds around your classroom or stage. Additionally, several students can participate in the *Catrina* makeup tradition, where they paint their faces to resemble intricate skulls.

To enhance the performance, I recommend having a student play the optional guitar part to create a more authentic performance. Also, it is possible to have a student play the bass part on the *guitarrón* if you would like to incorporate more of a mariachi sound to your performance.

– Jorge Vargas



About the Composer

Jorge L. Vargas is a band director at Memorial Junior High in Eagle Pass, TX. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Music Education from The University of Texas-San Antonio and a Master's Degree in Education from Lamar University. Mr. Vargas has written and arranged for concert band, marching band, string orchestra, and mariachi ensemble.

His music has been performed at many festivals and competitions by high school groups and by professional groups alike. Several of his band and string orchestra pieces appear on various state music lists throughout the country and many have been selected as J.W. Pepper Editor's Choice. Jorge's band and orchestra compositions have also been performed at the Midwest Clinic and ASTA National Conference. Jorge is a member of BMI, the Texas Bandmasters Association and the Texas Music Educators Association.

La Llorona

Score
Grade 2
Duration 2:00

Traditional Mexican Folk Song
Arranged by Jorge L. Vargas (BMI)

Obscuramente ♩ = 132

Violin 1
Violin 2
Viola (Violin 3)
Cello
Double Bass (Cello 2)
Optional Guitar

mf Emin D C

1 2 3 4 5 6

9

Vln. 1
Vln. 2
Vla.
Vc.
D.B.
Gtr.

f Emin A7 D G

7 8 9 10 11 12

17

Score for measures 13 through 19. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Guitar (Gtr.).

Measures 13-19 are marked with dynamics *mf* (mezzo-forte). The guitar part includes chords C, Amin, B7, and Emin.

25

Score for measures 20 through 26. The score includes staves for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), and Guitar (Gtr.).

Measures 20-26 are marked with dynamics *mp* (mezzo-piano). The guitar part includes chords Bmin7, Emin, Bmin7, and Emin. The Double Bass part includes a pizz. (pizzicato) marking in measure 25.

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 Gtr.

Am Emin B7

27 28 29 30 31 32

33
 Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 Gtr.

Emin Amin Emin

33 34 35 36 37 38

La Llorona - Score

41

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

mf

mf

mf

mf

mf

arco

B7

Emin

D

39 40 41 42 43 44

49

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

f

f

f

f

f

f

C

B7

Emin

D

45 46 47 48 49 50 51

57

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

C

B7

Emin

52 53 54 55 56 57

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

Emin7

CMaj7

Em

G

Am

B7

mf

mf

58 59 60 61 62 63 64

65

Vln. 1 *p*

Vln. 2 *p*

Vla. *mf*

Vc. *mf*

D.B. *mf*

Gtr. Emin A7 D G C F#dim

mf 65 66 67 68 69 70

73

Vln. 1 *f*

Vln. 2 *f*

Vla. *f*

Vc. *f*

D.B. *f*

Gtr. B7 Emin D

71 72 73 74 75 76

opt. -1

81

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

C B7 CMaj7

mp *mp* *mp* *mp* *mp*

77 78 79 80 81 82

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

Gtr.

Amin B7 Emin B7 Emin Emin

ff *ff* *ff* *ff* *ff*

83 84 85 86 87 88