

Bolero (Rhythm)

The bolero began as a dance form in the late 1700s, to go along with the new Spanish romantic ballads of the day. The boleros we dance today have more in common with a form developed in Cuba a century later, but the themes of love and romantic longing remained essential.

The bolero is a wonderful hybrid of different dances. It uses a slowed down rumba rhythm, has the rise and fall of the waltz, and the contra-body motion of the tango. This makes it a favorite of professionals, who can use this broad palette to create the slow, sensual, romantic dance so many love. And who can resist an excuse to play Ravel's famous ballet score?

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