

La Chacona is one of the oldest Spanish dance songs. Forbidden several times because of its apparently obscene movements, it eventually became an accepted Baroque movement. (Chaconne)

This chacona "La gran chacona en cifra" is from a guitar book by Luis Briceño, published in 1621. The lyrics, from an old Spanish romance "La isla de Chacona", tell the story about the land of Chacona, a sort of Shangri-la, hidden, somewhere in the Caribbean.

The complete lyrics are in the document "lyrics_la_isla_de_chacona", together with a Danish translation.

An English translation can be read in the document "La Isla de Chacona in English"

IMPORTANT!

This piece we need to play by heart (without scores), Fortunately the instrumental structure is simple.

The song is, instrumentally, composed of 4 different parts:

(The letters correspond to the rehearsal marks in the main score)

A: Chorus

B: Copla VERSION 1

C: Copla VERSION 2

D: Copla VERSION 3

Everything else is a repetition of these 4 parts. Please see the documents

"structure_la_gran_chacona_en_cifra" and "structure_explained_la_gran_chacona". If in doubt, please ask.

Harp: free continuo, based on the bass line in the "viol_la_gran_chacona_en_cifra.pdf", no need to double the bass line all the time.

Baroque guitar: the "V" refers to up-stroke, as indicated in the original manuscript. I've only notated the up-strokes in the first chorus and copla.

The lyrics are shared between 3 singers.

Please see the document: "structure_explained_la_gran_chacona"