

Dedicated to Alina Sánchez

# LA NIÑA DE GUATEMALA (THE GIRL FROM GUATEMALA)

for Medium Voice and Piano  
Poem by JOSÉ MARTÍ (1853-1895)

Andante mesto e rubato ♩ = 94 circa

VÍCTOR CARBAJO

The musical score is written for a medium voice and piano. It begins with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat) and a common time signature (C). The tempo is marked 'Andante mesto e rubato' with a metronome marking of ♩ = 94 circa. The score is divided into three systems. The first system (measures 1-4) shows the piano accompaniment with a mezzo-forte (mf) dynamic. The piano part features a steady eighth-note bass line and a treble part with triplets of chords. The voice part is silent in this system. The second system (measures 5-9) continues the piano accompaniment, with a decrescendo (dim.) dynamic marking in measure 8. The voice part remains silent. The third system (measures 10-12) introduces the vocal line. The voice part begins with a piano (p) dynamic and sings the lyrics: 'Qui-e-ro, a la som-bra de un a - la, con-tar es-te cuen - to en'. The piano accompaniment continues with a piano (p) dynamic. The fourth system (measures 13-15) continues the vocal line with the lyrics: 'flor: La ni-ña de Gua-te-ma-la, la que se mu-rió de a-'. The piano accompaniment continues with a piano (p) dynamic.

*rit.* *a tempo*

mor. E - ran de li-rios los ra - mos,

y las or-las de re - se-da y de jaz-mín; la en - te -

rra-mos en u-na ca - ja de se-da.

*cresc.*

*f* ...E - lla dio al des-me-mo - ria-do u-na al-moha-di-lla de o - lor;

él vol-vió, vol-vió ca - sa-do; e-lla semu-rió de a - mor.

34

I - ban car-gán-do-la en an-das \_\_\_\_\_ o-bis-pos y em-ba-ja - do-res; \_\_\_\_\_

38

de-trás i-ba el pue-blo en tan-das, \_\_\_\_\_ to-do car-ga-do de flo-res. \_\_\_\_\_

42

*mf*

47

*dim.*

51

*p* ...E - lla, \_\_\_\_\_ por vol-ver-lo a ver, \_\_\_\_\_ sa-lió a ver-lo al mi-ra-dor: \_\_\_\_\_

*p*

él vol-vió con su mu- jer; e-lla semu-rió de a -mor.

*rit.*

59 *a tempo*

Co - mo de bron-ce can-den - te al be - so de des-pe -

*a tempo*

62

di-da e-ra su fren - te ¡la fren-te

65

que más he a - ma - do en mi vi - da! ...Se en - tró de tar-de en el

*f*

*cresc.*

68

rí - o, la sa - có muer - ta el doc - tor; di - cen que mu - rió de

72

frí-o: yo sé que mu-rió de a-mor. A - llí, en la bó-ve-da he-

76

la-da, la pu-sie-ron en dos ban-cos; be - sé su ma-no a - fi -

80

la-da, be-sé sus za - pa - tos blan-cos. Ca-lla-do, al obs-cu - re -

84

cer, me lla-mó el en-te-rra - dor. ¡Nun - ca más he vuel-to a

88

ver a la que mu - rió de a-mor!

## La Niña de Guatemala

JOSÉ MARTÍ  
(1853-1895)

Quiero, a la sombra de un ala,  
contar este cuento en flor:  
La niña de Guatemala,  
la que se murió de amor.

Eran de lirio los ramos,  
y las orlas de reseda  
y de jazmín; la enterramos  
en una caja de seda.

...Ella dio al desmemoriado  
una almohadilla de olor;  
él volvió, volvió casado;  
ella se murió de amor.

Iban cargándola en andas  
obispos y embajadores;  
detrás iba el pueblo en tandas,  
todo cargado de flores.

...Ella, por volverlo a ver,  
salió a verlo al mirador:  
él volvió con su mujer;  
ella se murió de amor.

Como de bronce candente  
al beso de despedida  
era su frente ¡la frente  
que más he amado en mi vida!

...Se entró de tarde en el río,  
la sacó muerta el doctor;  
dicen que murió de frío:  
yo sé que murió de amor.

Allí, en la bóveda helada,  
la pusieron en dos bancos;  
besé su mano afilada,  
besé sus zapatos blancos.

Callado, al obscurecer,  
me llamó el enterrador.  
¡Nunca más he vuelto a ver  
a la que murió de amor!

## The Girl from Guatemala

JOSÉ MARTÍ  
(1853-1895)

At a wing's shade,  
I want to tell this story, like a flower:  
The girl from Guatemala,  
the girl that died of love.

5 The flowers were lilies,  
and mignonette ornaments  
and jasmine; we buried her  
in a silk casket.

9 ...She gave to the forgetful  
a perfumed sachet:  
he came back, came back married;  
she died of love.

13 She was carried in a procession  
by bishops and ambassadors;  
behind were the town's people in groups  
they were all carrying flowers.

17 ...She, wanted to see him again,  
she stepped out to the balcony:  
he came back with his wife;  
she died of love.

21 Like ardent bronze,  
when he kissed her goodbye,  
her forehead was ¡the forehead  
that I have loved the most in my life!

25 ...She went into the river at dusk,  
she was dead when the doctor pulled her out:  
some say she died of coldness:  
but I know she died of love.

29 There, in the chilling crypt,  
they set her on two benches:  
I kissed her slender hand,  
I kissed her white shoes.

33 Silently, when it grew dark,  
the undertaker called me:  
¡I have never again seen  
the girl who died of love!