



Nace en Maracaibo el año 1851. A los siete años de edad la familia se traslada a Caracas.

De formación autodidacta llegará a cumplir en su corta existencia de treinta y cinco años (muere en 1886) una polifacética labor. Fundará dos importantísimos periódicos de literatura y música: *El Zancudo* y *El Museo*.

*El Zancudo* será hoy una de las fuentes más importantes para el estudio de la actividad musical de finales del siglo pasado. En sus trece años de existencia publicó más de quinientas piezas de salón.

Heraclio Fernández de ágil y satírica pluma, colabora también con otros periódicos de la época, no sólo en el aspecto literario, sino también en el musical. Precisamente a los redactores de "El Diablo Suelto", periódico de corta existencia, les dedica su famoso valse *El Diablo Suelto* que saldrá en la edición del 19 de marzo de 1878. Así lo comenta el Diario de Avisos de Caracas: "El Diablo Suelto distribuyó anoche en el Teatro el valse que con este nombre ha compuesto y dedicado a los redactores de dicho periódico el joven Heraclio Fernández".

Hoy reproducimos aquí aquella edición que encontró en una librería de libros viejos en Caracas el Mtro. Alirio Díaz. Hay que tener presente que de pronto esta edición no corresponda exactamente a las versiones que se han mantenido en la tradición, y es que fue costumbre de la época recrear lo que el compositor escribía con las consiguientes transformaciones.

Sin duda Heraclio Fernández, dedicado con vocación especial al piano, es uno de los mejores exponentes del pianismo venezolano decimonónico de la pequeña forma de salón.

Precisamente compenetrado con esta moda y gusto de época escribe un *Nuevo Método para Aprender a Acompañar en el Piano toda clase de piezas y en especial de baile al Estilo Venezolano sin necesidad de ningún otro estudio y a la altura de todas las capacidades*.

# El Diablo Suelto

Heracio Fernández

*ligerísimo*

PIANO

*ff*

*Red.*

*gva*

*p*

♩ VALSE

*p*

*gva*

*ff*

*p*

*p*

The musical score is written for piano and consists of five systems of music. The first system is a grand staff with two bass clefs, marked 'PIANO' and 'ff'. The second system is a grand staff with one treble and one bass clef, marked 'Red.' and 'gva'. The third system is a grand staff with one treble and one bass clef, marked 'p'. The fourth system is a grand staff with one treble and one bass clef, marked '♩ VALSE', 'p', and 'ff'. The fifth system is a grand staff with one treble and one bass clef, marked 'p' in two places. The key signature is one sharp (F#) throughout. The tempo is indicated as 'ligerísimo'.

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It contains a melodic line with eighth and sixteenth notes, including some beamed pairs. The lower staff is in bass clef and features a bass line with chords and single notes, including some grace notes.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with a repeat sign and first/second endings. The first ending is marked "1<sup>ra vez</sup>" and the second ending is marked "2<sup>da vez". The lower staff has a bass line with chords and single notes, including a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).</sup>

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff features a melodic line with slurs and accents. The lower staff has a bass line with chords and single notes, including a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

The fourth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and accents. The lower staff has a bass line with chords and single notes, including a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

The fifth system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff has a melodic line with slurs and accents, starting with a dynamic marking of *gva* (pizzicato). The lower staff has a bass line with chords and single notes, including a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

First system of musical notation, consisting of two staves (treble and bass clef). The music features eighth and sixteenth notes with accents, and rests. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Second system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The treble staff contains eighth notes with accents, while the bass staff contains chords and eighth notes. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Third system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The treble staff contains eighth notes with accents, and the bass staff contains chords and eighth notes. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Fourth system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The treble staff features chords with a forte (*f*) dynamic marking. The bass staff contains chords and eighth notes. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Fifth system of musical notation, consisting of two staves. The treble staff begins with a piano (*p*) dynamic marking and contains chords and eighth notes. The bass staff contains chords and eighth notes. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots, and includes the instruction "D. C. al 