

Mariachi Suite

I. Ranchera II. Bolero III. Son Jalisciense

For String Orchestra, Grade 2 - 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* (Optional Guitarrón)

2 - Optional Trumpets in Bb

2 - Optional Armonia (Guitar/Vihuela)

Note from the Editor:

This original suite for string orchestra with optional mariachi ensemble is made up of three movements: Ranchera, Bolero, and Son Jalisciense. The Bolero movement is a grade 2.5 while the other two sit at the grade 2 level.

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

- Katie O'Hara LaBrie

Full Set - \$65.00

Extra Conductor Score - \$15.00

Extra Part - \$4.00



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

Mariachi Suite

By Jorge Vargas, Grade 2 - 2.5

Program Notes:

Mariachi Suite is a set of three original tunes based on popular Mexican song styles that are widely used in mariachi music; Ranchera, Bolero, and Son Jalisciense. I crafted these to emulate the music that I find myself playing on the weekends with my own Mariachi group. Each movement in this suite focuses on one song style. The optional parts for mariachi group (trumpets, guitar, vihuela, and guitarrón) can be used to introduce your students to the overall mariachi experience.

The Ranchera originated in ranches and small rural communities; it is in 3/4 and is at a fast tempo. It has a singing, waltz feel. The Bolero has its roots in Latin America. It is traditionally guitar driven, and made popular by trios, which consisted of 3 guitars and auxiliary percussion. Due to its romantic nature, the bolero was quickly added to the mariachi repertoire to showcase the vocal talents on a romantic style. The Son Jalisciense is a bright and festive song style that originated in the Mexican State of Jalisco. The vibrant rhythms and off beat accents of this style make this song style the most popular one in mariachi music. I hope you and your students enjoy it!

Performance Note:

This suite can be performed by a stand-alone string orchestra or enhanced by the addition of any number of instruments commonly found in a traditional mariachi ensemble. We have included parts for two B ♭ trumpets, guitar/vihuela (known as the armonía section in a mariachi ensemble), and guitarrón.

Mariachi music has gained significant popularity in the United States, and many string orchestra directors are incorporating mariachi ensembles into their curriculum. Mariachi Suite presents an excellent opportunity to bridge the gap between these two musical genres. I have provided brief descriptions of the mariachi instruments below:

Vihuela: A five-stringed instrument with a bowl-shaped back. Slightly smaller than a guitar, it produces a bright and percussive sound.

Guitarrón: A six-stringed instrument with a bowl-shaped back. Larger than a vihuela, it serves as the bass instrument in a mariachi ensemble.

Armonía: The armonía section consists of the guitar and the vihuela. The preferred guitar for mariachi is the classical guitar.

– 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.

Mariachi Suite

Score
Grade 2.5
Duration 3:45

Jorge L. Vargas
(BMI)

I. Ranchera

Allegro ♩ = 144

Violin 1

Violin 2

Viola
(Violin 3)

Cello

Double Bass
(opt. Guitarrón)

B♭ Trumpets (opt.)

Armonía (opt.)
(Guitar, Vihuela)

1 2 3 4 5

10

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

B♭ Tpts.

Arm.

6 7 8 9 10 11

D

G D

Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.), and Arm. (Armonica).

Measures 12-16. Chords: Emin, A7, D.

Measures 17-21. Chords: D, A7, D. Dynamics: *mf*, *div.*, *pizz.*.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) and Violin 2 (Vln. 2) parts are shown. Violin 2 has a 4-measure rest (L4) at the beginning. Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are also shown. Double Bass (D.B.) part is shown. B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.) part is shown. Arm. part is shown with chords A7, G, A7, and D. Measures 22 through 27 are indicated.

Violin 1 (Vln. 1) and Violin 2 (Vln. 2) parts are shown. Violin 1 has a 4-measure rest (L4) at the beginning. Viola (Vla.) and Violoncello (Vc.) parts are shown. Double Bass (D.B.) part is shown. B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.) part is shown. Arm. part is shown with a chord Emin. Measures 28 through 32 are indicated.

The image displays a musical score for measures 38 through 43. The score is arranged in a system with seven staves. The first five staves are for string instruments: Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), and Double Bass (D.B.). The sixth staff is for B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.). The seventh staff is for Arms (Arm.). The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The score includes a large, diagonal watermark that reads "Randall Studio Preview". The measures are numbered 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, and 43 at the bottom. The Arms staff has chord markings above it: Emin, A7, G, A7, D, and D7.

44

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

B $\flat$ Tpts.

Arm.

f

f

f

f

f

f

G A7 D Emin

44 45 46 47 48

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

B $\flat$ Tpts.

Arm.

A7 D D A7 D

49 50 51 52 53

div.

4

0

II. Bolero

Dolce ♩ = 88

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 B♭ Tpts.
 Arm.

f
f
f
f
f
f
f

Tpt. 1
 C
 C min
 G Maj7
 F
 E7

1 2 3 4

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 B♭ Tpts.
 Arm.

mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf
mf

mp

a2

Amin7 D7 G Maj7 Emin7 Amin7 D7

5 6 7 8

7

RSMS055

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 B $\flat$ Tpts.
 Arm.

19 20 21 22 23

mp *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f* *mp* *f*

G Maj7 F E7 A min7 D7

Tpt. 1

24

rit. e dim.

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2
 Vla.
 Vc.
 D.B.
 B $\flat$ Tpts.
 Arm.

24 25 26 27

pizz. *f*

a2

G G7 C C min G Maj7

III. Son Jalisciense

Allegro ♩ = 144

1 2 3 4

5 6 7 8

9

Vln. 1

Vln. 2

Vla.

Vc.

D.B.

B $\flat$ Tpts.

Arm.

9 10 11 12 13

14 15 16 17 18

mp

G D A7 D

19

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2 *div.*
 Vln. 2 *mp*
 Vla. *mp*
 Vc.
 D.B.
 B $\flat$ Tpts.
 Arm.

19 20 21 22 23

27

Vln. 1
 Vln. 2 *mf*
 Vln. 2 *mf*
 Vla. *mf*
 Vc. *mf*
 D.B. *mf*
 B $\flat$ Tpts.
 Arm. *E7* *mf*

24 25 26 27 28

Violin 1 (Vln. 1)

Violin 2 (Vln. 2)

Viola (Vla.)

Violoncello (Vc.)

Double Bass (D.B.)

Trumpets (B $\flat$ Tpts.)

Armonica (Arm.)

Measures: 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37

Chord markings: H3, A, E7, A7, D

Dynamic markings: *f*

Sheet music for Mariachi Suite, measures 38 to 42. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., B $\flat$ Tpts., and Arm. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Arm. part includes chord markings: D, D7, G, A7, and D.

38 39 40 41 42

Sheet music for Mariachi Suite, measures 43 to 47. The score includes parts for Vln. 1, Vln. 2, Vla., Vc., D.B., B $\flat$ Tpts., and Arm. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The Arm. part includes chord markings: G, D, A7, D, and G.

43 44 45 46 47

Score for Mariachi Suite, measures 48 to 52. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.), and Arm. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is marked with *mp* (mezzo-piano) and *f* (forte) dynamics. The Arm. part includes a *div. (-1)* marking.

48 *mp* *f* 51 52

Score for Mariachi Suite, measures 53 to 56. The score includes parts for Violin 1 (Vln. 1), Violin 2 (Vln. 2), Viola (Vla.), Violoncello (Vc.), Double Bass (D.B.), B♭ Trumpets (B♭ Tpts.), and Arm. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The time signature is 4/4. The score is marked with *ff* (fortissimo) dynamics. The Arm. part includes a *div. (-1)* marking.

53 *ff* *div. (-1)* *ff* 54 56