

# The Art of Quinto Playing In The Rumba

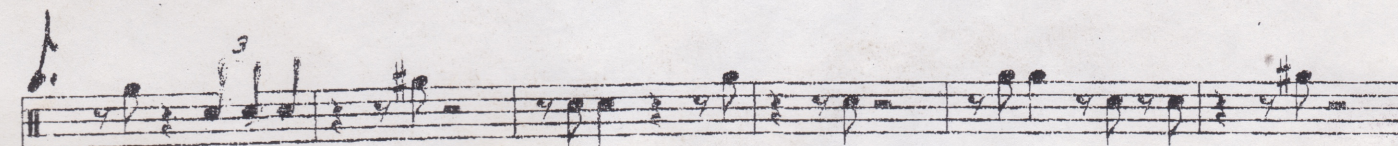
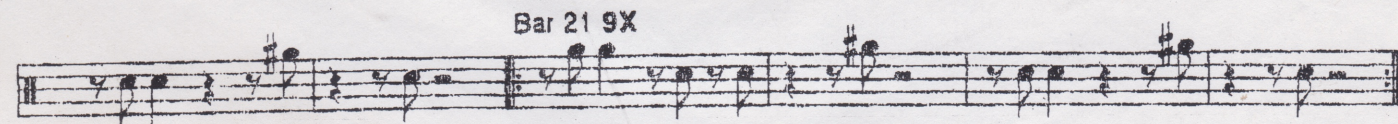
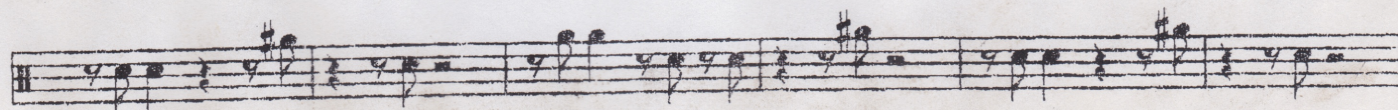
by Louis Bauzó

Rumba is the generic name of a form of Cuban Folklore. The three surviving types of rumba performed today are 1) *yambu* 2) *guaguanco* and 3) *columbia*. The trio of drums which make up a rumba orchestra, in descending order are the *quinto*, *golpe* (or *tres*) and the *salidor*. Other instruments include *clave*, *gua gua* (a piece of bamboo mounted on a stand, played with sticks) and *maracas*.

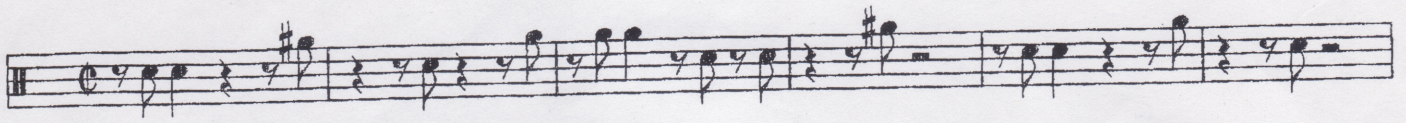
This is a transcription of the *quinto* part (starting on bar 7) for the *guaguanco*, entitled "Que Vendes Tu", by *Los Muñequitos de Matanzas*. This version, recorded on May 2, 1970 in Havana, Cuba, features the late Angel Pelladito and is available on *Folklore Matancero/Oyelos de Nuevo* Obadisc QB 9813.

The *quinto* is not exclusively a solo, as perceived by many, but an interaction between lead singer, chorus, drummers and dancers. Beginning at bar 21, Angel utilizes a repeated four bar phrase as a "ride", composing a melody between *quinto*, *golpe* and *salidor*. By playing "on top of the rhythm", adding accents and counterpoint, the *quinto* creates tension and release in the fabric of the song (as exemplified at bar 61). The solo section for the *quinto* starts at bar 119 and continues through the fade out. **TF**

### 3-2 rumba clave







Bar 119





The musical score is written on ten staves, each beginning with a double bar line and a common time signature (C). The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and sixteenth notes, often beamed together. There are several instances of triplets, indicated by a bracket with the number '3' above or below the notes. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is common time (C). The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat signs (slashes with dots) at the end of the second and third staves.



The main musical score consists of eight staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a common time signature (C), and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The notation includes quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff features a triplet of eighth notes. The fourth staff continues the rhythmic pattern. The fifth staff includes another triplet of eighth notes. The sixth staff continues the melody. The seventh staff concludes the piece with a final note and a rest. The eighth staff is empty.

Fade out

KEY

The key signature diagram shows three examples of notes on a five-line staff. The first example shows a whole note on the second line (F#) with the label "open tone" below it. The second example shows a whole note on the second line (F#) with a sharp sign above it and the label "open slap" below it. The third example shows a whole note on the second line (F#) with a sharp sign above it and the label "closed slap" below it.