

Mp3 Cuchata - Latin: General



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Entirely original compositions join afro-latin traditions with elements of rock, hip-hop, drum and bass, avant-garde jazz, dub reggae, afrobeat, and more. 13 MP3 Songs LATIN: General, WORLD: World Beat

Details: Falling somewhere between the traditional and the experimental, Cuchata's music is the very definition of Latin Alternative music, and arguably the only band of it's kind from Seattle. Their entirely original compositions join afro-latin traditions with elements of rock, hip-hop, drum and bass, avante-garde jazz, dub reggae, afrobeat, and more. Certainly not a latin-jazz band, by no means salsa, rock en espanol, or cumbia, Cuchata borrows from all these genres and blends them with a rare fluency.

BIOGRAPHY Cuchata was born out of guitarist/singer/songwriter Marcelo E. Quinonez's 1999 pilgrimage to his ancestral Nicaragua. There he discovered and fell under the spell of the country's rich musical heritage. Upon returning to the USA, he combined his new-found knowledge with his love of other Afro-Latin traditions to fashion a musical expression of his own. Joined by percussionist/keyboardist Bryan Cook, Quinonez formed Cuchata in 2000. The band, which now includes bassist Cody Rahn and a horn section, released their debut album on Elegua Records in 2003. It was a fascinating amalgam of influences from Nicaragua, Peru, Cuba and Columbia, with Caribbean-side Central American vocal flavors and Pampas rhythms from Paraguay and Argentina. Since that time, Cuchata has grown musically, as has their intense desire to constantly update and hybridize their sound. Cuchata consistently strives to craft music that defies genres on one hand, yet fits neatly into many on the other. Their forthcoming release shows the diversity of their style, and their ability to integrate ancient and modern influences into a cohesive blend of original compositions. Cuchata performs regularly in and around Seattle where they have a very loyal following and have played to capacity crowds. They have shared the stage with such bands as Quetzal at The Conga Room, legendary Cuban percussionist

Francisco Aguabella at The Temple Bar in Los Angeles and recently opened a sold-out show for world music sensation Lhasa De Sela at The Triple Door in Seattle. "The marvelous thing about Cuchata's music is that they weave all the threads of their influences into a handsome musical fabric that is at once fully-integrated and personal. It certainly helps that Quinonez is a terrific songwriter. You don't need to be fluent in Spanish to recognize the natural flow of language and fresh melody that flows through his songs. His idiomatic guitar and expressive baritone receive uncommonly sensitive support from Rahn and Cook. We can't recommend this band highly enough to anyone with even a passing interest in Latin musical culture. The same can be said about their self-titled CD on Elegua Records, available at local CD/record stores." -From thetripledoor(Seattle, WA)

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