

## Cover Page

### Polka Criolla for Three Violins and Cello

**Title:** Polka Criolla

**Origin:** Central America

**Key:** A minor

**Metre:** 2/4

**Rhythms:** Tango rhythms; syncopated 16ths; running 32nds

**Skill Level:** Level 5+

**Duration:** 3:15

**About the Music:** This engaging piece was brought in to the studio by a student who heard it on the radio. We only know that it was described as an old Central American tune.

**Does anyone know more about it?**

It is a simple, singable melody with a tango rhythm. My students love to play this piece!!

#### **Performance Suggestions**

- The **opening rhythms** should be crisp and clear.
- **Violin I** should produce a **pure tone** that fades at m. 4
- The **rhythm at m. 9** (and similar measures) can be either legato **or** with a staccato eighth-note between the 16ths. Try it both ways.
- **Cello pizz. at letter A** is optional
- In larger ensembles, the **first 8 measures** can be played as a quartet.

#### **Pedagogy**

- Control of press-release accents
- Staccato-crescendo
- Students should listen to tango recordings to feel the rhythm.
- Learn rhythm as printed, then allow it to 'tango'.