

## Lesson: Music in the Golden Age and in “El Retrato Vivo” Ronda Music

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Objectives:

- Students will be able to recognize the folkloric Ronda music from Spain.
- Students will be able to recognize the musical instruments used in the Golden Age.
- Students will be able to find similarities with this medieval type of music and the music they hear today.

Materials needed:

- Cd or simple and easy web page to download a sample of Ronda music, like [www.airesderonda.com](http://www.airesderonda.com) (this is a good place to go and show a little sample)
- If you go to [www.tuna.upv.es/instrum/](http://www.tuna.upv.es/instrum/) :
  1. Click on “Sonido”.
  2. In the dialogue box scroll down until you find “Tuna Compostelana” Click there and then on “Buscar”.
  3. Click again on “Tuna Universitaria de Compostela” (it will take you to their CD)
  4. Click on the first song “Tuna Compostelana” (it will take a minute to download)
  5. Ask the students to sing along during the chorus
- Transparency with pictures of people dressed up for a Ronda event, and the different musical instruments.
- Transparency for the song “Tuna Compostelana”

Activities:

*Warm up:* Play part of a song and ask them if they know what type of music it is as well as if it reminds them of any songs they like.

*Explain:* What Ronda music means (also the term “folkloric”) . . .

Where it comes from . . .

Musical instruments used . . .

- Ronda music is a medieval type of music from Spain from around the XI and XII centuries.
- Golden Age theatre used it as a way to entertain people during intermissions.
- In “El Retrato Vivo,” the actors dance and sing Ronda music, which is a very happy type of music.
- Ronda means Round and nowadays we have a type of Ronda, like the song “Row, row, row your boat gently down the stream...” Ask them what other

rounds they know and compare the use of today's rounds and Golden Age rondas.

- It also means “going around” while singing in order to get women to fall in love with them. Men would do this during the day or during the night and they would sing from the street to the girl's balcony or bedroom window.
- The main instruments used are the guitar, the lute (laud)—which is a medieval type of instrument, and the tambourine (show pictures).
- It is a type of folk music sang or played still today both in little towns as well as in cities.

Sing along with a transparency in the round style “Row, row, row your boat...”

Sing “Tuna Compostelana” as a class.

Homework:

Come up with a song using different words for the melody from the round “row, row...”

Musical instruments used by the Ronda music



Laúd (Lute)



Guitarra (guitar)



Pandereta (tambourine)

<http://www.ucm.es/info/podotuna/instrum/pandere.htm>



[http://soria-goig.com/Etnologia/pag\\_0851.htm](http://soria-goig.com/Etnologia/pag_0851.htm)

People dancing around to the sound of Ronda music



<http://paislliones.gugara.com/frisneu/post/2006/09/17/cancioneru-dhaedo>

Men under a woman's window, singing to make her fall in love with him



[http://soria-goig.com/Etnologia/pag\\_0851.htm](http://soria-goig.com/Etnologia/pag_0851.htm)

A group of young people going around the little town of Soria playing and dancing to the sound of Ronda music

Row, row, row your boat  
Gently down the stream  
Merrily, merrily, merrily  
Life is but a dream

## Tuna Compostelana

Pasa la tuna en Santiago  
Cantando muy quedo romances de amor  
Luego la noche sus ecos  
Los cuela de ronda por todo balcón  
Y allá en el templo del APOSTOL Santo  
Una niña llora ante su patrón  
Porque la capa de tuno que adora  
No lleva las cintas que ella le bordó  
Porque la capa de tuno que adora  
No lleva las cintas que ella le bordó

(Estrillo) (Chorus)

Cuando la tuna te dé serenata  
No te enamores compostelana  
Que cada cinta que adorna mi capa  
Guarda un trocito de corazón  
Ay tra la la la la la  
No te enamores compostelana  
Y deja la tuna pasar  
Con su tra la la la la

(When the round comes to your window  
don't fall in love girl from Compostela  
Every ribbon that is in my cape  
Keeps a piece of your heart.)

(Don't fall in love girl from Compostela  
and let the round go around  
with its tra la la la la)

Hoy va la tuna de gala  
Cantando y tocando la marcha nupcial  
Suenan campanas de gloria  
Que dejan desierta la Universidad  
Y allá en el templo del APOSTOL Santo  
Con el estudiante hoy se va a casar  
La galleguina melosa, melosa  
Que oyendo esta copla ya no llorará

Estrillo (Chorus)