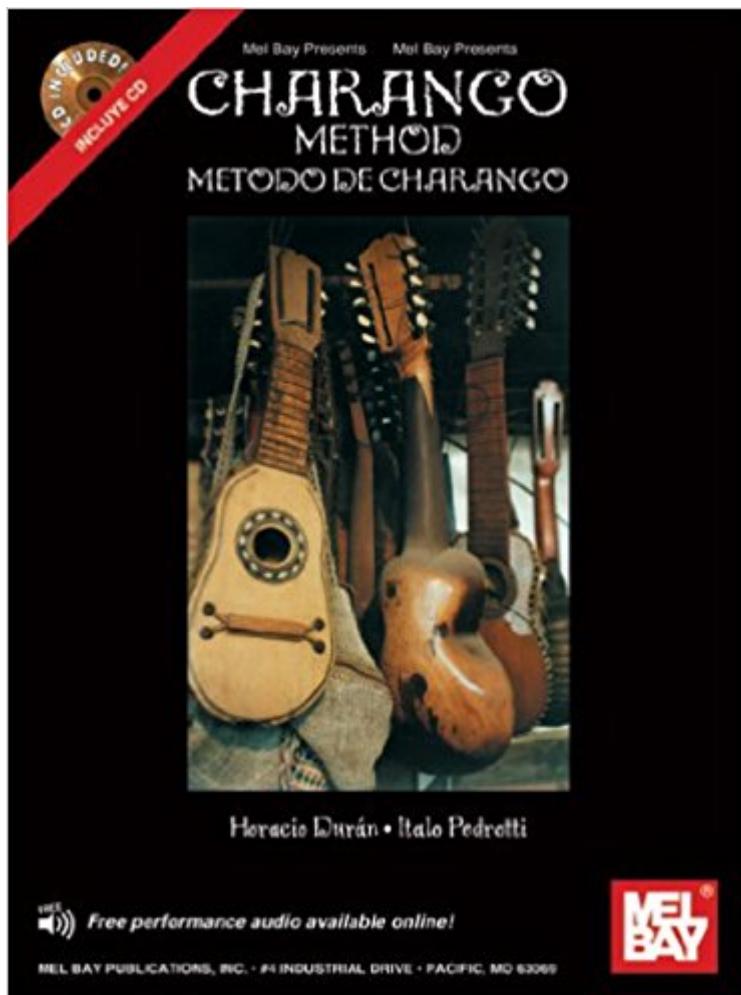


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# Charango Method



## Synopsis

This is the first Charango method to use conventional musical notation, and the only bilingual (Spanish and English) text of its kind. These characteristics make the method attractive to musicians with a wide variety of cultural backgrounds, interests and skill levels. The method is comprised of two parts: A first section regarding strumming techniques and a second section regarding melodic plucking techniques. The first section provides a clear and precise method for learning the "rasgueo" "repique" and "tremolo" skills central to the Charango repertoire. The second section, meanwhile, provides an indispensable guide to expressive techniques for embellishing melodic lines including hammer-ons and pull-offs, trills, simultaneous melodies and arpeggios. The method is appropriate for a wide range of musical skill levels, from beginners to accomplished Charanguists who want to improve their technical chops. Exercises are clear and progressive. In the event that the student is not familiar with music theory, an appendix clarifies the basics of musical notation. In addition to 201 written exercises for the Charango solo, the method includes 23 South American folk music classics arranged for Charango and guitar accompaniment. It thus serves as both a pedagogical tool and a source of performance repertoire. The musical scores included in the method are accompanied by a CD of recorded exercises and a free audio download of repertoire played by recognized Chilean instrumentalists.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I'm still working my way through this book - and there's a lot to go through - and am very pleased.

The presentation is very clear and thorough, supported by audio examples of every lesson on the accompanying CD. The book covers in detail three basic rhythmic patterns - Huayno, Bailecito, and Cueca - and variations. Included are exercises and popular songs illustrating these styles. It also covers various strum and finger picking techniques. About half the book is devoted to a repertoire, which appears advanced. You can download a CD's worth of music playing these pieces. The book is in Spanish and English, with the two languages side by side. The emphasis is on Andean music and styles, and why wouldn't it be? As far as I know, this is the only charango book available in English, and it is very complete. Since I'm American and plan to use the charango mainly with music I know, I am supplementing my studies with materials designed for the ukulele, since the two instruments have much in common - but they are not the same, of course. (BTW - I really like my charango and am playing quite a lot.)

Any serious charanguista who isn't lucky enough to take lessons should have this book! I've been looking for a book like this for 10 yrs! Has everything you'd ever want from a Charango method book:1. Transcriptions of traditional rhythms2. Comes w/ CD of professional playing the various exercises and songs3. Transcriptions of actual songs to add to your repertoire4. Clear, precise instructions in both Spanish and English. This is a must-have for any serious charanguista wanting to improve skill level.

Wow! What a comprehensive book this is! I had expected a basic method book, but this one includes an extensive history of the charango, an abundance of practice music, and access to a free online compilation of the songs being played by skilled charango players (so you know how they're supposed to sound). It's a history, teaching, and practice book all in one. All contents are in Spanish on one page and then in English on the next.

Got this method after having a charango for about 6 months. It is amazing! I've worked through method books for several other instruments, including guitar and saxophone, and this is among the best written methods I've ever used. The layout and order of exercises couldn't have been done any better, and the repertoire is fantastic. Only complaint is that the download of the repertoire doesn't include versions of the songs without charango (or with the charango panned to one side) - would be nice to practice them without having to play over another charango.

Excellent book. I would have given it 5 stars if a little more guidance was given on proper left hand

fingering techniques.

For the beginner through advanced intermediate player. As a guitarist with 30 years of experience, I was able to skip through the first few chapters pretty quickly, but the charango is still a relatively new instrument to me, and there's plenty for me to work on in the rest of the book. This book is very thorough and logically constructed. It covers a bit of the history of the instrument, the necessary rudiments of music and music notation, scales, melody, intervals, chords, and fingerstyle and strum patterns. Clear explanations are given for traditional rhythms and their use, the exercises are easy to understand and progressive, and -- best of all for me -- there are a number of traditional and modern pieces for charango, employing the various techniques taught in the lessons. I agree with the poster who said that, if you are working without a teacher, this is the book for you. Even if you have a teacher, this would be a very useful supplement to have. I've seen more than a dozen charango method books, in Spanish, English, and some combinations of the two. This bilingual book is, hands down, the best one out there right now. If you really want to play charango, buy this book.

The best charango instruction book on the market. And having the English side by side with the Spanish is so helpful

Altough it's a method published in the USA, the author are south american, and are concerned in detailing every aspect of the performance of the Andean Music.

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