La Paloma

DAc tuning

*See playing tips at end of music*

S. Yradier (1809-1865)

Spanish tango
Playing tips:

This is arranged in DAc tuning for ease in playing thirds and to avoid playing so high on the fretboard. This song is not in a minor key, but the tuning works well for the style.

The style is fingerpicking where one or two notes (middle and melody) are playing together, and the "x" note (string) is not played. When a parenthetical group of notes is listed, play those notes individually starting with the bass note, going back and forth over the notes in a tango tempo to fill the time.

For ease in playing you may want to go back and underline all the melody notes in the tab that are NOT quarter notes. Then emphasize the underlined group of notes in your playing. The other notes should be shorter in length. This will help in reading the tab quickly as a few measures have tricky timing.

From what I have found, the original tune is in 2/4 time with triplets. Most modern versions use 4/4 time with quarter notes instead, presumably for ease in reading the music.

In the original, the two measures before the last measure are repeated many times with numerous variations in the tango tempo. Do your own variations with the notes given and repeat as you like, ending on the last measure.

Enjoy!