



José Luis Morán
La Rumba del Barrio
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3D Ritmo de Vida
Que Siga La Rumba

APRIL 2010 ISSUE

News ⊕ ⊕ ⊕

OBITUARY

Víctor "El Negrito" Pantoja

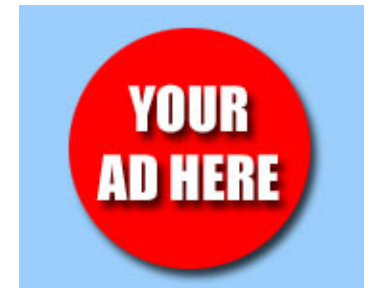
7/6/1936 (Spanish Harlem, N.Y.) - 03/12/2010 (Los Angeles, CA)

I first met Víctor in 1977, in preparation for Willie Bobo's first album on CBS-"Hell Of An Act To Follow". The most incredible friendship ensued after that – we were joined at the hip. It is a mysterious thing when a friendship develops with a master drummer – he picks you! So I guess you could say that I knew Víctor very well. He was the cutting-edge conguero in the birth of Latin jazz and also in the emergence of Latin rock. His work with Cal Tjader, Herbie Mann (my first experience hearing Víctor live), Willie Bobo, Carlos Santana, Azteca, Malo, Dizzy Gillespie's United Nation Orchestra, and more recently, with the L.A.-based band La Combinación, will be indelible and unforgettable as long as there are people with appreciative ears and an ounce of rhythm in their souls. He leaves two daughters and numerous grandchildren and greatgrandchildren (sorry, I can't remember all their names). I will refer you to [MySpace.com/VictorPantoja](#) for more information and some wonderful pictures. We want to thank the readers for their response regarding our brother Víctor. Also, visit [www.Moonflowercafe.com](#) for additional comments and memories about Víctor Pantoja. ¡Qué viva El Negrito Pantoja! – Steve Gutierrez



Art, Activism, Access - 40 Years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA

By Ricky Richardson
Photos by Ricky Richardson



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Somos Son

Bilongo

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

The Estrada Brothers

Mr. Ray

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Manny Silvera

Bassed in America

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Bobby Matos

Cuchy Frito Man

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Chembo Corniel

Buena Gente

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Maña

Tranquilito

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Santiago Ceron

Besos de Hada

[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

Johnny Polanco y Su Conjunto Amistad

El Gusto de Mi Salsa

The academic year of 2009-2010 marks the 40th anniversary of UCLA's American Indian Studies Center, Asian American Studies Center, Chicano Studies Research Center and Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies. To celebrate this significant milestone, UCLA Chancellor Gene Black has dedicated the academic year to the theme of "Celebrating 40 Years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA." In conjunction with said anniversary, the exhibition titled "Art, Activism, Access: 40 Years of Ethnic Studies at UCLA" will be displayed at the Lucas Gallery, on the first floor of the Fowler Museum, from February 28th to June 13th, 2010. This lively collection of murals, graphic art, films, ephemera, and photographs captures the key moments in a remarkable history of action, offering a compelling review of the turbulent beginnings and enduring legacy of forty years of ethnic studies at UCLA.



On Sunday, February 28th (from 12- 5 p.m.), the Fowler Museum hosted a family festival in conjunction with the abovementioned UCLA exhibit. Several hundred adults (some accompanied by their children) enjoyed a picture-perfect day, full of family activities, at the Fowler Museum.

Poetry readings were held at the Deutsch Seminar Room, on the first floor of the museum. Deborah Sánchez, Alicia Gaspar de Alba (Chair of the UCLA César E. Chávez Department of Chicana/o Studies), Beau Sia (of Russell Simmons/HBO Def Poetry Jam) and drummer John Densmore (of The Doors) read some original poems.

Many musical performances were taken place on the museum's second floor terrace. Ozomatli's Raúl Pacheco and the Immaculate Conception, the Kupa Bird Singers, the master jazz guitarist Kenny Burrell, the multi-talented tap dancer Chester Whitmore and the Grammy-nominated members of Hiroshima performed for a captivated audience.

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Siempre Salsa All Stars
Salsa Para Siempre
[Windows Media Quicktime](#)

The family art workshop offered attending families a chance to create their own genealogical tree and contribute to a communal artwork.

In the Marketplace, we were allowed to peruse and purchase publications from the American Indian Studies Center, the Asian American Studies Center, the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, and the Chicano Studies Research Center.

The festival concluded with an event featuring live music provided by Hiroshima, while the guests were treated to some wonderful appetizers.

For more information about this exhibition, go to www.ethnicstudies40th.ucla.edu



Announcement of the 32nd Annual Playboy Jazz Festival's Line-up in Los Angeles

Text and Photos by Ricky Richardson

The much-anticipated line-up for the 32nd Annual Playboy Jazz Festival was announced on Thursday, February 25, 2010. Presented in conjunction with the L.A. Philharmonic Association, the 32nd Annual Playboy Jazz Festival will be held on June 12-13, 2010 at the world-famous Hollywood Bowl.

VIPs, musicians and representatives of various media outlets (newspapers, magazines, internet websites, radio and television) were in attendance at the Playboy Mansion in Holmby Hills, on a cool, breezy day.

The L.A. District High School



Jazz Band (directed by Tony White and J.B. Dyas) entertained the crowd gathered under the huge canopy assembled on the grounds of the Playboy Mansion. The young members of this band played some flawless straight-ahead jazz for the crowd's listening pleasure.



Hugh Hefner and the Playboy Jazz Festival Organization welcomed the media guests to the Mansion. Festival producer Darlene Chan, along with M.C. Bill Cosby, announced the stellar line-up.

If you like your jazz mingled with other international flavors, the 32nd Annual Playboy Jazz Festival offers just the right serving for you, as it presents an eclectic mix of modern jazz, smooth jazz, Latin jazz, salsa, big band, blues and world music designed to satisfy a wide variety of musical preferences.

Saturday, June 12, 2010 (2:30 p.m.-11:00 p.m.)

- El Dorado High School, directed by Richard Watson
- Trombone Shorty & Orleans Avenue (get ready to party with a second-line, like they do in Who Dat Nation)
- Jake Shimakukuro
- Naturally 7
- Javon Jackson, featuring special guest Les McCann
- The Clayton-Hamilton Jazz Orchestra salutes the legendary drummer Louie Bellson
- Marcus Miller with guest artist Christian Scott (trumpet sensation from New Orleans)
- Los Van Van: Sizzling contemporary Cuban music
- Kurt Elling
- Sax for Stax, consisting of Gerald Albright, Jeff Lorber and Kirk Whalum
- Chick Corea Freedom Band (with Roy Haynes, Christian McBride, and Kenny Garrett)

Sunday, June 13, 2010 (2:00 p.m.-10:30 p.m.)

- L.A. District High School Jazz Band, directed by Tony White and J.B. Dyas
- Jazz Mafia's Brass, Bows and Beats
- Cos of Good Music (with Dwayne Burno, Ndugu Chancler, Mark Gross, Jay Hoggard, D.D. Jackson and Ingrid Jensen).
- Tiempo Libre: Hot, modern sounds of Cuba
- Irvin Mayfield & The New Orleans Jazz Orchestra
- Esperanza Spalding (making a return engagement)
- Robert Randolph & The Family Band: Blues and gospel
- Salif Keita: "World music" from Mali
- Bobby Hutcherson & Cedar Walton Quartet

- Manhattan Transfer
- George Benson

Bill Cosby returns once again to serve as Master of Ceremonies. The festival was also made possible by Hugh M. Hefner (Executive Producer of the Playboy Jazz Festival), Richard Rosenzweig (President, Playboy Jazz Festivals), George Wein (Producer Emeritus), and Darlene Chan (Producer, Playboy Jazz Festival/Festival West, Inc.).

Tickets are available through Ticketmaster at www.ticketmaster.com, by calling (213) 365-3500 or (714) 740-7878, at any Ticketmaster outlet, or by downloading a ticket order form available at www.playboyjazzfestival.com. There is also a link to the Ticketmaster website on the Playboy Jazz Festival website. Call the Playboy Jazz Festival Hotline at (310)450-1173 or visit www.playboyjazzfestival.com for more information about the festival and the free community concert series.



A Hot Performance of the Latin Jazz Syndicate

The Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza (California) was sizzling on a recent cool evening. But I'm not referring to the aromatic effects of a variety of delicious, spicy dishes available at the Plaza's International Food Court.

Turning up the heat for mall shoppers were the members of The Latin Jazz Syndicate. This tight ensemble is heating up the Los Angeles Latin jazz scene, and going for global exposure in the near future.

The concert was part of the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza's Live Concert Series, held free of charge on a



monthly basis at the Plaza's Sears Court, from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

The Latin Jazz Syndicate performed danceable and infectious rhythms, plus a lively mix of contemporary arrangement of original tunes.

The band is comprised of Bijon Watson (trumpet/flugelhorn), Angel Rodríguez (congas), Oscar Cartaya (bass), Carlos Ordiano (keyboards) and Rubén Ordiano (drums).

The group's tight Latin arrangements of jazz and pop standards were well received by the crowd.

Their hour-long, crowd-pleasing playlist included the original titled *Momentum*, as well as various standards (Blue Mitchell's *I'll Close My Eyes*, Bobby Caldwell's *What You Won't Do for Love*, Dizzy Gillespie's *Night In Tunisia*, etc).

I'm looking forward to many exciting things from this group in the future, including its upcoming and promising debut CD. Please visit www.thelatinjazzsyndicate.com and www.crenshawplaza.com, or call (310) 290-0636 for more information about the Baldwin Hills Crenshaw Plaza LIVE! Concert Series.



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