Spanish Dancer from Les Miroirs de Miró by Roxburgh

What key is this in?

E phrygian (Flamenco mode) but final chords have a G# (E Spanish phrygian)

The middle section is in A Spanish phrygian

What is the form of this piece?

Ternary with introduction, interludes and coda

Introduction - in strict time

Section A bars 1 to 15

This section begins with a two bar introduction that also appears between the melodic phrases.

The section ends with an ad lib melody and the two bar introduction.

Section B bars 16 to 23

This section is in a different key and features a different accompaniment. It also ends with an ad lib melody.

Section A bars 25 to 32

This uses the two bar introduction and the first phrase from Section A, finishing with a bar of rest.

Coda bars 34 to end - this is reminiscent of Section B but E is now the tonic note.

Musical style:

This is written in a Spanish style, recognisable by the modes used, the triplet rhythm which resembles a castanet (associated with Spanish dancing), the obstinate bass reminiscent of guitar strumming, the melody which is in the range of a 6th (G to E) and the ad lib melody bar 23 typical of Flamenco singing.

Musical period:

This is a 20th century work which is evident by the use of modes (phrygian), the use of minor seconds and major sevenths, tritone (eg chords with F, B, E) and exotic/non-Western influence (Spanish music). However, the structure and time is standard.

Triads:

E Phrygian:

Chord i - E minor

A Spanish phrygian:

Chord I - A major

E Spanish phrygian:

Chord I - E major

Notation:

Grazioso - gracefully

3/4 - time signature - simple triple - 3 crotchet beats/bar

f - forte - loud

Ped - pedal - use the damper pedal

cantabile - singing style

mf - mezzo forte - moderately loud

slur - play legato

f - forte - loud

crescendo - gradually getting louder

accent - marcato - play the note loudly

tenuto - stress the note by holding it for its full value

ad lib - at your own liberty

fermata - pause

a tempo - return to original speed sostenuto - sustained sharp - raise the note by a semitone natural - cancel the sharp or flat staccato - short and detached flat - lower the note by a semitone rall. - rallentando - gradually getting slower arpeggiata - 'roll' the notes in the chord (like an arpeggio) diminuendo - gradually getting softer pp - pianissimo - very soft triplet - three notes in the time of two dolce - sweetly sempre p - always soft