



Ritmo y Sabor

Bio

Latin Music band Ritmo & Sabor is Jacksonville, Florida, hottest Tropical music band. This eight-piece band features musicians living in the First Coast of Florida, but playing the Latin sounds usually heard in the clubs of New York, Miami, Puerto Rico or L.A. Ritmo & Sabor plays a wide range of Latin musical styles including salsa, merengue, bachata, reggeton, balada, bolero and Afro-Cuban.

In addition to Latin Rhythms standards by Sonora Ponceña, Hector LaVoe, Justo Betancourt, Ray Barretto, Grupomania, Don Omar, Oro Solido, Melina Leon and others, the band also plays original compositions.

This Florida-based band appeals to all ages and musical preferences. Once exposed, people understand why Latin Music is becoming the international music of the new millennium. Ritmo & Sabor members bring a wealth of professional experience to their performances; they have lots of fun playing the music that they love.

Originally called Son de Sabor, Ritmo & Sabor was born in Jacksonville in 1995. There it performed in all the Latin Clubs and major events held in Jacksonville at the time including Fiesta Playera and opening acts for Gilberto Santarrosa, Luisito Carrion, Toño Rosario and Tito Rojas. In 1998 the band moved to Puerto Rico where it continued harvesting success. While in Puerto Rico the band had the opportunity to serve as the opening acts for headliner bands like Melina Leon, Josie Esteban, Grupo Mania, Los Sabrosos del Merengue, La Banda Gorda, Tony Tun Tun, Falo, Vico C, Andy Montanez, Orquesta La Criolla and Concerto 7. Back to Jacksonville in 2002, the band continues to be selected to perform opening acts for the likes of Fulanito, Luisito Carrion, Eddy Santiago, Andres Jimenez and AVENTURA.

Ritmo & Sabor provides all the energy and excitement of a larger ensemble yet has the versatility of a smaller band. Manuel Fontánez leads the eight members Band and adds his talents as key board/bass player, computer programming and timbal. Other members include: from Cuba Lisandra (vocals), Puerto Rico natives Tony Vazquez (vocals), Jose Ferreira (vocals), Luis "Gelin" Rivera (trumpet), Alex Fonseca (trombone), Jose Rentas (bongo, tambora, minor percussion), Tito (conga, tambora, minor percussion) and Ralph Santiago, the Sound assistant.

Because of their strong rhythm, dynamics and musical range, and by elevating the mood, an event with Ritmo & Sabor always becomes a happening filled with show and dance in a great atmosphere. Ritmo & Sabor puts on a show that rivals that of the best headliners...

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