

FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL JAZZ PLAZA 25.01 al 01.02 2026 DE LA HABANA A SANTIAGO

**DOSSIER** 



# INTERNATIONAL JAZZ PLAZA FESTIVAL

The International **Jazz Plaza** Festival is a cultural landmark in Cuba and the Caribbean region, celebrating over 40 years of musical excellence in its 2025 edition. This festival has established itself as one of the most significant jazz gatherings, showcasing an impressive capacity for evolution and refinement.

Renowned for its cultural exchange, the festival brings together hundreds of national and international artists each year across multiple stages in Havana, **Santiago de Cuba**, and since 2025, **Santa Clara**. In 2026, the vibrant city of **Holguín** will join the jazz celebration, highlighting the festival's remarkable expansion and growth.

41 EDITIONS
4 CITIES
40+ VENUES
200+ INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS
200+ CONCERTS
20+ WORKSHOPS
MORE THAN A FESTIVAL. AN EXPERIENCE!!!

# **FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL JAZZ PLAZA**

Since its founding in 1980, the International Jazz Plaza Festival has established itself as an iconic stage for the most virtuosic jazz instrumentalists. It has borne witness to the talent of legends such as Chucho Valdés, Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock, Arturo O'Farrill, Snarky Puppy, Pedrito Martínez, Antonio Sánchez, Wynton Marsalis, Branford Marsalis, Christian McBride, Stefan Jonson, Carmen McRae, Charlie Haden, Roy Hargrove, and Kenny Barron. These remarkable artists have upheld the high standards of our festival, creating unforgettable experiences for jazz lovers.

The 41st edition of the **Jazz Plaza** Festival will take place from January 25 to February 1, 2026, promising to be an even more enriching event. So far, over 200 international artists have confirmed their participation from countries such as the USA, Brazil, China, Lithuania, Sweden, the UK, Spain, Mexico, France, the Netherlands, Colombia, Venezuela, Argentina, and Italy. Additionally, the festival will feature renowned Cuban artists with international careers, including Roberto Fonseca, Ernán López-Nussa, Ignacio "Nachito" Herrera, Frank Fernández, Jorge Reyes, Harold López-Nussa, Dayramir González, Rolando Luna, Rodney Barreto, Oliver Valdés, Marialy Pacheco, Yilian Cañizares, among many other talented musicians from Cuba.





lutur: ALBERTO LESCAY
Basada en la obra: JAZZ = LIBERTAD



Autor: NELSON DOMÍNGUEZ

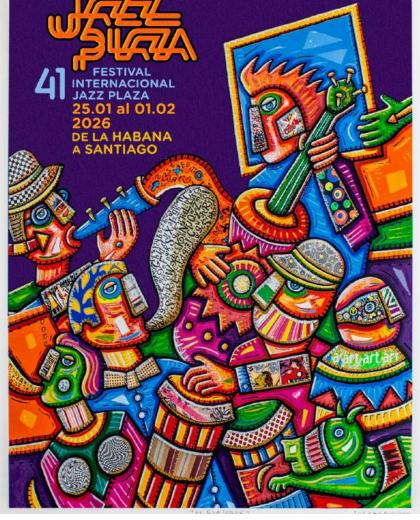
Basada en la obra: EL OTRO MUNCH



Autor: ROBERTO FABELO
Basada en la obra: FIESTA SONORA

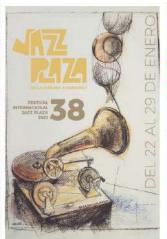
### **POSTERS**

BASED ON WORKS BY CUBAN ARTISTS





Autor: EDUARDO ROCA SALAZAR "CHOCO"
Basada en la obra: TROMPETA CHINA



Autor: ARTURO MONTOTO

Basada en la obra: BASEBALL PLAYER



linter: ROBERTO "BOBBY CARCASSÉS" Basada en la obra: JAZZ PLAZA



Autor: ZAIDA DEL RÍO Basada en la obra: JAZZ



This festival not only celebrates jazz but also promotes cultural exchange and artistic collaboration. It features a program that extends beyond this genre, encompassing other musical expressions such as rumba, son, and danzón. Additionally, it includes various academic meetings open to all ages and focused on all forms of art.

Jazz Plaza has evolved into a Festival of the Arts thanks to its ongoing integration of other artistic manifestations throughout its history, linking jazz with visual arts, dance, ballet, photography, and cinema, creating a unique space where diverse artistic sensibilities converge.

Each year, the festival showcases the work of prominent figures from the visual arts. For this edition, we are honored to feature one of the greats of Cuban art: **Alfredo Sosa Bravo**, National Prize for the Visual Arts (1997), just before his 95th anniversary.

His piece, "El Guateque," will intertwine music and color in the 41st edition of Jazz Plaza.





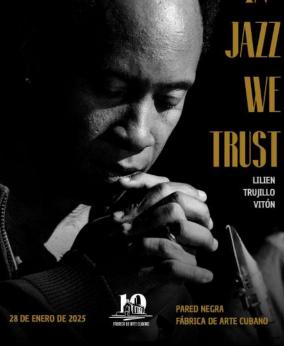




**29/ENERO** 

PARED NEGRA FÁRRICA DE FÁBRICA DE ARTE FRENCH DE RATE CUBRINO CUBANO







Fotos Rick Swig

# **FESTIVAL VENUES**

#### Havana

- **1. National Theatre of Cuba:** Concerts, performances, and tributes featuring internationally recognized artists
- Avellaneda Hall 9:00 p.m. / Covarrubias Hall 6:00 p.m.
- 2. Casa de Cultura de Plaza: Foundational venue of the festival, where jazz, world music, and the most relevant of Cuban popular music converge 9:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m.
- **3. Theatre of the National Museum of Fine Arts.** Cuban Art Building: Special concerts by top-level artists, album presentations, and collaborations 7:00 p.m.
- **4. Bertolt Brecht Cultural Center Tito Junco Hall:** Versatile space that combines concerts of established artists with emerging figures 7:00 p.m.
- **5. Gardens of the Mella Theatre:** Space where jazz and rumba converge 5:00 p.m.
- **6. Basilica Minore of San Francisco de Asís:** Concerts that combine chamber music and jazz 6:00 p.m.
- **7. National Museum of Music:** Gisela Hernández Hall: Space for small-format jazz proposals, chamber music, and concerts 5:00 p.m.



- **8. National Museum of Music.** Gisela Hernández Hall: Space for smallformat jazz proposals, chamber music, and concerts 5:00 p.m.
- **9. Pavilion Cuba:** Multifunctional space with 3 stages.
- La Brújula: Concerts of traditional Cuban and Latin American music 2:00 p.m.
- La Pérgola: Concerts and jam sessions featuring young jazz musicians -4:00 p.m.
- Central Stage: Concerts of alternative Cuban and international music 6:00 p.m.
- **10. Fábrica de Arte Cubano:** Multifunctional space with 3 stages, hosting concerts by the most relevant artists from both the international and national scenes, including both established and emerging talents, along with exhibitions, audiovisual projections, and discussions 8:30 p.m. 3:00 a.m.
- **11. Salón Rosado de la Tropical Peña "Hoy como Ayer":** Concerts of popular and traditional Cuban music 6:00 p.m.
- **12. Corazón Feliz Park** for Children and Youth (Old Havana)

Other venues: Sala Cervántes, Casa Vitier, César Jazz Club, Cigar Bar at Hotel Cohiba, Club Saudade, among others.

# **FESTIVAL VENUES**

### Santiago de Cuba

- Heredia Theatre
- Iris Jazz Club
- Dolores Hall
- Dolores Park
- Plaza de Marte
- Hall of the Greats
- Patio of the Jutía Conga
- Macubá Theatre Café



#### **Santa Clara**

- El Mejunje de Silverio
  - Luna Naranja
- Jazz Corner at Las Arcadas Park
  - Leoncio Vidal Park
    - Caturla Hall
    - Sandino Plaza
- Latin American Cultural Promotion Center
- Theatre of the Martha Abreu University

# Holguín

- Eddy Suñol Cultural Complex
  - Calixto García Park
- Provincial Center for Plastic Arts
  - AHS Center
  - Provincial School of Art
    - Martí Cinema
    - Jazz Corner
    - Las tres Lucia
      - Saratoga
- San José Park (La Plaza del Jazz)
  - Jazz Club

# SOME OF THE MOST RELEVANTS CONCERTS



- Opening Concert with Frank Fernández presents: Young Cuban Talent
- Closing Concert with Roberto Fonseca (Cuba)
- Concert "From Montreux to Havana" Cuban award-winning artists at the Montreux Jazz Festival: Marialy Pacheco, Yilian Cañizares, Rolando Luna, Jorge Luis Pacheco, Harold López-Nussa y Héctor Quintana.
- Aaron Goldberg (USA), Oliver Valdes, Jorge Reyes, Alejandro Delgado & Emir Santacruz
- Ignacio "Nachito" Herrera (CUBA/USA), National Symphony Orchestra & Guests.
- Síntesis (Cuba) 50th Anniversary Celebration Concert
- Harold López-Nussa (Cuba/Francia) "Timba a la Cubana Vol.II"
- Ernán López-Nussa (Cuba)
- Tribute to the Arsenio Rodríguez Ensemble Dayramir González, Arsenio Rodríguez Ensemble with allstar guests.
- Zhang Yi (China)
- Aldo López-Gavilán & Mal Paso Dance Company
- Arturo O'Farrill (USA) & Orozco Contemporáneo
- "From Lecuona to Ravel" Concert by Rolando Luna and Yilian Cañizares
- Chroma 4 Yasek Manzano, Victor Hege (France), Simon Althaus (Switzerland) & Ricardo "Chicho"
   Castillo (Ecuador/Switzerland)
- Gino Sitson Presentation Album "VoCe"
- Amina Figarova Sextet (Azerbaijan/USA)
- Christian Sands (USA)
- Tribute to Roberto Faz & His Ensemble for Their 75th Anniversary.
- Edward Simon & Orquesta De Cámara De La Habana. Dir. Daiana García Guests: Yosvany Terry, Oliver Valdés & Yaroldy Abreu.

# SOME OF THE MOST RELEVANTS CONCERTS



- Edward Simon (USA), Oliver Valdés y Jorge Reyes (Cuba)
- Concierto de Ruly Herrera y Real Project
- Hay Amor! William Roblejo Concert
- (Ecuador/Suiza).
- Rodney Barreto: "Drumer Negrito" (Cuba)
- Jorge Luis Pacheco & Friends (Cuba)
- Compota de Manana (España)
- Ayo Brame (USA)
- Alain Pérez (Cuba)
- Havana D´ Primera (Cuba)
- Issac Delgado (Cuba)
- Big Lois & Barrio Tumbao (Spain)
- Evertt Suttle (USA) Duke Ellington Sacred Concert
- Camerata Romeu y Ernesto Oliva
- Dusha Connection (Austria). "OUTSIDE A Jazzy Tribute to Erik S."
- Cuban Swing Jazz Band (Matanzas)
- Patrice Fisher and Harp Students of Cuba.
- Camerata Cortés, Dir. Orlando Valle "Maraca"
- Vincent Tsu (Taiwan)
- Julián Garvayo Sextet (España)
- Steel Band del Cobre (Cuba)
- Kotryna (Lithuania) & Sintergia (Cuba)

# SOME OF THE MOST RELEVANTS CONCERTS



#### **SANTIAGO DE CUBA**

#### **Parque Dolores**

- Roberto Fonseca Concert
- Chroma 4 Yasek Manzano, Victor Hege (France), Simon Althaus (Switzerland) & Ricardo "Chicho" Castillo (Ecuador/Switzerland)
- HAVANA BERLÍN EXPRESS (Germany)
- Latinoamerican Trio (Colombia)

#### **SANTA CLARA**

- Dayramir González
- Closing Concert: Rolando Luna, Annys Batista, and Trio Palabras.
- Roberto Fonseca Concert
- Infanto-Juvenil Big Band. Dir. Pavel Loaira (Mexico)
- Jazztet (Mexico)
- Dusha Connection (Austria)
- Ensemble Raptus (Cuba)
- Compota de Manana (Spain)
- Myrella Ramos (Mexico/USA)
- Swig Cubano
- Orquesta Nacional de Jazz de México
- César Peredo (Peru)
- Djiby Diabate

#### HOLGUÍN

- Roberto Fonseca Concert
- Chroma 4 Yasek Manzano, Victor Hege (France), Simon Althaus (Switzerland) & Ricardo "Chicho" Castillo (Ecuador/Switzerland)
- Closing Concert: Ignacio "Nachito" Herrera & Sinfonic Orchestra of Holguin.
- "Jazz Plaza en Holguín" Concert Joel Rodríguez Millord & Guests.
- Latinoamerican Trio (Colombia)

# THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL SPACES

# PRIMERA LÍNEA: MUSIC INDUSTRY MEETING

A key event on the Jazz Plaza agenda. It strengthens the exchange between professionals from different fields: managers, artist booking agents, record labels, marketing agencies, festival organizers, and digital platform aggregators.





#### **COLLOQUIA**

International Colloquium

"LEONARDO

**ACOSTA** In

Memoriam" which reached its 21st Anniversary in the previous edition.

MERCERÓN In

Memoriam

Colloquium" in the city

of Santiago de Cuba.

**"MARIANO** 

of Santa Clara that is born under the name of "JOSE LUIS"

CORTÉS" in memoriam..

### **WORKSHOPS**

#### **IN ART SCHOOLS:**

The Jazz Festival complements its musical programming with a prominent offering of theoretical spaces designed for analysis and training, consolidating itself as a comprehensive cultural event. These activities not only enrich the festival experience, but also honor the history of jazz and lay the foundation for its future development.







**SPECIALIZED WORSHOPS:** Spaces designed for more specialized professional sectors: Lutherie and Music Therapy.

## **OUR AUDIENCE**

The International Jazz Plaza Festival has established itself as an essential meeting point for a cosmopolitan and culturally sophisticated audience. Its audience transcends the profile of the occasional attendee, bringing together a segment with notable influence, composed of international tourists, collectors, artists, cultural managers, and music industry professionals who value artistic excellence and exclusive experiences. The association with Jazz Plaza allows brands to align themselves with values of authenticity, innovation, and diversity, projecting an image of sophistication. This platform not only offers visibility but also builds and strengthens the brand's prestige by linking it directly to an event that is a benchmark of the Cuban and international cultural scene.



Thousands of foreign visitors from different latitudes, particularly from the United States and Canada, frequently visit Cuba specifically during Jazz Plaza. This positions the festival as a valuable platform for cultural experiences in a vibrant and diverse environment.



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