GENRES

- **Bolero**
Rich Harmonies and Romantic Themes.
Originated in Spain and became an Afro-Cuban song and dance form.

- **Polka**
Polkas are usually instrumental dance pieces.
They came from Bohemia during the French Intervention.
Characterized by the fast 2/4 rhythms that make them perfect for dancing.

- **Son**
The son is Mexico's most common folk music.
Sones commonly alternate between 6/8 and 3/4 rhythms.
"La Negra" is called the Mariachi Anthem and perhaps the most well known son.

- **Huapango**
Originated in North-Central Mexico: San Luis Potosí and Hidalgo.
Has a complex rhythm alternating twos and threes in a six-beat or 12/8 measure, including syncopation and offbeats.
Huapangos are known for showcasing improvisational and virtuosic violin playing.

- **The Son Jarocho**
Comes from the southern part of Veracruz.
This genre of music was typically highly improvised; however, mariachi arrangements have become standardized.

- **Joropo**
The Joropo is one of the most complex rhythms in Mariachi.
It includes jazzy-chords placed against 3/4 – 6/8 shifts and syncopation. This genre pushed mariachi into a more modern sound.

- **Ranchera**
One of the most famous song forms in Mariachi.
It is a sentimental Mexican country-style song.
This genre holds some of the most heartbreaking songs of lost love and longing.

Mariachis Around the WORLD

© Mariachi Samurai
Japan

© Mariachi Semblanza
Barcelona, Spain

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Geneva, Switzerland

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Buenos Aires, Argentina

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