Scholarship Artwork

Perfume De Gardenia Link

Originally Composed by: Rafael Hernández Marín

Arranged by: Merilyn Delgado



Photo taken by: Frankie Fontana

Importance of the piece

The video attached is an arrangement I made of a song titled Perfume de Gardenia originally composed by Rafael Hernández Marín, popularized by la Sonora Santanera, with me being featured on the Tuba. I first heard the song when the ICE raids started happening in LA, and minorities were being encouraged to hide who they were in order to stay safe. I was inspired because the song's lyrics compare the sweetness and fragrance of a beloved woman to that of gardenias, flowers that represent purity, sweetness and unconditional love. It encourages the listener to not be afraid of showing who you are even when you are scared of the backlash you may receive.