

**MUSI7000-010 Orchestral Excerpts**  
**Instructor, James T. Decker, Associate Professor**

**Maurice Ravel (1875-1937)“Bolero”**

1. Background
  - a. French Impressionist Composer
  - b. Grew up in the Basque Region of France
  - c. Graduate of the Paris Conservatory
  - d. Fine Pianist and Composer
  - e. Master Orchestrator
  - f. Most pieces require virtuosity by the individuals
    - i. Daphnis and Chloe
    - ii. Tombeau de Couperin
2. Bolero
  - a. Written in 1928
  - b. Spanish Dance – Mother had Spanish Roots – see article
  - c. Showcase of orchestration with minimal musical material
    - i. Two Themes
    - ii. Repeated, static harmonic progression
  - d. Challenging aspects for the trombonist
    - i. Register
    - ii. Steady Rhythm
    - iii. Smoothness of Line
    - iv. French gracefulness, style