

Mp3 Spellbound - Funqueros



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One of a class of persons displaying the qualities of both a funkster and a salsero. 10 MP3 Songs LATIN: Latin Soul, URBAN/R&B: Disco (R&B) Details:Roll back to fall, 1998. SPELLBOUND was putting the finishing touches on our new album, "Funqueros", a disc which Bobby moon I, (SPELLBOUND's founding songwriters/performers) had struggled for well over a year to finish - recording and mixing as money permitted. the plan was to put it out a small quantity of the disc on our own, then squeeze it into local stores and onto any radio stations we could. the rest would be sold at shows or used for promotion. We were no strangers to this approach, and had been moderately successful with our previous, self-titled CD in 1996, so off we went. Not quite! Like cosmic messengers, in came a few exceptional spirits to change our destiny, and their word was thus: Have patience my sons, and your CD will be done right-with cool packaging, primo distribution, and the works. Knowing the staggering amount of work we faced in doing it all ourselves again, we gratefully accepted the offer and got down to the nitty gritty stuff which brings us to Now. SPELLBOUND's Funqueros has finally made it to you, and weve survived basic tracks and percussion in the summer heat tedious vocal sessions horns, then more horns revolving saxophones colds herbal remedies subtracted songs/added songs rapido guitar session spiritual crisis too much coffee/not enough coffee shoestring budgets bruised egos trips...musicians with attitudes chemical-induced lunacy band mutiny salsa dance lesson equipment glitches paranoia impossible punch-ins Valley flakes and far too many tapes! (Did I mention a whole lot of fun, too?!!) Of the songs that made the final cut on this CD, the opener, Tune You Up hits you straight off with the Funk I was listening to a lot of Sly Parliament at the time, Bobby Moon recalls. We had performed this one live a few times already, and the audience response was always positive. Siente (Spanish for feel) is the next track off the album, tempering the Funk with Latin overtones, and debuts our sultry Peruvian vocalist Charo Salinas.

The Crown features L.A.s Sonora. Bobby says of the words the lyrics are about achievement - got to work to do my very best/ to win the prize/ to get the crown. Sonora heard it, loved it, and asked me if she could sing it. Johnny Malone came up with his vocal hook for the outro on the 11th hour literally while we were mixing the tune; so we added his vocal the song really clicked, for me anyway. Sonoras up again on Ive Got This to Say, with her sweet vocals over hard swinging Funk. Bobby stretches out for the next track, El Tropico writing the lyrics and singing in Spanish for the first time. The song is basically a happy, lyrical tribute to tropical music dance styles we like Guajira, Guaguanco, La Rumba, Son-Montuno. Salsa maestro (and padrino) Johnny Polanco is featured here playing the distinctive and beautiful tres a guitar-like instrument prominent in Cuban music. World Alive was actually written over a year ago, and in ensuing live performances has always received an enthusiastic response, for reasons not totally understood by us. At this point we wouldnt dare leave it off the disc, so here it is. After that, we go into a special style of music which I affectionately refer to as accidental rumba. Its Ay, Que Rico Es! With English lyrics, a Spanish chorus, and me playing acoustic guitar. Go on, sing along youll feel better! The Spanish sabor continues, as I switch to keyboards on Just in Time with Charo doing harmonies. She recalls: This was my first time singing in English, and I was really nervous, but it turned out to be a pretty easy part, and everyone was very supportive. During the middle of the tune thats me playing Matthews classic old Fender Rhodes piano, and the outro features a smokin Johnny Polanco tres solo. Times Up is a slow-burning groover that finds us back in funk territory. Pauls guitar solo is so funky on this song, it reminds me of the great Albert King, says Bobby who is playing the funky organ on this track. We leave you with a final dose of pure psychedelic funk. Its our instrumental, Keep Doin Your Own Thing which is what I bid you until next time Paul Thomas, SPELLBOUND, 1999

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