

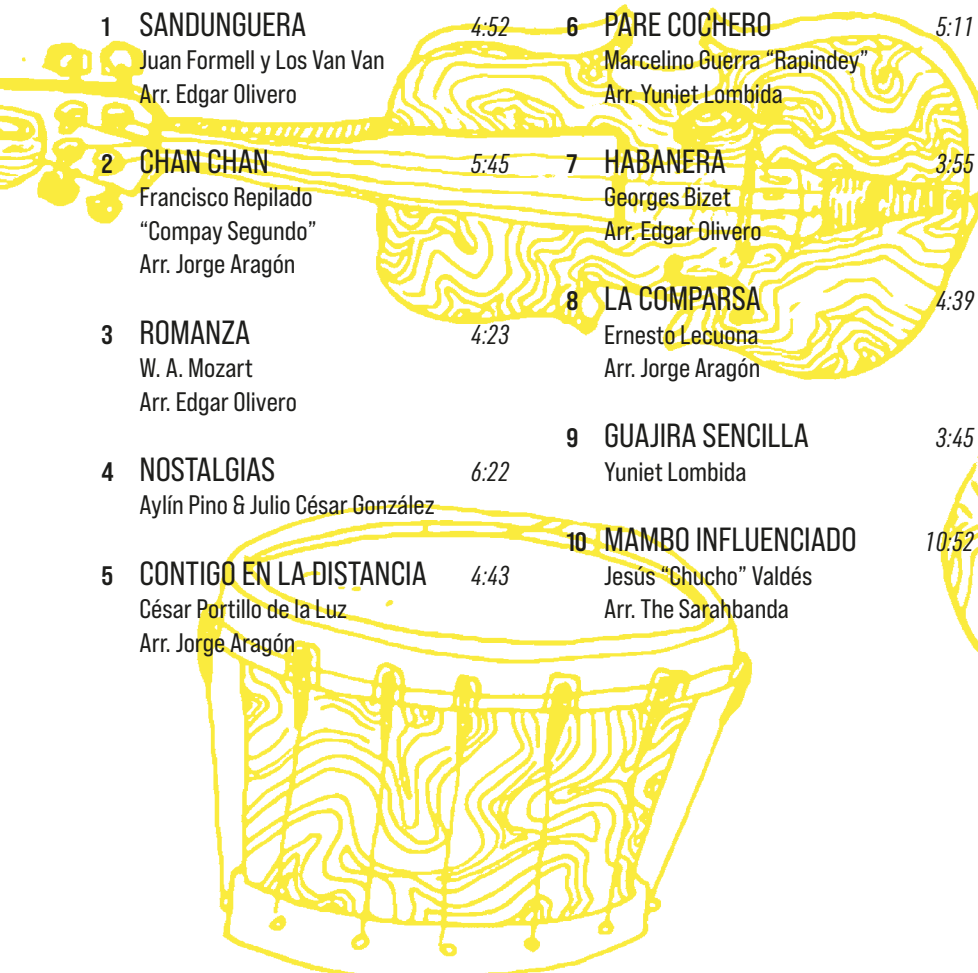
SARAHBANDA

SARAH WILLIS
YUNIET LOMBIDA
AYLÍN PINO
JORGE ARAGÓN
CARLOS GARCÍA
ALEJANDRO AGUIAR
ADEL GONZÁLEZ





SARAHBANDA

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- 1 **SANDUNGUERA** 4:52
Juan Formell y Los Van Van
Arr. Edgar Olivero
- 2 **CHAN CHAN** 5:45
Francisco Repilado
"Compay Segundo"
Arr. Jorge Aragón
- 3 **ROMANZA** 4:23
W. A. Mozart
Arr. Edgar Olivero
- 4 **NOSTALGIAS** 6:22
Aylín Pino & Julio César González
- 5 **CONTIGO EN LA DISTANCIA** 4:43
César Portillo de la Luz
Arr. Jorge Aragón
- 6 **PARE COCHERO** 5:11
Marcelino Guerra "Rapindey"
Arr. Yuniet Lombida
- 7 **HABANERA** 3:55
Georges Bizet
Arr. Edgar Olivero
- 8 **LA COMPARSA** 4:39
Ernesto Lecuona
Arr. Jorge Aragón
- 9 **GUAJIRA SENCILLA** 3:45
Yuniet Lombida
- 10 **MAMBO INFLUENCIADO** 10:52
Jesús "Chucho" Valdés
Arr. The Sarahbanda

SARAH WILLIS HORN
YUNIET LOMBIDA SAXOPHONE
AYLÍN PINO VIOLIN
JORGE ARAGÓN PIANO
CARLOS GARCÍA BASS
ALEJANDRO AGUIAR PERCUSSION
ADEL GONZÁLEZ PERCUSSION

Recorded in February 2024 at Traumton Studio, Berlin

PRODUCERS ALPHA CLASSICS / SARAH WILLIS
RECORDING PRODUCER ANDREAS WOLF
RECORDING ENGINEER MARKUS MITTERMAYER
COVER AND BOOKLET ART RUBÉN CABRERA (CABRA)
PHOTOS SEBASTIAN HAENEL
ARTWORK AD VAN DER KOUWE

AYLÍN PINO RECORDED THIS ALBUM ON A VIOLIN COURTESY OF THE SOCIETÀ FILARMONICA TRENTO



Sarah Willis



Yuniet Lombida



Carlos García



Alejandro Aguiar



Jorge Aragón



Aylin Pino



Adel González



SARAHBANDA

BY SARAH WILLIS

Meet the Sarahbanda, the Cuban band with a difference!

The idea for the Sarahbanda came out of my *Mozart y Mambo* project with the Havana Lyceum Orchestra, a three-album fusion of the music of W.A. Mozart with Cuban rhythms.

With the *Mozart y Mambo* albums, as well as recording all of Mozart's horn concertos (with a Cuban twist!), we also included a few pieces which experimented with the French horn joining the traditional Cuban band mix of saxophone and rhythm section.

Being part of a Cuban dance band with my French horn was something I found I absolutely adored. I've been a passionate salsa dancer for years and love the atmosphere of the dance clubs. My *Mozart y Mambo* experience made me want to play more Cuban music and take the horn/salsa band combo to the next level – despite the horn traditionally having no place in any such band, not just in Cuba. So I asked some of Cuba's most talented popular musicians to join me in a new band and thus, the Sarahbanda was born.

We are now proud to present our first album *Sarahbanda*. On it, we explore the myriad of popular Cuban dance rhythms, adding the French horn into the mix. We pay homage to some of Cuba's most famous songs, including *Chan Chan*, *Sandungera* and *Contigo en la Distancia* in stunning new arrangements by Jorge Aragón and Edgar Olivero. The two original pieces, *Guajira Sencilla* by Yuniet Lombida and *Nostalgias* by Aylín Pino, show how much love and respect the composers have for traditional Cuban music. And of course we have added a couple of 'classical meets Cuban' surprises too...!

We recorded this album in three days of fabulous acoustic sessions in the Traumton Studios in Berlin. It was the middle of winter and, although the temperature outside was many degrees colder than the Sarahbanda musicians were used to, they brought such warmth to the studio with their hot Cuban rhythms. We danced, we sang, we laughed, we improvised and I don't think I have ever enjoyed a recording more.

I would like to say a huge thank you to Yuniet, Aylín, Jorge, Carlos, Alejandro and Adel for helping me to follow this crazy dream of a French horn player being part of a Cuban band and also for being great inspirations and great friends. They are simply some of the best musicians I have ever had the privilege to work with.

Berlin 2024

ALSO AVAILABLE



ALPHA 578 (LP VERSION: ALPHA 730 /
DVD : ALPHA 741)



ALPHA 878 (LP VERSION : ALPHA 943)



ALPHA 937 (LP VERSION : ALPHA 1010)

WWW.THESARAHBANDA.COM