1. MUCHA TIERRA HE CORRIDO

with guitar

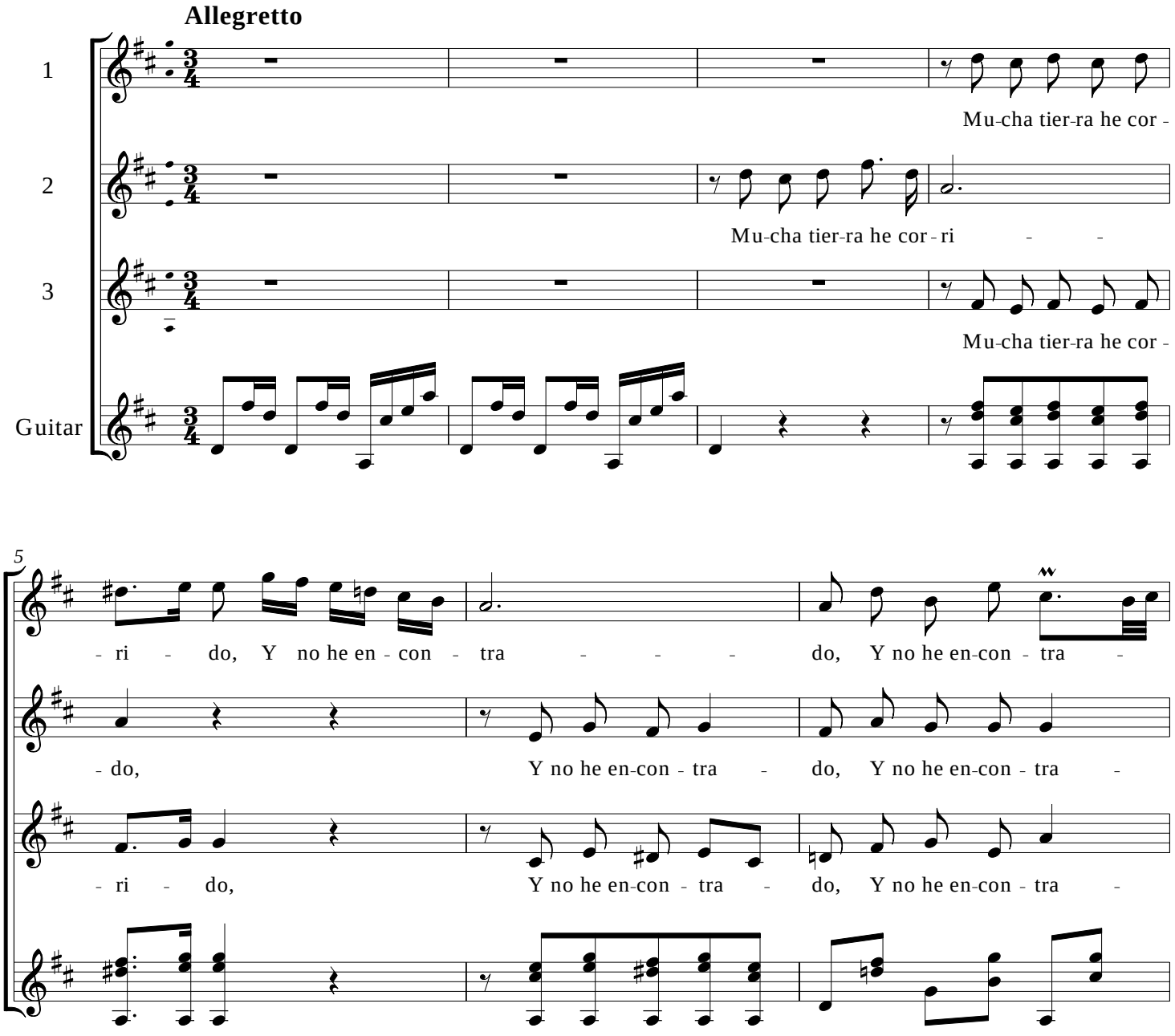
Fernando Sor

Mucha tierra he corrido,
Y no he encontrado
Salero como el tuyo
Mas resalado.

La sal de España
Por ese cuerpecito
Se te derrama.

(I have travelled through many a land, but I have never found such charm, such wit, as yours. The wit of Spain spills over this little body of yours.)

The wit in this poem is exercised on the quality of wit itself, so that Sor's phrase "les paroles en sont généralement très spirituelles" is doubly true here. "Sal" is "salt" in Spanish, but it also means charm or wit, "La sal de España" here meaning the charm or wit of Spain. A "salero" is a salt-cellar, that which contains the salt - or the wit.



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