

# El Noi de la Mare

(traditional Catalan Christmas song)

Miguel Llobet  
(1878-1938)

The musical score is written for guitar in D major (one sharp) and 3/8 time. It consists of six staves of music, each starting with a measure number (1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15). The notation includes a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 3/8 time signature. The score is annotated with various guitar chords and fingerings:

- Staff 1 (Measures 1-4):** Measure 1:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4); Measure 2:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 1, 3, 4); Measure 3:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 4, 4, 1); Measure 4:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 4, 1).
- Staff 2 (Measures 5-8):** Measure 5:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4); Measure 6:  $\frac{5}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 1, 4, 4); Measure 7:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 1, 1); Measure 8:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4).
- Staff 3 (Measures 9-12):** Measure 9:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4); Measure 10:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 1, 3, 4); Measure 11:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 4, 4, 1); Measure 12:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 4, 1).
- Staff 4 (Measures 13-16):** Measure 13:  $\frac{5}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 4, 4, 1); Measure 14:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 1, 1); Measure 15:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4); Measure 16:  $\frac{5}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 4, 4, 1).
- Staff 5 (Measures 17-20):** Measure 17:  $\frac{5}{6}$  CVII (fingerings: 4, 4, 1); Measure 18:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CV (fingerings: 1, 1); Measure 19:  $\frac{3}{8}$  CII (fingerings: 1, 2, 4); Measure 20:  $\frac{2}{6}$  CII (fingerings: 4, 2, 1).

18

3/6 CII

6/6 CIV

①

21

3/6 CII

3/6 CII

6/6 CIV

24

3/6 CI

arm 8<sup>va</sup>

arm VII

arm VII

arm XII

# El Noi de la Mare

(traditional Catalan Christmas song)

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Measures 1-2 of the piece. The music is in D major and 6/8 time. Measure 1 features a 3/6 CII chord and a melodic line with notes 2, 4, 4. Measure 2 features a 2/6 CV chord and a melodic line with notes 1, 3, 4. The guitar accompaniment includes bass notes and fret numbers (2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 9, 10, 9, 7, 7, 5) for strings T, A, and B.

Measures 3-5 of the piece. Measure 3 features a 3/6 CII chord and a melodic line with notes 2, 4, 4. Measure 4 features a 5/6 CVII chord and a melodic line with notes 1, 4, 4. Measure 5 features a 2/6 CV chord and a melodic line with notes 1, 4, 1. The guitar accompaniment includes bass notes and fret numbers (2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 9, 10, 9, 7, 5, 2, 3, 5, 5, 3, 2) for strings T, A, and B.

Measures 6-8 of the piece. Measure 6 features a 3/6 CII chord and a melodic line with notes 3, 0, 2, 3. Measure 7 features a 2/6 CV chord and a melodic line with notes 2, 4, 4. Measure 8 features a 3/6 CII chord and a melodic line with notes 0, 2, 1, 0. The guitar accompaniment includes bass notes and fret numbers (0, 3, 0, 3, 3, 2, 3, 5, 7, 7, 5, 3, 0, 2, 0, 3, 2, 3, 0, 3, 0, 5, 4) for strings T, A, and B.

Measures 9-11 of the piece. Measure 9 features a 3/6 CII chord and a melodic line with notes 2, 4, 4. Measure 10 features a 2/6 CV chord and a melodic line with notes 1, 3, 4. Measure 11 features a 5/6 CVII chord and a melodic line with notes 4, 4, 1. The guitar accompaniment includes bass notes and fret numbers (2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 9, 10, 9, 7, 7, 5, 2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 9, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 2, 3, 5, 5, 7, 9) for strings T, A, and B.

2

(<sup>5</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CVII)

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CV

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CII

12

T  
A  
B

15

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CII

T  
A  
B

18

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CII

<sup>6</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CIV

T  
A  
B

21

<sup>2</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CII

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CII

<sup>6</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CIV

T  
A  
B

24

<sup>3</sup>/<sub>6</sub> CI

arm 8<sup>va</sup>

arm VII

arm XII

T  
A  
B

# Practice Tip Sheet

## The Big 5:

1. Reduce work with posture and high dynamic energy
2. Troubleshoot - Everything should be easy
3. Breathe
4. Trust yourself to play accurately and musically inspired (instead of judging)
5. Always play as a gift to yourself and others

## The Main Practice Areas:

1. Technique - Abilities, Movements, Chords, Scales, Patterns, Exercises, etc.
2. New Notes - One new piece of music at a time
3. Tricky Spots - Detailing small sections of pieces
4. Repertoire Maintenance - Pieces you already know
5. Sight-Reading practice - note recognition/playing; clapping/counting rhythms

## The 7 Steps to Learn Any Piece:

1. Make small sections
2. Know all the notes and musical markings
3. Clap and count the rhythm aloud
4. Play the right hand alone, counting aloud
5. Play the left hand alone, counting aloud
6. Play hands together, taking corrective pauses (no mistakes!)
7. Play hands together in rhythm, with slow metronome

## Musical Starting Points:

1. Know which notes are melody (probably stems up), and play the others quieter
2. Connect all melody notes smoothly (no gaps)
3. When a musical line or melody goes up in pitch, get quieter
4. When a musical line or melody goes down in pitch, get louder
5. Don't let the high notes stand out (any note higher than those before and after)

## Practice Tips:

1. Before slowing down or speeding up (rubato) master it at a steady pace.
2. For tricky spots, state out loud exactly what the problem is, in every detail.
3. Memorize every piece (even if you don't, you'll learn it faster if you try)
4. Have a purpose behind each repetition (blind repetitions are lazy practice).
5. Video yourself for performance practice and to hear what is and is not working.

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