

La Llorona ("The Weeping Woman" or "The Wailer")

Moderately

1

p RH

pp

p

LH

Ped.

2

5 5

Ped. simile

4 5 4

mf

3

3

3

3

Detailed description: This system contains the first three staves of the piece. The first staff is the right hand (RH) in treble clef, starting with a piano (*p*) dynamic and a triplet of eighth notes. The second staff is the left hand (LH) in bass clef, starting with a pianissimo (*pp*) dynamic and playing chords. The third staff continues the LH part with a piano (*p*) dynamic. Pedal markings (Ped.) are present under the LH part. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 2, 5, 5, 4, 5, 4. A 'Ped. simile' marking is placed above the LH part in the second measure of the third staff. A triplet of eighth notes is marked with a '3' above it in the first measure of the third staff.

Freely and Expressively

3

3

3

3

Detailed description: This system contains the fourth and fifth staves of the piece. The fourth staff is the RH in treble clef, featuring a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' above it. The fifth staff is the LH in bass clef, also featuring a triplet of eighth notes marked with a '3' below it. The tempo instruction 'Freely and Expressively' is positioned above the fourth staff.

3 1 4 1 2 4 3

f *mf* *f*

3 4 rit.

f *mf* *mf*

2 5 4 2 2 1 5/3

a tempo

p

Lively
4/2

mf

a tempo

f

5 2 1 4 2 2

Freely and Expressively

3 4 4 4 rit.

mf

f

3 2 1 4 2 1

rit. *a tempo* rit.

p

2 1

3 4 *a tempo* 1

pp

fz

3 4 1

La Llorona ("The Weeping Woman" or "The Wailer")

The musical score is written in 3/4 time and consists of five systems of a single treble clef staff. Chords are indicated above the notes. First and second endings are marked with '1.' and '2.' and repeat signs. The chords used are Dm, Gm, A7, C, Bb, A, and G.

*Improvise an ending with chords A to Dm.

The Mexican folk song "La Llorona" (*The Weeping or Wailing Woman*) is about a mythical Hispanic-American vengeful ghost said to roam near bodies of water mourning her children whom she drowned. The earliest documentation is from the 16th century in Mexico City. It's most commonly believed that La Llorona was an Indigenous woman who murdered her own children, which she bore from a wealthy Spaniard, after he abandoned her.

This arrangement focuses on varying dynamics in melodic expression combined with mostly simple alternating root note and broken chord accompaniment. The soft melody of Part A is repeated with added 3rds and an embellishment. The louder melody of Part B is in a higher octave with added chords. Three variations occur next. The first one marked "freely and expressively" is an improvisational-like melody marked by occasional accented chords in a lower octave. The second variation consists of the melody combined softly with broken chords in a high octave. The louder third variation adds thirds to the melody in a middle octave with a slightly faster rhythm. Part B1 follows in a high octave with lefthand arpeggios. The coda includes a variation of the soft melody Part A accelerating to a final accented chord.