



Latin Fiesta! Pedagogical Piano Music of Argentina, Brazil & Mexico

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ARGENTINA

Music

- Folk music was influenced from Incas, Africans, and Spanish
- Art music rose after independence in 1816
- “Nationalistic” composers took Argentine elements and fused them into their music – whether dance forms, songs, or musical themes.
- Into the 20th century, Argentinean art music went in 2 directions: Nationalistic and not!

Luis Gianneo (1897-1968)

Born in Buenos Aires, but spent much time as a musician, composer, and educator in the province of Tucuman.

- Intermediate: *Musica para niños* (No. 5: Quenas, No. 10: Bailecito cantado)
- Music available from Hal Leonard and Sheet Music Plus
- Further reading: <http://alejandrocremaschi.com/wordpress/>

Alberto Ginastera (1916-1983)

One of the most important Latin-American nationalist composers who successfully merged folk elements with contemporary techniques.

- Intermediate: *Piezas infantiles* (No. 1: Anton Pirulero, No. 2: Chacarrita, No. 3: Arroz con leche)
- 3 of 8 published in 1942 by Schirmer in the collection “12 Latin-American Art Pieces for the Piano”

Ariel Ramirez (1921-2010)

Pianist and music director, he researched traditional rhythms of South America, and is considered a “chief exponent of Argentine folk music.”

- Intermediate/Early Advanced: *15 estudios para piano sobre ritmos y formas de la tradición musical argentina* (No. 4: Arpeggios Do M, No 7: Pentatónico Re m, No. 11: Milonga)
- Published by Melos Ediciones Musicales (www.melos.com.ar)

Roque de Pedro (b. 1935)

Embraces contemporary styles such as jazz, tango, and improvisation. Currently teaching at the National University of the Arts.

- Advanced: *Dos danzas argentinas* (I. Para los que no tienen nombre)
- Music available via email

BRAZIL

Brazilian Music

- Origins- The music of Brazil is also characterized by its multi ethnicity: Native Brazilians, European music, Afro-influences.
- Up to the 19th century: Brazilian music following closely the trends of the European Music

Nationalism

- Began in the 20th century
- The folklore was the major inspiration for the composers

Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

- From a middle class family from Rio de Janeiro
- Studied formally classical music, but popular musical traditions were more appealing to him
- Learned the cello and the guitar
- Did not have any formal training as a composer
- Traveled through Brazil to collect folk tunes
- Published the *Guia Prático* (1932): 173 folk melodies
- Became the Superintendent of Musical and Artistic Education for Rio (1931)
- Villa Lobos was the pioneer of music education in Brasil: introduced music into the public schools (Orpheonic singing)

Performance:

A Moda da Carranquinha (from *Brinquedos de Roda*)

Important Links:

- Scores -Brinquedos de Roda (A Moda da Carranquinha)
<http://petruccilibrary.ca/files/imglnks/caimg/e/e2/IMSLP273316-PMLP443636-HVL-Brinquedo.pdf>
- List of Piano solo works
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_compositions_by_Heitor_Villa-Lobos#Music_for_piano_solo

Ernesto Nazareth (1863-1934)

- Received classical training as a pianist
- Has influences on the music of Chopin as well as African Rhythms
- Refused to use popular titles on his music (Choro, Lundu)
- Recognized for the Brazilian Tangos= genera created by Nazareth to compete with the Argentine tangos
- Composed 211 pieces: 88 tangos, 41 Waltz, 28 polkas, some concert pieces and sambas, quadrilles, gallops, etc.
- Instead of teaching, Nazareth made a living playing in silent movie theater, as the Cine Odeon in Rio de Janeiro

Performance: Odeon

Important Links:

- PDFs of Ernesto Nazareth's Complete piano works: http://www.ernestonazareth.com.br/en_a_obra_de_ernesto_nazareth.php?area=1
- Odeon <http://www.ernestonazareth.com.br/pdfs/odeon.pdf>

Ernst Mahle (1929-)

- Was born in Germany from a family of engineers
- Began his musical training in Stuttgart with Johan Nepomuk David but shortly moved with his family to Brazil (1951)
- Studied in São Paulo with João Seppe and Hans Joachim Koellreutter
- Founded the Escola de Música de Piracicaba in 1953
- Became involved with the Brazilian folklore through his wife, Cidinha Mahle and the observation of Villa Lobos' Guia Prático
- Mahle's output consists of more than 250 compositions for most instruments and in a large number of genres, including solo and chamber pieces, concertos and symphonies, small vocal works, cantatas, masses, three operas, and three ballets
- Idiomatic instrumental language achieved
- Mahle's output for piano solo was not large, due to his main focus was to write compositions for orchestra instruments
- Wrote easy piano pieces for children, sonatinas, sonatas, ponteios (Brazilian nationalistic preludes), concertinos, concertos and an extensive output for chamber music with piano
- Mahle is currently considered one of the most important composers in Brazil.

Performance:

- *The Cuckoo and the Donkey Concertino*
- *Sonatina 1973*
- *From the album Vamos Maninha:*
 - *Na Bahia tem (" In Bahia we have")*
 - *Sapo Jururu ("Grumpy Frog")*
 - *Samba- Lelê*
 - *Atirei o Pau no Gato ("I Threw the Stick at the Cat")*

Important Links:

- Videos Ernst Mahle Piano Concertinos.
https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLSXoaL_YRB3MozgEb-nsOkp9cl9MLVWbU
- Scores of Mahle's Piano Concertinos, Vamos Maninha and Sonatina 1973
SuperScore: [app-https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/superscore-music/id1000377224](https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/superscore-music/id1000377224)
- Dr. Casarotti's DMA Dissertation on Mahle's Piano Concertinos
<http://etd.lsu.edu/docs/available/etd-07102015-153350/>

MEXICO

MANUEL M. PONCE (1882-1948)

- Born in Fresnillo, Zacatecas, Mexico.
- Musical Studies
 - Mexico: Piano studies with Vicente Mañas, theory classes with Eduardo Gabrielli, and National Conservatory of Music.
 - Italy: Studied composition, orchestration, and counterpoint under Cesare Dall'Olio and Luigi Torchi at the Liceo Rossini di Bologna.
 - Berlin: Studied piano under Martin Krause (Liszt's pupil) at the Stern Conservatory.
 - Paris: Studied composition with Paul Dukas at the École Normale de Musique de Paris. Also studied composition with Nadia Boulanger.
- **Leader of Mexican Romantic Nationalism**
 - "Mexican Bartok"

Musical Style

- Lisztian influence
- Romantic genres/forms
- Mexican folk themes

Piano Works

- Beginner: 20 Easy Pieces for the Young Mexican Pianists.
- Intermediate: Scherzino Mexicano, Intermezzo in E minor.
- Advanced: Balada Mexicana.

Music Scores

- UNAM <http://www.fam.unam.mx/difusion/publicaciones.php>
- Peer Music Classical <http://www.peermusicclassical.com/>
- Hal Leonard <https://www.halleonard.com>
- Boosey & Hawkes <http://www.boosey.com/>
- Sheet Music Plus <http://www.sheetmusicplus.com>
- Petrucci Music Library <http://imslp.org>

Recordings

- Hector Rojas: Manuel M. Ponce, *Obra Completa para Piano (Complete Works for Piano)*. Available on iTunes and Amazon.
- Miscellaneous artists on Naxos and iTunes.

Other works for piano

- 2 Sonatas, 3 Intermezzi, 3 Waltzes, 4 Evocaciones, 7 Concert Etudes, 11 Miniatures, 27 Mazurkas, Cuban Rhapsody, Mexican Rhapsodies, Bitonal Suite, Concerto Romántico for Piano and Orchestra.

Other Mexican composers to explore on your own

RICARDO CASTRO HERRERA (1864-1907)

- Intermediate-Advanced: Douze Etudes Pour Piano d'apres Clementi Op. 7.
- Early Advanced: Trois Pensees Musicales Op. 8, Impromptu Op. 41, Nostalgie Op. 44,
- Advanced: Caprice-Valse Op. 1 (solo and piano & orchestra versions), Valse Impromptu Op. 17, Valse Reveuse Op. 19, Concerto for Piano and Orchestra Op. 22* (First Latin-American piano concerto).

Music Scores

- Petrucci Music Library <http://imslp.org>

Recordings

- Miscellaneous artists on Naxos, iTunes, and YouTube.

CARLOS CHAVEZ (1899-1978)

- Advanced:
 - Four Etudes (1920)
 - Trois Etudes a Chopin (1926)
 - Four New Etudes (1952)
 - Estudio a Rubinstein (1973)
 - Six Sonatas for Piano
 - Five Caprichos (1975)
 - Ten Preludes (1937)
 - Concerto for Piano and Orchestra (1940)

Music Scores

- Sheet Music Plus <http://www.sheetmusicplus.com>

Recordings

- Miscellaneous artists on Naxos and iTunes.

MARIO RUIZ ARMENGOL (1914-2002)

- Beginner-Intermediate: 33 Piezas Infantiles para piano
- Other piano works
 - 10 Metaphors
 - 16 Etudes for piano
 - 16 Reflections
 - 19 Cuban Dances
 - 99 Miniatures

Music Scores

- <http://www.mruizarmengol.com/index.html>.

Recordings

- Miscellaneous artists on iTunes and YouTube.

Contact Information

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