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## The Cuban Spectacular: The Story of Latin Jazz, Today to Yesterday

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# THE CUBAN SPECTACULAR The Story of Latin Jazz: Today to Yesterday

## A Multimedia Celebration

Featuring the University of Richmond Jazz
Ensemble
Directed by Dr. Mike Davison
Quatro na Bossa & Special Guests

Tuesday, December 3, 2013 Jepson Theatre 7:30 PM



## **PROGRAM**

La Negra Tiene Tumbao Fernando Osorio & Sergio George

Arranged by Victor Lopez

Spain Chick Corea

Arranged by Paul Jennings

Caravan Juan Tizol & Duke Ellington

Arranged by Mike Tomaro

El Manisero Moises Simons

Jose Lorenzo, vocals Arranged by Mike Davison

One Mint Julep (Mambo) Rudolph Toombs

Transcribed by Jon Harpin

Edited by Myles Colins

One Mint Julep (Salsa) Rudolph Toombs

Arranged by Alan Baylock

Mas Que Nada (Rumba) Jorge Ben

Jose Lorenzo, vocals Arranged by Rumba Ensemble

Quimbara Néstor Milí

Lina Malave, vocals Arranged by Daniel Guzman Loyzaga

Pelo Telephone Donga and Mauro de Almeida

Maçã Do Rosto Djavan Caetano Viana

Samba Da Minha Terra Dorival Caymmi

Mas Que Nada Jorge Ben

**Black Orpheus** Luiz Bonfa Arranged by Eric Richards Samba Jam Longwood University Drum Line Antonio Carlos Jobim Girl from Ipanema Words by Vinicius De Moraes Laura Ann Singh, vocals English words by Norman Gimbel Arranged by Roger Holmes Desafinado Antonio Carlos Jobim Yesterday Paul McCartney Bossa Nova Arranged by Quatro Na Bossa Afro-Cuban Arranged by Dan Puccio Samba Arranged by Dan Puccio

#### **PROGRAM NOTES**

When Puerto Rican trombonist Juan Tizol composed "Caravan" for the Duke Ellington Orchestra in 1936, Latin jazz did not yet have a name. Those exotic sounds, which blended Afro-Caribbean rhythms with American jazz, were new to musicians and dancers. When Cuban Mario Bauzá composed a Cuban descarga called "Tanga" in 1943 for Machito and his Afro-Cubans, the die was cast: Bauzá blended the clave rhythm with jazz, producing the first Latin jazz composition. Soon afterward, Bauzá blended his Cuban musical heritage with Dizzy Gillespie's bebop sound to create Cubop, one of the earliest forms of Latin jazz. The new sounds electrified New York City's glittering Palladium Ballroom, producing scintillating sights and sounds that exploded in the 1950s into the dance and music style known as the mambo.

Meanwhile, in 1959 the mega-hit film Black Orpheus, written by Marcel Camus, was shown in America. The sound that American audiences heard was the Brazilian bossa nova.

Antonio Carlos Jobim composed hits such as "Desafinado," "The Girl from Ipanema" and "Samba de Uma Nota Só" ("One Note Samba"). These compositions catapulted Jobim to stardom as one of the most important popular composers of the 60s - the "new thing," or bossa nova was born. Jazz players, including Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Mann and Charlie Byrd, embraced the "new thing" and included bossa novas as part of their Latin jazz repertoire.

In 1962 Byrd collaborated with tenor saxophonist Stan Getz to produce the album Jazz Samba. By 1963 Jazz Samba reached number one on Billboard's pop album chart and ignited the bossa nova craze in America.

Tonight, Dr. Mike Davison, the UR Jazz Ensemble, Quatro na Bossa, guest artists, and dancers will take you on a musical multimedia journey. Raconteur Ed Tillett will lead the audience through a palette of sight and sound, highlighting the blending of music by the three superpowers of contemporary popular music: Cuba, Brazil and the United States. This blending is known as Latin jazz. Sit back, feel the rhythms and if you feel the urge - dance!

-- Mike Davison

#### **Guest Artists**

Ed Tillett: narrator

J.C. Kuhl: tenor saxophone Pete Anderson: trombone

Santos Ramirez: batá drums, auxiliary percussion

Jose Lorenzo: vocals

Kevin Davis: vocals, auxiliary percussion

Jason Glasgow: vocals Kevin Jones: dancer

Marisol Cristina Sotolongo: dancer

Nicolas Guillen Betancourt Sotolongo: dancer

Edwin Roa: dancer Kristin Wenger: dancer

Jean-Pierre Laurenceau-Medina: auxiliary percussion

## Quatro na Bossa

Laura Ann Singh: vocals Kevin Harding: guitar Rusty Farmer: bass Matt Wyatt: drums

## UR Jazz Ensemble

Amelia Mitrotz: split lead alto sax/alto 2 George Guo: split lead alto sax/alto 2

Amy Shick: tenor sax 1
Kenny Shim: tenor sax 2
Zach Copeland: baritone sax
Nicole Devine: baritone sax

CJ Tomasevich: split lead trumpet/trumpet 2
Mike Haliczer: split lead trumpet/trumpet 2

Patrick Walsh: trumpet 3 John Clikeman: trumpet 4 Cindy Portillo: trumpet 5

Jesse Woon: trombone 1

Robby Schranze: bass trombone & tuba

Josh Tucker, piano Emily Gove, piano Nico Doreste, guitar Mike Rafizadeh, bass Jake Simpson, drum Set Dillon Denehy: drum Set

## UR Samba Ensemble

## Kevin Harding, Director

Hadleigh Glist: reco-reco Queite de Paula: ganzá Ben Panko: agogô Greg Sam: pandeiro Hadi Abdullah: surdo Alasdair Denvil: tamborim Akira Suzuki: tan tan

#### Rumba Ensemble

Jose Lorenzo: vocals Kevin Davis: conga Santo Ramirez: congas

Jean-Pierre Laurenceau-Medina: chekeré

Mike Davison: palitos

## Longwood University Drumline

**Christopher Thomas, Director** 

Joe Robson: snare drum Joshua Burner: snare drum Charles Smith: tenor drum Ty Harkins: bass drum

#### Modlin Center Crew

**Production Manager** Sean Farrell

Lighting & Video Pat Kraehenbuehl
Sound Engineer Rob Richards

#### **Show Credits**

Script Ed Tillett

Media Ed Tillett & Mike Davison

Show Concept & Design Mike Davison
Produced by Mike Davison

## Special Thanks . . .

Modlin Center staff; Ben Broening, chair of the Music Deptartment; and our "crew" – Sean Farrell, Rob Richards and Pat Kraehenbuehl!

And 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.

Creative help from Reed West – thanks, Reed!
Thanks to our guest artists and our drumline from Longwood University!

For their exceptionally generous support, a special thanks to Main Street Dancewear, Richmond's one-stop shop for performing arts apparel and theatrical fabrics.

And of course to all my UR jazz students performing tonight! Great job, gang! Stay en clave!

Now . . . get up and dance!

Mike Davison

## Meet the Players, Singers and Dancers . . .

#### The Guest Ensemble

#### **Ouatro** na Bossa

Adjunct Professor Kevin Harding and alumna Laura Ann Singh formed Quatro na Bossa in 2003. Bassist Rusty Farmer joined the group in 2006 and drummer Matt Wyatt has been an occasional member for several years. Kevin has studied with Brazilian guitarists Romero Lubambo and Toninho Horta, and in Rio de Janeiro with choro guitarist Bilinho Teixeira. Laura Ann has studied with sambista Fabiana Cozza in São Paulo, and with Oscar Castro-Neves. The quartet has played many engagements at Dizzy's Club (Jazz at Lincoln Center), with guests Nilson Matta, Maucha Adnet, Romero Lubambo, Rogerio Boccato, and Harry Allen. Also in New York, they recorded the album Summer Samba for the Japanese label Venus Records, with Adriano Santos and Rodrigo Ursaia. In the fall of 2012 the group released their second CD, entitled Bossa Nossa. Quatro na Bossa's arrangements and unique style aim for authenticity while showcasing the power of Brazilian music to traverse language and culture.

#### The Director and Producer

#### Mike Davison

Distinguished trumpeter Dr. Michael Davison is a gifted 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 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 Whitewater 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 was published by Hal Leonard Publishing Company and The Music of Randy Brecker: Solo Transcriptions and Performing Artist Master Class CD was published by 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, Dr. Davison has taught many courses on jazz and Cuban music since arriving in Richmond and recently was awarded the prestigious Educator of the Year award. His influence as an educator goes beyond the University of Richmond's campus. Dr. Davison also serves as trumpet teacher and head of the brass area at the world-renowned Interlochen International Arts Camp in Interlochen, Michigan. Dr. Davison hosted the International Trumpet Guild Conference in 1999 and is an Edwards Instrument Performing Artist. Dr. Davison, along with producer Ed Tillett, 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.

#### The Narrator

#### **Ed Tillett**

Ed is an award winning multimedia producer and videographer. Honored with five Tellys and seven Communicator of the Year awards, his work in instructional design, media production, scripting and directing spans 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, including film, video, web and audio. Credits include the original 13-week television series, Outdoor Virginia, for the Outdoor Life Network; television commercials for numerous clients; 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 premiered in Richmond in 2006 and 2007, respectively. Ed traveled to Cuba four times to record audio and video and to conduct interviews and research. His work with the University of Richmond and its students has also included research at the University of

Miami and Florida International University, and guest lecturing on film and video production. His photographs, video and audio recordings of Cuba were donated to the University of Richmond in 2007. The images and sounds capture cultural and musical events and locations spanning a four-year period at the beginning of the 21st century. Ed currently works for Northrop Grumman Corporation. His work centers on the design and execution of communications and training programs for users of a new enterprise resource planning system for the U.S. Army. The project is headquartered in Richmond. A lifelong musician and student of music, Ed plays trumpet with the Northern Neck Orchestra, dances to the rhythms of Cuba with his wife, Anne, and shares his love of music with anyone who will listen.

#### The Singers

#### Jose Lorenzo Reyna

Jose is tenacious, to say the least. After landing in Guantanamo after a three-day swim from Cuba, 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 vocalist with the group. 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.

#### Jason Glasgow

Jason Glasgow, a senior at Thomas Dale High School, is a percussionist for the Thomas Dale Jazz Band. He is also the drum captain for the Thomas Dale Marching Knights.

#### The Dancers

#### **Edwin Roa**

Edwin has been dancing for over 15 years, focusing on the art of partner dancing. Part of his life's vision is to inspire others to dance through an unconventional technique called Zabor Dance. Zabor is a holistic approach to the teaching of partner dance, where the study of movement is complemented with the understanding of connectivity, music and culture. Roa has left his dance "print" throughout Virginia by participating in many dance organizations, such as the Latin Ballet of Virginia. He is the co-founder of the Charlottesville Salsa Club, and has choreographed for many university and college dance groups, as well as Live Arts (Charlottesville's community theater). Edwin currently teaches in the Department of Theater and Dance at James Madison University and the Blue Ridge Community College. Edwin has been

the featured dancer at every Cuban Spectacular since its inception.

#### Kristin Wenger

Until last year, Kristin Wenger primarily danced West Coast swing, a smooth, contemporary style of swing loved for its emphasis on partnership and musical interpretation. She has studied with some of the finest West Coast swing champions in the country, and she has won many awards, including first place in the Advanced Lead and Follow Competition, Nashville (2007); first place in the Rising Star Division at the America's Classic Swing Dance Event, Houston (2012); and third place in the Sophisticated Swing Division at The U.S. Open Swing Dance Championships, Burbank CA (2011). Last year she and Edwin Roa joined forces to share knowledge and expertise about their own dance specialties. It has been an inspirational and productive collaboration. Kristin has a Master's degree in Teaching from the University of Virginia; by day she is the Public Health Educator for the Blue Ridge Poison Center at the University of Virginia.

#### Kevin LaMarr Jones

Kevin is a 1994 graduate of the University of Richmond with a B.S. in Business Administration, and a 2008 graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a B.F.A. in Dance and Choreography. He is the Artistic Director of CLAVES UNIDOS™ (translated "United Rhythms") which brings people together through dance events that are life- and community-affirming. He is currently a professional company member with the Latin Ballet of Virginia, where he also serves as the African Caribbean dance teacher and the company's graphic designer. Calling upon various dance experiences and ancestral memories, Mr. Jones founded the contemporary dance project called CLAVES UNIDOS in 2010. CLAVES UNIDOS, a "kinetic tour" of dances with African roots from around the world. Mr. Jones believes that beyond the barriers of race, gender, geography, language and religion, it is the African presence in art, music and dance that unites the world. Through the CLAVES UNIDOS experience, participants discover, share and celebrate the historical, political and social connections of African dances world-wide. It is full-bodied, globally-inspired and fun for various ages and audiences.

#### **Marisol Cristina Sotolongo**

Marisol, of the Latin Ballet of Virginia, has been dancing all her life. She began her dance training at age three with the Latin Ballet of Virginia, joining their Junior Company at age six. At 13, she started performing with the Latin Ballet's Professional Company. In 2012, under the direction of international flamenco master Antonio Hidalgo, Marisol was given a solo in the Latin Ballet of Virginia's World Premiere of El Pintor. Although trained in many dif-

ferent styles, her fierce pride in her Cuban heritage is reflected in her passion for Flamenco and Salsa. Marisol has performed with the famous Cuban percussionist Malena La Rumbera and is also a member of CLAVES UNIDOS, performing in Ancestral Memories I and II and, most recently, Sketches.

#### Nicolas Guillen Betancourt Sotolongo

"Nico" is a 12-year-old homeschooler and dancer with the Latin Ballet of Virginia. He started dancing with the Latin Ballet of Virginia at two and began performing with the Junior Company at age three. His favorite dance classes are Salsa and Hip Hop. An avid Acolyte at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Nico enjoys sharing and promoting his Cuban heritage. Nico is also a member of CLAVES UNIDOS.

#### The Musicians

#### **Kevin Davis**

Native New Yorker Kevin Davis began his music career studying music theory and percussion while growing up in the multicultural communities of New York City. After studying in Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic and Jamaica, Kevin relocated to Richmond. He is the musical leader of Ban Caribe, a band which performs a blend of Afro-Cuban, Latin, Caribbean and R&B. The compositions of the group are spiritually inspired by the rhythmic beats and chants of African music. Ban Caribe's music has been labeled "Clave Soul," and was inspired by the R&B sounds of Sam Cooke and the salsa pioneers Tito Puente and Eddie Palmieri. Kevin is the director and founder of the Ashbury United Methodist Church Youth Drum Ministry and co-founder of the World Beat Workshop. He is a frequent guest artist with the Virginia Commission for the Arts & Young Audiences of Learning. Kevin's composition, "Tambor," recorded on the Vacation Time label, held the No. 1 position on the Latin Beat Magazine Hit Parade (October – November, 2012) and on Salsa Charts (August, 2012).

#### J.C. Kuhl, tenor saxophone

J.C. attended Towson University in Baltimore, where he studied jazz and commercial music under Stan Kenton, composer Hank Levy, and saxophonist Glen Cashman. He moved to Richmond in 1995, where he became a member of critically acclaimed groups Agents of Good Roots, Modern Groove Syndicate and Devil's Workshop Big Band. He has served as a member of the jazz faculty at VCU since 2005 and is also a member of the music faculty at Collegiate School.

#### Santos Ramirez, congas & auxiliary percussion

Santos, born in Puerto Rico and relocated to Richmond in 1987, has been the percussionist at West End Assembly of God for 22 years. Retired from Hewlett Packard in 2010, Santos dedicates his time to playing with the Latin Jazz Messengers and teaching Latin percussion to UR jazz students. His son, Santos J. Ramirez, is an '08 Spider.

#### Pete Anderson, trombone

Aside from the two full-time jobs of being a family man and teaching mathematics, Pete Anderson still finds time to play music. As Doug Richards' graduate assistant at VCU many years ago, he received the finest musical education and inspiration. Since graduating, he has had the pleasure of performing with the top salsa bands in the area, as well as some exceptional local and national talent, such as The RVA Big Band, The Upper East Side Big Band, and The Temptations.

#### Jean-Pierre Laurenceau-Medina

Born in Queens, New York, Jean-Pierre is of Haitian and Ecuadorian descent. He works at the University of Richmond as the Associate Director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. Additionally, he is an Associate Adjunct Professor of Human Services at J. Sargeant Reynolds Community College and a Doctor of Education candidate in Higher Education Administration at Northeastern University. Jean-Pierre's passion for Latin music started while enrolled as an undergraduate student at Pennsylvania State University, where he started the first salsa dance club.

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