

**Listening Guide –Mexico and Spain Concert- November 2022**  
**DuPage Symphony Orchestra**

<p><b>Title: Danzón No. 2</b>    <b>Recording:</b> Simon Bolivar Symphony Orchestra of Venezuela, Eduardo Mata, conductor</p> <p>It is helpful to think of this piece as a Latin-American “dance competition,” with various pairs of dancers competing with one another to win the prize. The use of solo instruments adds color and intimacy to the piece. Just as the heat is turned up, the dancing takes a seductive turn. It is bold, sultry, flirtatious, raucous, and just plain fun!</p>	<p><b>Composer:</b>  Arturo Márquez  (1950)</p>
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Time Stamp	Musical Elements	Instrument or family
0:00	Theme A is introduced as clarinet solo, sparse and seductive with a habanera ostinato rhythm played on the claves.	clarinet piano pizzicato strings claves
0:39	Theme B is introduced in the oboe, playing alongside a clarinet countermelody, as if the two instruments are dancing together in an alluring duet.	oboe clarinet
1:07	Theme A reemerges in the violas and flutes, as the oboe and clarinet play an obligato. This section ends on a “suspenseful chord” that is followed by a piano transition into a new section, with syncopated rhythmic patterns leading to a cadence.	viola flute oboe clarinet piano
1:39	The music becomes more forceful, as the strings play transitional material, punctuated by brass and piano. This section becomes extremely syncopated, as the tempo accelerates into a full-blown lively tempo that leads into a key shift.	strings brass piano
2:11	The oboe plays an ascending scale as the tempo increases further. This is paired with another key shift, creating a sense of manic-paced dancing.	oboe full orchestra
2:15	Theme C is a syncopated call and response between various sections of the orchestra. New transitional material is introduced, leading to Theme D	full orchestra
2:40	Theme D is introduced in the strings, playing in scale passages.	strings
2:58	The brass section interrupts the string scale passages, followed by a piccolo and piano duet that is more relaxed in tempo and tone.	piccolo piano
3:20	Theme E is introduced in a smooth syncopated style, punctuated with glissandos in trombone. This is followed by a long development section, then slows as Theme A is presented in the brass.	brass trombones percussion orchestra
4:15	Theme A reemerges, introduced by the piano. This is followed by Theme A violin and clarinet, and then is joined by the full smooth strings section.	violin clarinet strings
5:28	Theme B now reemerges, played in modified form by the clarinet in an intimate duet with flute. The two parts interweave with an improvisatory feel as the claves continue.	clarinet flute claves
6:10	Theme F is presented as a bold, slow tango, and trumpet solo reemerges. As the tension slowly builds and the tempo increases, a cacophony of short motives ensues. Theme C and D reenter in call and response between sections. The tempo increases as this section is further developed, reintroducing scale passages in the strings.	brass trumpet solo full orchestra
8:30	The piccolo and piano duet reemerges following accented gestures in the brass	piccolo piano
8:50	As the piece builds to the end, the tempo further accelerates as scale passages are embellished in a forward motion. This motion is suddenly pulled back, almost in a teasing manner to set up the final cadence. The relentless push toward the end prevails, as the piece ends on its final accented cadence.	full orchestra