

Latin or
Jazz Rock Style
(eventually at a
moderately fast
tempo)

(Book 2) Lesson 10c.

"A More Complex Melody on the E String"

G.Arvola

The musical score consists of six staves of music. The first staff begins with a C chord and a half note G4. The second staff continues with Am7, Dm7, G7, C, and F chords. The third staff features Dm7, Fm, C, Dm7, G13, and C chords. The fourth staff includes F, Fm, C, Cdim7, Dm7b5, Bb7, Ab7, and G7 chords. The fifth staff has F, C, C7#9, F7, D7#9, and G7 chords. The sixth staff concludes with C, Am7, Dm7, G7, C, F, Dm7b5, and G7 chords. The final staff includes Dm7, Fm, C, D7sus4, G13, and C chords. The melody is characterized by large interval leaps and syncopated rhythms, with some notes marked with a '3' for a triplet.

There is no doubt that this melody will be difficult to play using only one string. (Remember that you are playing the tune 8va.

The large interval leaps make this song "one string unfriendly" however, not impossible. To make it a bit friendlier, you might first learn the song in the octave shown and play in first position. Not only does the tune contain large interval leaps but it is also very syncopated which adds to the complexity.

A melody of this nature will need lots of extension fingerings and more than likely, a fair number of finger slides at the semitone intervals. Dramatic hand position changes will also be needed.

Tip! If possible, make the large position change where you are moving from a longer time value note to some other note. Rob some of the time of the long note. In other words, you might sustain a half or a dotted quarter note for not quite its full time value. Unfortunately, this is not always possible. Composers and arrangers do not have the guitar player in mind when they write tunes. It is up to you to invent the fingering which will allow you to play the melody fluently. Many of these problems will be eliminated when you begin playing 8va on two or more strings but for now, play with what you've got in the way of tools.