

Spanish Music Vocabulary

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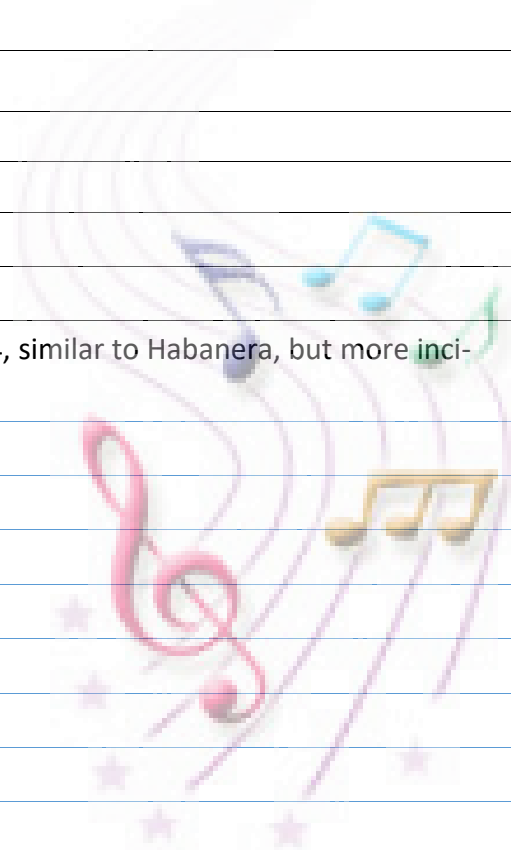


A Palo (seco)	Accompanied by style stick.
Aficionado	Connoisseur, fan.
Agitanado	Assimilated by gypsies.
Alpargata	Spanish peasant shoes, used to dance the Jota.
Alzapua	Thumb technique for the guitar.
Apoyando	Guitar playing technique.
Aspazo	To mute (guitar).
Bailaor/Bailaora	Dancer.
Baile	The dance.
Bata de Cola	Typical flamenco dress.
Bolero	Spanish bolero is in 3/4. Cuban dance in 2/4 rhythm similar to comparasa.
Bongo	Afro-Cuban instrument consisting of 2 small drums held between the knees.
Braceo	Arm movements during the dance.
Cabales	Persons initiated into flamenco.
Cafe Contante	Cafe with musical performances (1860-1910).
Calo	Language of the gypsies.
Cantanuelas	Castanets.
Cantaor/Cantaora	Singer
Cante Intermedio	Song between jondo and chico.
Cante Jondo (Hondo)	Profound, meaningful song.
Cante Grande = Jondo	Serious, "deep" song.
Cante Para Bailar	Song to a dance.
Cante Campero	Songs with rural themes and origins.
Cante Alante	Song without dance.
Cante	Song.
Cante Atras	Songs with/to a dance.
Cante Chico	Light song.
Cante Festero	Festive song.
Cante Para Escuchar	Song sung for listening only
Cante jondo	A special style of singing coming from Andalusia in Southern Spain, showing the in-
Cejilla	Capo (guitar).
Claves	Cuban percussion instrument consisting of 2 round sticks of solid hard wood, one



Comparsa	Mass participation ensemble, sung and danced in the streets by Afro-Cuban groups during carnival times. Costumes, lyrics and choreography center around a popular theme. 2/4
Compas	Beat, rhythm.
Concurso	Competition.
Cow Bell	Ordinary cow bell with clapper removed. Used in Latin bands.
Cuadro	Group of flamenco artists.
Duende	Ghost, demon or spirit in folk music and dancing.
Escobillo	Turn executed with the train of a dress.
Falesta	Variations on the guitar.
Fandango	Fast Spanish dance in 3/4 from Basque area. Similar to Jota but dances does not use castanets.
Feria	Town or district festival.
Gitaneria	Gypsy quarter
Gitano	Spanish gypsy.
Golpe	Rhythmic accentuation (guitar).
Guajira	A Cuban country dance, usually in 6/8.
Gypsy	A group of nomadic people found on every continent but originating from East India.
Habanera	Cuban air in 2/4 time. Characteristic swaying rhythm.
Intermedio	Intermediate (between serious and light song).
Jaleador	Mood setter.
Jaleo	Encouraging words.
Jipio	Cry, lament.
Jota	Spanish dance in triple rhythm, fast, simple harmonies. Typical of Aragon. Lots of castanets.
Juerga	Spree, gathering of aficionados to enjoy music and drink.
Macho	Final song passages.
Malagueña	Spanish dance for couples that is similar to a fandango; a folk tune native to Málaga.
Maracas	Cuban percussion instrument (rattle) consisting of 2 dry gourds filled with dry shots or seeds
Moslems	Arabs, Syrians, and Berbers who invaded Spain around 711. Their influence was felt particularly in Andalusia. The reconquest lasted nearly 8 centuries. They were defeated when Granada was captured in 1492 (<i>the same year Columbus discovered America.</i>)
Pito	Finger snapping

Mozarabic	Influenced by the Moors.
Palillo	Small stick for keeping rhythm (castanets).
Palmas	Rhythmic hand clapping.
Payo	Non-gypsy.
Remate	Final song.
Reunion	Private flamenco party.
Tablao	Low stage for performances.
Taconeo	Heel tapping.
Tango	Most popular Argentinian dance. In 2/4, similar to Habanera, but more incisive.
Temple	Vocalization, warm-up.
Tercio	Section or part of song.
Tocaor	Guitarist.
Togue	Flamenco played on guitar.
Valiente	Having a powerful voice.
Voz Redonda = Rodonda	Male vocal register.
Voz Facil	Fresh, facile vocal style.
Voz Natura	Natural vocal register.
Voz Afilla	Rasping vocal style.
Zapateado	Heel and foot stamping.



Music is the expression
of humanity.

Alicia de Larrocha

Spanish pianist, Barcelona, Spain

