

GENRES

• Bolero

Rich Harmonies and Romantic Themes.

Originated in Spain and became an Afro-Cuban song and dance form.

• Polka

Polkas are usually instrumental dance pieces.

They came from Bohemia

During the French Intervention.

Characterized by the fast 2/4 rhythms that make them perfect for dancing.

• Son

The son is Mexico's most common folk music.

Sones commonly alternate between 6/8 and 3/4 rhythms.

"La Negra" is called the Mariachi Anthem and perhaps the most well known son.

• Huapango

Originated in North-Central Mexico: San Luis Potosi and Hidalgo.

Has a complex rhythm alternating twos and threes in a six-beat or 12/8 measure, including syncopation and offbeats.

Huapangos are known for showcasing improvisational and virtuosic violin playing.

• The Son Jarocho

Comes from the southern part of Veracruz.

This genre of music was typically highly improvised; however, mariachi arrangements have become standardized.

• Joropo

The Joropo is of the most complex rhythms in Mariachi.

It includes jazz-chords placed against 3/4 – 6/8 shifts and Syncopation. This genre pushed mariachi into a more modern sound.

• Ranchera

One of the most famous song forms in Mariachi.

It is a sentimental Mexican country-style song.

This genre holds some of the most heartbreaking songs Of lost love and longing.

Mariachis Around the WORLD



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