

Challenging

Modern North-American pop music is rarely in a tango rhythm. However, if you end up in a band which is playing more ethnically diverse music, the tango would be a common request. Here is a modest example with themes stolen from many tango type tunes. Regarding the title? Yeah, I make up new words if I do not know the language properly. I translate this title to mean "The Song of the Crazy Rooster." The rhythm accompaniment is marked with staccato chords only in the first measure but the same crazy style would be appropriate all through the composition. Only the first full measure is shown in rhythmic polyphony as it is easier to read the simplified rhythmic style. The melody line also has an occasional staccato note which produces an automatic accent and especially so when it is followed by the two sixteenth notes.

Tempo di Tango

Cancion di Loco Coco

by George Arvola
(in 2011)

The degree of staccato is up to the player.

All down strokes works the best.

Am

E7

Am

A7

Dm

Bm7b5

E7

Am

F

Bb7

E7

The musical score is for the piece 'Cancion di Loco Coco' (page 2). It is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The score consists of five systems, each with a melody line and an accompaniment line. The accompaniment line includes chord symbols and fingering suggestions. The first system includes first and second endings. The second system has a first ending. The third system has a first ending. The fourth system has a first ending. The fifth system has a first and second ending. Chord symbols include Am, E7, A, Bm7, Em7, D, Dm, F7, C, and A7. Fingerings are indicated with numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Generally it is best to use chord fingerings where you can effortlessly chop the notes short rather than having them dwell. I have marked those fingering suggestions in some sections of the accompaniment part. The root bass note on the first beat in the bar could also be played as a quarter note without sustaining it for any great lengths. Tangos are often rather classical sounding so jazz type chords are rarely used. Primary colours make better tango chords.

There is a macho element to dancing a tango. Abrupt moves and poses seem to be a large part of the criteria. To me this always looks a bit like a rooster strutting his stuff in front of the hens. Another common feature in dancing the tango seems to be that although the dancing partners are glued together, they mostly have rather severe facial expressions as if saying "We'll settle this when we get home." My tango dancing skills are so poor that my partner would need construction safty shoes.