

Camille Saint-Saëns' "Havanaise in E major, Op. 83" is another composition for violin and orchestra, written in 1887. Similar to many of Saint-Saëns' works, it showcases the composer's gift for melody and orchestration. Here's an overview of the "Havanaise":

**Allegretto:** The piece begins with a lively and rhythmic introduction, setting a festive and exotic atmosphere. The violin enters with a distinctive and catchy melody that reflects the Cuban and Spanish influences, giving the composition its "Havanaise" title.

**Allegro:** The main body of the work is characterized by a lively and dance-like tempo. The violin takes center stage, navigating through virtuosic passages and showcasing the soloist's technical abilities. The orchestration complements the solo part with colorful and rhythmic accompaniment.

The "Havanaise" is known for its captivating and lively character, evoking the vibrant atmosphere of Cuban dance and music. It combines elements of French romanticism with the exoticism that was popular in the late 19th century. The piece is a favorite among violinists for its exciting and showy qualities, and it remains a well-loved part of the violin repertoire.

Both the "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso" and the "Havanaise" are exemplary of Saint-Saëns' ability to create engaging and virtuosic works for the violin, and they are frequently performed in concert settings.

*Lalo*  
SYMPHONIE ESPAGNOLE

*Saint-Saëns*  
INTRODUCTION AND RONDO CAPRICCIOSO  
HAVANAISE



YEHUDI MENUHIN  
PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA  
SIR EUGENE GOOSSENS

Édouard Lalo's "Symphonie espagnole, Op. 21" is a five-movement violin concerto that showcases Spanish themes and virtuosic violin writing. Here's an overview of each movement:

**Allegro non troppo:** The concerto begins with a lively and energetic movement, featuring the main thematic material. The violin introduces the melodic elements, often accompanied by the orchestra. This movement sets the stage for the Spanish influence that pervades the entire work.

**Scherzando: Allegro molto:** This movement is a scherzo, a playful and fast-paced section. It contrasts with the more serious first movement and adds a lighter, dance-like character to the concerto. The violinist's technical skill is highlighted in this lively section.

**Intermezzo: Allegretto non troppo:** The third movement serves as a slow and lyrical interlude. It provides a contrast to the preceding movements and allows the soloist to express a more melodic and expressive side. The orchestration is often delicate in this section.

**Andante:** This movement is marked by its slower tempo and lyrical, expressive qualities. The violin takes center stage, presenting beautiful, singing melodies. The movement is known for its emotional depth and serves as a reflective moment within the concerto.

**Rondo: Allegro:** The final movement is a rondo, characterized by its recurring main theme. It is lively, rhythmic, and brings the concerto to an exhilarating conclusion. The soloist's technical prowess is again on display in this fast-paced and brilliant finale.

Throughout the entire work, Lalo incorporates Spanish folk melodies, rhythms, and dance forms, giving the "Symphonie espagnole" its

distinctive Spanish character. The concerto is a favorite among violinists for its challenging and showy violin writing, and it remains a popular and frequently performed piece in the violin repertoire.

The "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso, Op. 28" is a famous work for violin and orchestra composed by French composer Camille Saint-Saëns. It was written in 1863 for the Spanish violinist Pablo de Sarasate, much like Édouard Lalo's "Symphonie espagnole." Here's an overview of the piece:

**Introduction:** The piece begins with a short and expressive introduction that sets the stage for the lively and virtuosic rondo that follows.

The introduction typically features a more lyrical and dramatic character, allowing the violinist to showcase their expressive abilities.

**Rondo Capriccioso:** The main body of the composition is the Rondo Capriccioso, a form characterized by the recurrence of a principal theme interspersed with contrasting episodes. In this case, the music is lively, playful, and filled with technical demands. The violinist navigates through rapid passages, intricate bowing, and brilliant displays of virtuosity. The contrasting episodes provide moments of respite and contrast to the main theme.

The piece is relatively short but packed with excitement and brilliance. It has become a staple of the violin repertoire and is frequently performed in concert settings. The "Introduction and Rondo Capriccioso" is known for its captivating melodies, dazzling violin passages, and the delightful interplay between the soloist and the orchestra. It remains a popular choice for violinists showcasing their technical prowess and expressive abilities.



**LALO**  
**Symphonie Espagnole**

**SAINT-SAËNS**

**Introduction & Rondo Capriccioso & Havanaise**

**YEHUDI MENUHIN**

**Philharmonia Orchestra, Sir Eugene Goossens**

**Lalo Symphonie Espagnole, Op. 21**

1 Allegro Non Troppo 7:44

2 Scherzando (Allegro Molto) 4:06

3 Intermezzo (Allegro Non Troppo) 6:09

4 Andante 6:52

5 Rondo (Allegro) 8:14

**6 Saint-Saëns Introduction And Rondo Capriccioso, Op. 28 9:29**

**7 Saint-Saëns Havanaise, Op. 83 10:05**

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