

12-6-2012

The Cuban Spectacular: From the Big Easy to the Big Apple - A Celebration of Mambo

Department of Music, University of Richmond

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Recommended Citation

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**THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC**

Presents

The Cuban Spectacular
**"From the Big Easy To the Big Apple:
A Celebration of the Mambo"**

Featuring

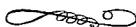
**The University of Richmond
Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Combo
Led by Dr. Mike Davison**

Narrated by Ed Tillett

**Thursday, December 6, 2012
7:30 p.m.**

ALICE JEPSON THEATRE





The Palladium Ballroom

During the 1950s, the mambo craze began at The Palladium Ballroom, located at 1692 Broadway, near 53rd Street in New York City, and spread throughout the U.S. Weekly dance competitions spurred inventive moves and attracted the most innovative bands; all playing the *mambo!* The “Big Three” bands of Machito and his Afro-Cubans, Tito Puente and Tito Rodriguez packed the dance floor and played their versions of Latin jazz. The ballroom also featured pie-eating and skirt-raising contests, and the drug bosses were normally in attendance. Everyone went to the Palladium, not only to dance and hear the music, but to mingle with all the *personajes famosos* (famous celebrities). Marlon Brando, Dizzy Gillespie, Sammy Davis, Jr., and many other stars frequented the ballroom. The Palladium was the most famous Latin dance hall of the era because of its location in midtown Manhattan, where it drew patrons of all races, ethnicities, nationalities and social classes. Looks were *no es importante*— you were measured by how you could dance! Max Salazar cites two articles from the early 50s about mambo in his book, *Mambo Kingdom*. *The New York Daily News* of May 6, 1951 printed the following: “Jungle madness is rampant on Broadway . . . It is wild . . . It is sexy . . . it is mambo . . . but the craze is spreading to other dance halls, and there is no telling where it may stop.” And the December 1953 issue of *Ebony* magazine read: “Palladium mambo dancers are the most unrestrained north of Havana, Cuba . . . The wildest ballroom in New York today is Broadway’s Palladium Ballroom . . . the secret of the success of the Palladium is the mambo.”

The Palladium was around the corner from many of the best bebop clubs, including Birdland, The Onyx and CuBop City. Many of the beboppers would finish their gigs, walk a block or two and listen to the greatest mambo bands at the Palladium. It’s not surprising that many of the jazz musicians started composing and performing Latin jazz! Tonight, you will get a slice of the Palladium Ballroom, listen to the music and experience what it was like to dance the night away! It’s time to dance the mambo!

—Notes by Mike Davison



Please silence cell phones, digital watches, and paging devices before the concert.

THE CUBAN SPECTACULAR
"From the Big Easy to the Big Apple:
A Celebration of the Mambo"

Featuring

UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND
JAZZ ENSEMBLE AND JAZZ COMBO

Led by Dr. Mike Davison

Narrated by Ed Tillett

*A multi-media celebration
combining narration, demonstrations, dancing, live music and video.*

Program

Video: "Clave"

From *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion* by Mike Davison & Ed Tillett

Guantanamera

Joseito Fernandez
lyrics by Jose Marti

Jose Lorenzo, *vocals*

Video: "El Manicero"

From *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*

Fascinatin' Rhythm

George and Ira Gershwin
arr. Nelson Riddle
transcr. and adapt. Jon Harpin

Hannah Jacobsen, *vocals*
Nick Yuetter, *clarinet*

Why Don't You Do Right

Joe McCoy
transcr. Myles Collins

Hannah Jacobsen, *vocals*
Nick Yuetter, *clarinet*

Sing, Sing, Sing

Louis Prima
arr. Walt Stuart

Nick Yuetter, *clarinet*
Emma Phillips, *drums*

Myra Daleng & Michael Whitten, dancers
Choreography by Tracy Crouch, Regency Dance Academy

THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND JAZZ ENSEMBLE

Led by Dr. Michael Davison

Vocalist

Hannah Jacobsen

Saxophone

Amelia Mitrotz, split lead alto

George Guo, split lead alto

Amy Shick, tenor 1

Kenny Shim, tenor 2

Owen Hutchinson, baritone

Trumpet

CJ Tomasevich, 1

Mike Haliczzer, 2

Patrick Walsh, 3

John Clikeman, 4

Trombone

Charlie Durkin, 1

Jesse Woon, 2

Bruce Lee, 3

Robby Schranze, bass & tuba

Rhythm Section

Tyler Tillage, piano

Mattias Treu, electric bass

Emma Philips, drum set

Santos Ramirez, congas/batá drums

THE UNIVERSITY OF RICHMOND JAZZ COMBO

Led by Dr. Michael Davison

Mike Haliczzer, trumpet & flugel horn

Owen Hutchinson, alto saxophone

Charlie Durkin, trombone

Nick Yeutter, clarinet

Robby Schranze, sousaphone

Erin Good, acoustic bass

Emma Phillips, drum set

GUEST ARTISTS

Dan Puccio	tenor saxophone, banjo
Jose Lorenzo	vocal
Casper Coleman	vocal
Ed Tillett	trumpet, narrator
Santos Ramirez	congas, bongos, timbales, batá drums
Willie Roman	congas, timbales
Edwin Roa	principal dancer
Lilli Ross	principal dancer
Myra Daleng	principal dancer
Michael Whitten	principal dancer
Emily Jiang	dancer
Adriel Byrd	dancer
Ardeshir Dashtpour	dancer
Bob Benoit	dancer
Carol Stiffler	dancer
Leah Michelle Costa	dancer

THE HANOVER HIGH SCHOOL MARCHING HAWKS
Amy Birdsong, Band Director

Flute

Angelica Munios
Kensey Plotz

Saxophone

Ben Brandt
Charlotte Howell
Drew Houck
Andy Kimberlin
Jacob Sanford

Trombone

T.J. Hindley
Brice Pully

Sousaphone

Kyle Respass
Nick Verham

Drum Majors

Cassie Davis
Brendan Geer

Clarinet

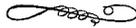
Chris Pennington

Trumpet

Kyle Brinn
Amanda Fales
Sophie Harrison
James Pennington
Raijon Mason
Emily Turner

Percussion

Jacob Adams
Nathaniel Andrews
Greg Dubec
Gilson Fearnow
Stephen Horner
Jordan Mills



SHOW CREDITS

Design:	Mike Davison
Script:	Ed Tillett & Mike Davison
Produced by:	Mike Davison
Media editing:	Mike Davison & Ed Tillett
Concept:	Mike Davison & Bill Hamby

Modlin Crew

Production Manager:	Sean Farrell
Lighting & Video:	Patrick Kraehenbuehl
Sound Engineer:	Roberto Richards

DANIEL PUCCIO is a saxophonist comfortable in multiple genres and has performed with several notable artists including Chris Potter, Dave Holland, Kid Rock, and Tim Ries, and the Cuban Band Palmas y Cañes. An active proponent of new music, he has commissioned and premiered over 20 new works for the saxophone in various contexts. He has performed in many notable venues throughout the Midwest and New York State including Electronic Music Midwest, the Midwest Composer's Symposium, the 2007 SEAMUS national conference, Carnegie Hall's Stern Auditorium, and the 2007 Ford Detroit International Jazz Festival.

Mr. Puccio has been an active collaborator in many mixed media genres and is the founder of the Positivity Project—a series of mixed-media collaborations using music, live video and dance, the most recent taking place in October 2010. His composition, "Papa's Farm", a collaboration with choreographer Leslie Williams, premiered at West Texas A&M University in April 2010 as a part of the Department of Dance centennial celebration. Additionally, many of his compositions have been performed in New York State and the Midwest. In April 2007, the LOL All-Stars gave the premiere of his *Jazz Mass*, a seven-movement setting of the ELW Liturgy, commissioned by the University of Michigan Lutheran Campus Ministry. As an educator, Mr. Puccio served as a faculty instructor of saxophone at the Interlochen Arts Camp from 2004-2009 and as a clinician for the University of Michigan Jazz Festival and Crystal City Jazz Festival in Corning, NY.

Mr. Puccio holds degrees in improvisation, music education, and saxophone performance from SUNY Potsdam's Crane School of Music and the University of Michigan. He has studied with Timothy McAllister, Donald Walden, Bret Zvacek, Ellen Rowe, Ed Sarath, and Donald Sinta, and is currently a D.M.A. pre-candidate at Arizona State University.

SANTOS RAMIREZ is a percussionist living in Richmond, Virginia. Born in San Juan, Puerto Rico, Santos started playing bongos at an early age for the Orquesta Nangoa. He moved to Richmond in 1987 and was employed by Hewlett-Packard as a systems engineer until retiring in 2010. For the past 19 years, Santos has been the house percussionist at the West End Assembly of God church. He is very involved in the local Latin music scene and frequently performs in the area. Santos has taught and collaborated with Dr. Mike Davison and his jazz groups since 2002. This year, he was involved with performing and preparing the UR percussion section for the Cuban Spectacular. Santos specializes in Latin, Latin jazz, jazz, and world ethnic rhythm styles.

JOSE LORENZO REYNA is tenacious, to say the least. After a three-day swim from Cuba and landing in Guantanamo, he eventually settled down in Richmond and formed TimbaSon, a band that plays an exhaustive variety of Cuban music with some American elements thrown in. Jose is the group's vocalist. TimbaSon takes its name from *son*, the most influential form of Latin music in the late 1800s, and *timba*, the Cuban version of America's soul and funk explosion in the '70s. Jose and company add cha-cha-cha, salsa, boleros, and even a little rap and hip-hop to their musical mishmash.

Born in Bogota, Colombia in 1975, **EDWIN OMAR ROA** began experimenting with dancing at the age of 16. Practicing various dance forms ranging from classical to contemporary, he developed a deep interest in the study of movement and musical interpretation. Edwin arrived in the USA in 1995, and two years later he began his teaching career. After practicing ballroom dance for three years, Edwin made the transition into a professional dancer when in 2000 he became a company member of the Latin Ballet of Virginia. For the next three years he remained there as a teacher and performer. As an independent project, he created, choreographed, and directed *Rhythms of the Soul*, a play based on partner dance, which debuted in the summer of 2002. Edwin became an independent instructor in the fall of 2003 and began to use the Zabor concept (his view of partner dance) as the principle behind his teaching. In 2005, along with the University of Richmond's music department, he traveled to Cuba with Dr. Michael Davison to participate in a research project focused on the study of Cuban folklore and music. Since then he has participated in multiple dance projects such as *Footloose*, which he choreographed for Live Arts (Charlottesville, Virginia's community theater) in the summer of 2009. He also developed ZDP, a performance group dedicated to showcase traditional and contemporary forms of partner dance. Currently, he is actively involved with the social dance community in Harrisonburg (Salsaburg) and he continues offering workshops in various cities in Virginia.

ED TILLET is an award-winning multimedia producer and videographer. Honored with five Telly's and seven Communicator of the Year awards, his work in instructional design, production, scripting and directing span thirty years. A former radio and television news anchor with WHRO public broadcasting (NPR & PBS) and the NBC TV affiliate in Hampton Roads, his lifelong enthusiasm for learning has provided multiple opportunities to engage in projects with corporate, broadcast and government clients worldwide in the production of communications, instructional and training programs delivered across multiple platforms including film, video, web and audio. Credits include the original 13-week television series, *Outdoor Virginia*, for the Outdoor Life Network, over 300 television commercials for various clients including Ford Motor Company, Jaguar and TRANE, and the production of computer-based training programs for the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy and corporate clients including Bayer AG, Hercules and Medical College of Virginia.

Collaboration with Dr. Mike Davison at the University of Richmond culminated in the production of a five-part radio series and a one-hour video documentary titled *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*, which were premiered in Richmond in 2005 and 2006, respectively. Ed traveled to Cuba four times to record audio, video and conduct interviews and research. His work with the University and its students has also included research at the University of Miami and Florida International University, guest lecturing on film and video production, and contributions to scripting and directing the first Cuban Spectacular in 2005 and again last year. His photographs, video and audio

recordings of Cuba were donated to the University in 2006. The images and sounds capture cultural and musical events and locations spanning a four-year period at the beginning of the 21st century. The digital media acquired from across the island present a country and people holding on to the past, living day-to-day and hopeful for the future. Many of the images are used in tonight's program.

Ed works for Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems and Information Systems Corporation in the design and implementation of enterprise resource planning software for the U.S. Army. The project is headquartered in Richmond. His work centers on organizational change management and the design and execution of communications and training programs for users of the new system, which is the largest effort of its kind currently underway in the Department of Defense. A lifelong musician and student of music, Ed plays trumpet when he can find a gig, dances to the rhythms of Cuba when his wife Anne will join him, and shares his love of the music with anyone who will listen.

MICHAEL WHITTEN, a Richmond native, began tapping with Evelyn Chapman in 1976. He has been dancing and assisting with Tracy Crouch at Regency Dance Academy since 1986. Michael studied tap in New York at Broadway Dance Center and Steps on Broadway. He has appeared professionally in *Me and My Girl* at Swift Creek Mill Playhouse, *A Day in Hollywood - A Night in the Ukraine* and the world premiere of *Bojangles* at Barksdale Theatre. Michael and Myra have been performing together since 2000. He and his wife Charlotte are blessed with three wonderful children.

MYRA DALENG has been the Director of Dance at the University of Richmond for 28 years, founding the University Dancers in 1985 and serving as the Artistic Director for 25 years. Her position at the University includes teaching ballet, jazz, tap, modern, dance history, choreography, and creating movement for some of the University Players main stage productions. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in dance from the University of Maryland and a Masters of Science in dance from James Madison University. She performed with the Virginia Dance Company, Ballet Contemporary, and Richmond Ballet, and has been feature dancer in numerous musical productions. In 2010 she was honored with a University of Richmond Distinguished Educator Award and last year received the Teresa Pollack Lifetime Achievement in the Arts Award presented by *Richmond Magazine*. Ms. Daleng has worked with Dr. Davison on a number of projects, including taking students to Cuba to study music and dance, and she is honored to be performing in The Cuban Spectacular!

Distinguished trumpeter **DR. MICHAEL DAVISON** is a legendary performer, respected professor, published composer, and ethnomusicologist. Davison's love of music has shaped his life and career. He is in demand across the country as a classical and jazz performer and educator. As a performer, he has given jazz and classical recitals all over the United States as well as in parts of France, the Netherlands, Spain, South Africa, China and Cuba. Davison has recorded four jazz CDs as both a leader and sideman. His classical CD, *Fenster*, received rave reviews from the International Trumpet Guild Journal. Widely considered an expert in Cuban music, he performs and teaches Cuban music at

the University of Richmond and worldwide. As a jazz musician, Davison has performed with the late tenor saxophonist and 11-time Grammy winner, Michael Brecker, popular jazz trombonist, Curtis Fuller and legendary Latin jazz saxophonist and composer, Justo Almario. He has also performed alongside some of Motown's most iconic singers and groups, including Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, the Temptations and The Four Tops. As a classical musician, Davison has performed with Rhythm and Brass, a group that plays everything from Bach to Pink Floyd. He has performed with the Wisconsin and White-water Brass Quintets, the Rochester Philharmonic, Wisconsin Symphony, Wisconsin Chamber Orchestra, and the Richmond Symphony. Davison has performed for Pope John II and George Leonard Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury.

Davison has published two transcription books on famed trumpeter Randy Brecker: *Randy Brecker: Artist Transcriptions/Trumpet* (Hal Leonard Publishing Company) and *The Music of Randy Brecker: Solo Transcriptions and Performing Artist Master Class CD* (Warner Bros.). In addition to transcribing, Davison has also published jazz and Afro-Cuban compositions with Walrus Music.

In 1986, Davison accepted a job as head of the jazz and trumpet programs at the University of Richmond. A respected scholar on Cuban musical styles, he has taught many courses on jazz and Cuban music since arriving in Richmond and was recently awarded the prestigious Educator of the Year award. His influence as an educator goes beyond the University of Richmond campus. Dr. Davison also serves as trumpet instructor and head of the brass area at the world-renowned Interlochen International Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. He hosted the International Trumpet Guild Conference in 1999 and is an Edwards Instrument Performing Artist. Along with producer Ed Tillett, Dr. Davison completed *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion*, a documentary tracing the musical genealogy between Cuban rhythms and American jazz. The film premiered on the campus of the University of Richmond in 2007 and has been shown around the world, including Spain, Australia and Mexico. Dr. Davison is presently writing a book on Cuban folk music.

Special Thanks

Hil Scott for his help in the TLC editing lab; Modlin Center staff;
Gene Anderson, Chair of the Music Dept;
and our Modlin "crew" – Sean Farrell, Rob Richards and Patrick Kraehenbuehl.

A very special thanks to Ed Tillett!

Ed filmed the live footage in Cuba and along with Dr. Davison, produced the documentary *Cuba: Rhythm in Motion* and the first Cuban Spectacular, in 2005.

Thanks to all who shared their pictures with us for the show:
Myra Daleng, Bill Hamby, Jose Lorenzo, Edwin Roa, Chris Cavas and Ed Tillett, Florida
International University, and the University of Miami.

Creative help from Reed West and the Theatre Department.

To "Pooch" who traveled from Arizona for the program again this year—
three in a row!!

To all my UR jazz students! You guys are the best!

Now . . . keep dancin'!

THE 2012-2013 DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES
FREE—No Ticket Required— CAMP CONCERT HALL *unless otherwise noted

FALL 2012

Mon., September 10—7:30p
Brahms' *Liebeslieder Waltzes*

Fri., September 28—7:30p
FAMILY WEEKEND CONCERT

Wed., October 17—7:30p
THE DAVID ESLECK TRIO

Sun., October 28—3:00p
SCHOLA CANTORUM &
WOMEN'S CHORALE

**THIRD PRACTICE ELECTROACOUSTIC
MUSIC FESTIVAL—**

Fri., November 2—2:30, 7:30p
Sat., November 3—11:00a, 2:30, 7:30p

Sun., November 11—7:30p
UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

Sun., November 18—3:00p
GLOBAL SOUNDS CONCERT

Mon., November 19—7:30p
JAZZ ENSEMBLE &
CONTEMPORARY COMBOS

MON., NOVEMBER 26—7:30p
Anna Kijanowska, *piano*

Mon., December 3—7:30p
UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ENSEMBLES

Wed., December 5—7:30p
UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Thurs., December 6—7:30p *
CUBAN SPECTACULAR: "From the Big Easy
to the Big Apple: A Celebration of the
Mambo" - *Free; ticket req. (Box Office)

Sun., December 9—5:00p & 8:00p
39th ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT
SERVICES — Cannon Memorial Chapel

SPRING 2013

Wed., January 23—7:30p
Paul Hanson, *piano*

Sun., February 3—3:00p
RICHARD BECKER, *piano*

Mon., February 4—7:30p
Schubert's WINTERREISE
James Weaver, *baritone*
Joanne Kong, *piano*

Mon., February 18—7:30p
NEUMANN LECTURE ON MUSIC:
MUSIC AND THE BRAIN
Dr. Craig Wright

Thurs., March 21—7:30p
JOHN CAGE CENTENNIAL CONCERT I
Faculty, students, eighth blackbird

Sun., March 24—3:00p
DUO PIANO RECITAL
Richard Becker & Doris Wylee-Becker

Wed., March 27—7:30p
JOHN CAGE CENTENNIAL CONCERT II
Paul Hanson, *piano*

Sat., March 30—7:30p *
SALSA MANIA— *Ticket Purchase Req.

Wed., April 10—7:30p
UNIVERSITY SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Sat., April 13—3:00p *
GLOBAL SOUNDS CONCERT
*Jenkins Greek Theatre; rain-Camp Concert Hall

Sun., April 14—3:00p
SCHOLA CANTORUM &
WOMEN'S CHORALE

Mon., April 15—7:30p
JAZZ & CONTEMPORARY COMBOS

Wed., April 17—7:30p
UNIVERSITY WIND ENSEMBLE

Sun., April 21—3:00p *
EARTH DAY CELEBRATION:
John Luther Adams' *Inuksuit* *Location TBA

Mon., April 22—7:30p
UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ENSEMBLES