

Mambrú



Arranged by
Carlos Rivera-Aponte

From the Top Music


Albuquerque, NM
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It is said that Mambrú was composed after the Malplaquet Battle in 1709 between the armies of Great Britain and France during the Spanish Succession War. This burlesque song was dedicated to John Churchill, Duke of Marlborough, after his enemies thought he was defeated and killed in the war.

The melody could be even more ancient with Arab origins and brought to France during the Crusades. The song was popularized during the time of Louis XVI in France, who found it so pleasant that it soon gained popularity throughout Versailles and the rest of the country. Later it was brought to Spain through the Bourbons, being called *Marlborough*, soon reduced to the more pronounceable *Mambrú*. There are many versions in different countries and languages.

The Puerto Rican version evidently comes from Spain and has eight verses telling the unfortunate story of Mambrú going to war. Following is the first verse from the Puerto Rican version and its literal translation in English.

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Mam - brú se fue a la gue - rra, ¡qué do - lor, qué do - lor, qué
pe - na! Mam - brú se fue a la gue - rra, no sé cuan - do ven -
drá, do re mi do re fa, no sé cuan - do ven - drá.

Mambrú se fue a la guerra,
¡qué dolor, qué dolor, qué pena!
Mambrú se fue a la guerra,
no sé cuando vendrá,
do, re, mi,
do, re, fa,
no sé cuando vendrá.

Mambrú went to the war,
What a pain! What a pain! What a grief!
Mambrú went to the war,
I don't know when he will be back.
do, re, mi,
do, re, fa,
I don't know when he will be back.

Mambriú

Cat. 20222
AGEHR Level II-

Handbells Used: 3 Octaves

Handbell notation for Mambriú, showing two staves (treble and bass clef) with notes and accidentals. The melody is written in a single line across both staves.

Performance suggestions:

- ◆ Add a snare drum.
- ◆ Dramatize the story while performing the piece.

Allegretto ♩ = c. 116)

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Tradicional - Puerto Rico

Arr. Carlos E. Rivera-Aponte

Piano accompaniment for Mambriú, measures 1-4. The score is in 2/4 time and features a melody in the right hand and a bass line in the left hand. The melody includes notes with 'Sk' markings above them, indicating snare drum accompaniment. The bass line consists of chords and single notes. A large watermark 'Copyrighted material' is overlaid on the score.

Piano accompaniment for Mambriú, measures 5-8. The score continues the melody and bass line from the previous section. The melody in the right hand features more 'Sk' markings. The bass line continues with chords and single notes. A large watermark 'Please return to our store to order this item' is overlaid on the score.

9 10 11 12

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13 14 15 16

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17 18 19 20

Please return to our store to find this item

21 22 23 24

25 26 27 28

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

29 30 31 32

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molto rit.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Lento ♩ = 72-76

33 34 35 36

Please return to our store to order this item.

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +

Tempo Primo

37 38 39 40 41

Sk Sk Sk Sk

+ + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +