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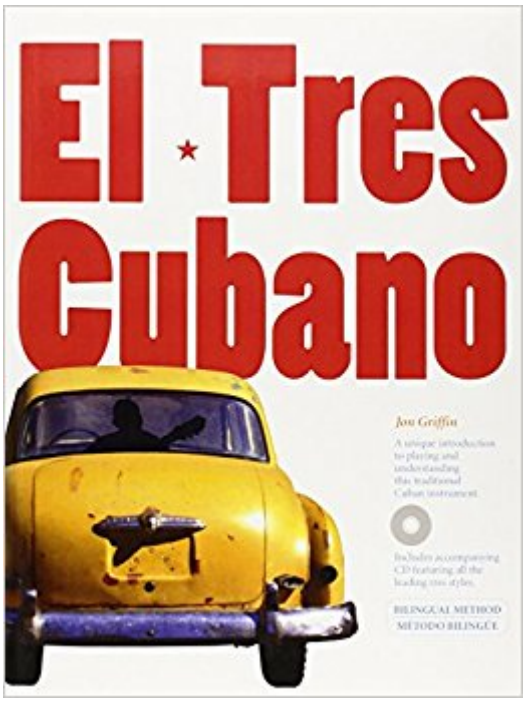
El Tres Cubano



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Synopsis

(Music Sales America). The distinctive sound of the Cuban tres underpins many Cuban styles of music. Here is a unique method that explains all aspects related to learning this traditional Cuban instrument. You'll also find an extensive introduction to son and the other Cuban styles, including nengon, changui, danzon, gauguanco and mambo! Discover the traditional technique and true essence of this Cuban folk instrument. In English and Spanish. Also includes a specially recorded CD with demonstration tracks.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I generally dislike "introductory" instructional material because the samples and exercises are usually very simple 2 to 4 bar examples of very simple music. However because Cuban music styles revolve primarily around different rhythm figures, it doesn't take many bars to set out examples of different song styles. This book provides a long written introduction about different Cuban styles and then moves into the usual C chord, G Chord exapmles for the beginner, which most people can simply skip. The great thing about this book, and why I rate it slightly better than Nelson Gonzalez' tres method (the usual Mel Bay corporate product treatment detracts from Nelson's method IMHO), is that Jon Griffin sets forth examples of song styles , some of which I've heard or seen written, but were never explained at all. Its very hard to get a clear explanantion of Cuban folk music, and the styles discussed here provide some much needed enlightenment. The more obscure styles include changui, nengon, kiriba, sucu sucu, punto and tonada. For these

examples alone I highly recommend this book to anyone who has an interest in Cuban folk music.

I'm a music teacher at a local college. This book is very nicely put together. The recording quality of the solo exercises is a little hard on the ears, it almost sounds like a keyboard. But, the ensemble examples, and lots of them, sound wonderful and authentic. They will open your ears up to what is possible with a tres, a bass, and some percussion! I will try other books when I'm done with this one, but there is a lot for me, an accomplished jazz guy, to tackle here before I need to move on. It's also good for beginners because it starts with the basics. Check it out.

I've enjoyed studying a bit with this book. Of course a book can only get you so far and you need to listen to Cuban music nonstop to get a feel for the music plus find a teacher and maybe travel if possible. But this is a good way to start, like Rosetta Stone for language.

The book is fine, but there is no CD that comes with it, even though it is advertised as coming with a cd.

I purchased this book a few years ago and I absolutely loved it. It taught me a lot about the Tres.

good book

As a budding Tresero I found the history and differences in the various genres of Cuban music to be informative. As someone who has gone through various other Tres method books, I found this book to be more of a historical exploration and less of a book of study. In several cases, the position and sound of some of the exercises in the CD does not match the Tab notation, which in turn does not match the written notation (at times I wonder if the tres being played is using an alternate tuning, which exists but isn't covered in this book). Furthermore, there are some pieces in this book that indicate chords which are fingered, where as the tres is meant to be used with a pick and not fingers. If it were not for the presentation of the history of this instrument and the various samples of cuban riffs, this book wouldn't be worth the four stars. I recommend this book for anyone who has had some familiarity with the instrument and wants to broaden his/her understanding of Cuban music and its various genres.

If you're interested in playing the Cuban tres, this book is a great place to start. I'm enjoying the

learning process.

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