

Entrevista Exclusiva: Lalo Rodriguez, Leyenda de la Salsa

Tuve la bendición el año pasado de poder entrevistar a mi amigo de muchos años, una leyenda viviente, Lalo Rodriguez, en su hogar en la Florida.

Espero que aprecien que una de las cosas que me diferencian a otras que hacen cosas similares a las que hago, como entrevistar leyendas y maestros de Salsa, es que he compartido el escenario con la mayoría de ellos. Además, de vez en cuando, también comparto videos de mi perspectiva, en el escenario, que aunque no siempre salen perfectos, son de una perspectiva bastante única (vea mi página de Pete Nater Music en Facebook si no lo han hecho ya) .

De todos modos, en esta entrevista, aprendí mucho sobre los inicios de Lalo y estoy bastante seguro de que disfrutarán de lo el comparte. Son varios videos que corren seguido. Agradezco sus comentarios. Gracias, Pete Nater

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yvj5M0vutFI&list=PL77dpC_rWK0DRteR0aA6_c2LeJ9jgYfh1

Slamanater Exclusive Interview: Izzy Sanabria. Salsa History

While on Vacation in Florida last year (I know, I should have posted this a long time ago), I had the honor of visiting my friend of around 44 years, in his home, living legend, Izzy Sanabria, a/k/a Dizzy Izzy, a/k/a Mr. Salsa. If you don't know who he is, I guarantee you'll be amazed at what a major role he played in the history of Salsa over his career.

To say he is multi-talented would be an understatement. Publisher, comedian, M.C., graphic artist are a few of his talents. You or your parents likely have some of his LP cover artwork in your/their record collection. Latin NY magazine, that was his baby.

Izzy was extremely gracious to take the time out and grant me this exclusive interview, so that I could share it with the followers of Salsa Legends And Masters Academy. Trust me, he is someone you should know about. His contributions have been many and key over the years, especially during the Salsa explosion in New York during the 70's and 80's.

Watch the videos, 4 back to back, below and you'll see and learn what I'm talking about. Salsa history.

Pete Nater

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL77dpC_rWK0D1dcjj3zaahyW_qwlb1qvJ

Exclusive Interview: 18 X Grammy winner, Jon Fausty

Chances are you have several older Salsa recordings that were engineered by this amazingly talented gentleman. Jon was THE main man for Fania recordings (tracking, editing, mixes) and “live” events, during the years when Fania Records, their subsidiaries, and their artists were at their peak. How many people that you know of, especially in the Salsa genre, that have won 18 Grammys?

About a year and 1/2 ago, while on vacation in Florida, I had an opportunity to catch up with my friend of 40+ years and he was gracious enough to grant me an exclusive interview for me to share with the followers of Salsa Legends And Masters Academy (Slamanater.com) at his home. A little trivia: In the 1980’s, I was actually the manager of a recording studio, Sound Ideas, and Jon was my boss for a few months

I guarantee you’ll be impressed with his story and

his credits, as he's truly a legendary recording engineer, especially in the genre of Salsa. I was blown away. I knew about some of his work, but in this video he goes through a long list of his work. Check it out and see how many recordings you, or your parents own, that Jon engineered.

<https://youtu.be/ehX6FE1HKis>

Rare Vintage Grupo Fascinacion video

Yes, the video quality is horrible and the sound is somewhat distorted but the swing and specialness of the band shine through if you give the video a chance.

Who remembers Sundays at Tapestry? Anna Arraya-Colon and Tony Rodriguez used to have events and pay tribute to notable musicians of the time. Good times!

Band members in this video:

Pete Nater, trumpet

Miguel "Mike" Santiago, trumpet

Lionel Roman, trumpet

Johnny Rivera, vocals

Ivan "Palomita" Conde, tres RIP

Sammy "Timbalon" Pagan bongo RIP

Eddie Montalvo, congas

Johnny Torres, bass

(Nicky Marrero was also there and riffs on timbales for a minute)

Video courtesy of Anna Arraya-Colon and Roy Lopez

By Pete Nater

<https://youtu.be/V-hXco3ya-A>

A Little Trivia, And History Too. Who Do You Recognize?

This photo is from 1973 or 1974. I'm in it too. Can you find me? Is there anyone else you recognize? This band, Seguida, was the opening act for the Fania All-stars concert at Yankee Stadium in 1974. We, Seguida, later won the Latin NY award for best "Latin Rock" band in 1975. We recorded and released 2 LP's with Fania Records. Little know history ☐

It was during our 2nd recording session, for our 1st LP with Fania (1974), that I met and was

“discovered” by Larry Harlow, the producer for Fania on that session. A couple of months later, Harlow called me and offered me a the job as 2nd trumpet in his band, Orchesta Harlow, October 1974. I was 15 at the time. I accepted his offer (duhh!). A dream come true for me, as I was a huge fan of Harlow’s band, and they were one of the premiere bands in the NY Salsa scene at the time. Talk about blessings!!!

At the time, I was still in High School (Music & Art H.S.) and Larry Harlow, who was a respected alumni of M&A, was able to get me permission from the faculty of M&A H.S.,, to take off from school to tour with his band. Was that cool or what?? However, for the record, between touring and cutting classes, I had to repeat my senior year (yeah, got left back ☐), but trust me, I’d do it again, as I had so much fun and so many memorable experiences. The bottom line is, I graduated from M&A 1977 (supposed to be 1976) with a regent’s endorsed diploma, which I’m very proud of. And yes, I did continue on to college and got my degree too.

By Pete Nater