

NOTES FROM THE ARRANGER

By the time “Mi Burrito Sabanero” was composed in 1972, its creator, Hugo Blanco, was already a household name in his home country, Venezuela. A successful composer and recording artist, Blanco burst onto the music scene with “Moliendo Cafe,” a song he wrote in 1958 when he was only 18 years old. Since then there have been more than 800 versions of the song in many languages throughout the world.

Blanco’s first musical instrument was a cuatro, a small guitar that he mentions in the lyric to “Mi Burrito Sabanero.” Later he became proficient on his trademark instrument, the harp. His fusion of Cuban and Venezuelan music became popular in the 1960s and is still played today. Among his many credits is his title “La Vecina” which appeared on the television series Miami Vice. And with more than 30 million hits on YouTube, “Mi Burrito Sabanero” has become one of the most popular Christmas songs in the Spanish-speaking world.

PRONUNCIATION GUIDE

NOTE: All double ‘r’s in Spanish are rolled and all single ‘r’s are flipped. In this pronunciation guide, the rolled ‘r’s are indicated as r~ and the flipped ‘r’s are indicated simply as r.

Con mi bur-ri- to sa- ba- ne- ro voy ca- mi- no de Be- lén
kohn mee boo-R~EE-toh sah-bah-NEH-roh VOH-ee cah-MEE-noh deh beh-LEHN

Si me ven
see meh vehn

El lu- ce- ri- to ma- ña- ne- ro, i- lu- mi- na mi sen- de- ro
ell loo-seh-REE-toh mah-nyah-NEH-roh, ee-loo-MEE-nah mee sehn-DEH-roh

Tu- qui tu- qui ta
TOO-kee TOO-kee tah

A- pú- ra- te mi bur- ri- to que ya va- mos a lle- gar
ah-POO-rah-teh mee boo-R~EE-toh keh yah VAH-mohs ah yeh-GAHR

Tu- qui tu- qui tu Va- mos a ver a Je- sus
TOO-kee TOO-kee too VAH-mohs ah vehr a heh-SOOS

Con mi cua- tri- co Voy can- tan- do
kohn mee kwah-TREE-koh VOH-ee cahn-TAHN-doh

Y mi bur- ri- to va tro- tan- do
ee mee boo-R~EE-toh vah troh-TAHN-doh