

HILARIO DURAN AND HIS LATIN JAZZ BAND WITH SPECIAL GUEST JANE BUNNETT

THE ROYAL THEATRE CELEBRATES HILARIO DURAN 35-YEARS OF HIS ARTISTIC CAREER.

One of the premier exponents of Latin Jazz, the Cuban born Hilario Duran is joined by the jazz great Jane Bunnett in a thirteen piece Latin Jazz band in an enjoyable performance featuring part of the who's who in the Canadian Jazz scene.

This show presents a respected and professional spectacle bringing back some of the tradition of the Cuban music including Latin Jazz elements.

From the beginning to the end, Hilario Duran & Latin Jazz Band with Special Guest Jane Bunnett takes us a journey through Afro-Cuban music and Latin jazz with respect and professionalism sharing this rich culture with the audience (all ages).

BRIEF SYNOPSIS OF THE MUSIC AND BACKGROUND

Canadian soprano-saxophonist Jane Bunnett has enjoyed one of the well-travelled careers in Jazz music. Since her first trip to Cuba in 1982, she has journeyed back to the island numerous times. The winner of various Juno Awards has also been immersed on the Cuban culture reflecting in her music the mixture of Caribbean and African reach elements.

Now is the perfect time to re-unite these great musicians and friends for a great presentation to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of Hilario Duran musical career with this special performance at The Royal in Little Italy. This music reflects all the enthusiasm of this celebration in this magnificent event that we would love to share with all Canadian audience in September 25, 2010 at The Royal.

Included in the repertoire are tunes from the new CD, "Motion", Hilario Duran & Trio; also music from the Juno Award winner and Grammy Nominated CD "From the Heart"; music composed by Jane Bunnett and arranged by Hilario Duran for this occasion; and Hilario's new compositions as well. This music shows the fusion of cultures with influences of Latin Jazz and Afro-Cuban music which has one of the most expressive musical formations, styles of Cuban with essential rhythms from Afro-Cuban music like Cha-Cha-Cha, Bembé, Mambo, Son Montuno and elements of modern Jazz.

All musical arrangements are influenced by Cuban arrangers like Perez Prado and Chucho Valdes among others and also have been influenced by the sound of Tito Puente, Stan Kenton Cuban Fire and Dizzy Gillespie & Mario Bauza Cubop style.

The music shows all the freshness and fragrance of the celebration between friends being a nice trip through the music and this unique moment that everyone can feel remembering the great friendship through the years.

Theatrical Resume

Staff Member List

Musical Director: Hilario Duran

Assistant Director: Cristobalina Palacio

Host: Laura Fernandez

<u>Musicians</u>	<u>Instruments</u>
Hilario Duran	Pianist, Arrangements and Musical Director
Jane Bunnett	Special Guest: Soprano Sax and Flute
Roberto Occhipinti	Bass
Yailen Duran	Vocalist
Luis Mario Ochoa	Vocalist
Pol Coussee	Tenor & Baritone Sax
John De Simini	Alto Sax
Vern Dorge	Tenor Sax
Alexander Brown	Trumpet
Dave Dunlop	Trumpet
Christopher Butcher	Trombone
Joaquin Hidalgo	Percussion
Mark Kelso	Drums



Hilario Duran: Cuban-Canadian Pianist, Composer, Arranger, Orchestra Leader, and Educator
ALMA Records Recording Artist / Universal Music Canada

- Internationally renowned for his earlier work as pianist and arranger for many great artists while still living in Cuba.
- Multi Canadian multi Juno and National Jazz Award winner, an American Grammy Award nominee and recipient of the 2007 Chico O'Farrill Lifetime Achievement Award.
- Hilario Duran has been selected as one of the "10 Most Influential Hispanic Canadians".

Hilario Duran was born in Havana, Cuba in 1953 into a musical family surrounded by a variety of diverse musical influences on a daily basis.

The Duran household was filled with sounds of his family's diverse record collection that included everything from classical, jazz and popular music from all over the world.

Hilario Duran, joined Arturo Sandoval's band for nine years (1981–1990) as a Composer, Arranger and Producer as well as playing both Piano and Keyboard touring at major Jazz Festivals around the world, sharing stages with legendary musicians such the late Dizzy Gillespie and Michael Legrand.

Hilario, better known as "Con Tumbao", not only represents an important musician in contemporary Cuban music; he stands as a turning point in Cuban music history. Chucho Valdes has called him "One of the greatest Cuban pianists of the 20th century."

Cuban-Canadian jazz pianist Hilario Duran is a fixture on the Toronto music scene. Lucky Toronto, this Juno-winning and Grammy-nominated composer and bandleader has become an integral and important part of the Canadian music scene.



Jane Bunnett. Special Guest. Soprano Saxophonist, Flutist & Bandleader

Jane Bunnett has built her career at the crossroads between Cuban music and jazz. Twice nominated for Grammy awards and a fixture of the nominations for Canada's Juno awards, she has turned her bands into showcases for the finest musical talent from Canada, the United States and Cuba. Paquito D'Riviera, the great Cuban saxophonist, has said of her: "Jane is brilliant and she's been trying so hard to play the real thing. What she's doing is valid and legit." By the early 1990s Bunnett had become a regular and visitor to Havana's music venues; she was incorporating Cuban musicians, beginning with the pianist Hilario Duran, into her Toronto bands; and she had released her first

Cuban-influenced album, 1991's *Spirits of Havana*. Since then Bunnett has moved from strength to strength, touring internationally and recording a string of critically lauded albums.



Roberto Occhipinti. Bassist, Composer, Producer & Director

At the University of Toronto, beginning in 1972, Roberto Occhipinti studied under Thomas Monohan, was mentored by Joel Quarrington and especially the acclaimed jazz bassist Dave Young. He was principal bassist with the Esprit Orchestra from 1986 to 1994, and long standing member of Array music from 1979-2000.

Roberto is one of Canada's premier bassists, comfortable in a wide variety of musical contexts. Roberto has recorded five albums with Cuban piano virtuoso Hilario Duran including 2005 and 2007 JUNO "New Danzon" and Grammy nominated "From the Heart". As a classical musician, Roberto Occhipinti has been a member of the Winnipeg Symphony, Hamilton Philharmonic, and Canadian Opera Company Orchestras.



Yailen Duran. Singer, Pianist, Composer & Chorus Director

Working in The San Juan de Letran Church in 1995, Yailen directed "Mass in G Major" composed by Juan Sebastian Bach. In 1996, Yailen received her Diploma as a Chorus Director, Pianist, and Singer, in the Conservatory Amadeo Roldan.

Yailen Duran was raised in Toronto in 1998 joined Jane Bunnett's Juno Award winner "Spirits of Havana," working as a Vocalist and Dancer. She also participated as a vocalist in the Hilario Duran "Havana Remembered" CD brought the recognition as a JUNO award nominated.

Yailen worked as a background vocalist with Nelly Furtado following a successful tour across Canada, United States, Mexico and Brazil, bringing home three Platinum discs as a recognition for the sell of more than 2,000 000 copies of the DreamWorks Records.



Luis Mario Ochoa. Singer, Guitarist, Composer, Arranger & Educator

Luis Mario's earliest musical influences came from his father Luis Ochoa Sr. singer, guitarist and founding member of "**Trio Voces de Oro**", one of Cuba's most romantic ensembles. At the age of 11, Luis Mario began full time music studies at some of Havana's most renowned conservatories. After 13 years of intense studies, he graduated with an honors B.A. in classical guitar from The University of Havana's Institute Superior of Arts. In 1990 Luis Mario arrived in Toronto, Canada embracing the city as his new home.

Apart from his productive composing, performing and recording schedule, Luis teaches a Latin Jazz Ensemble at the renowned Humber College Institute, as well as conducting a Cuban Music Workshop sponsored by World of Music.



Pol Coussée. Tenor, Alto and Baritone sax

Born in Belgium, grew up in France.

First pro job as staff musician at the Casino de Monte-Carlo, playing with Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis, Shirley MacLane, Liza Minelli, Jerry Lewis,..Moved to London,UK where I worked in the West-End theatre district, playing such shows as Bloodbrothers, Cats, West Side Story, Grease, Fame, Chicago.

Toured with Barry White around the world, and also played with the Temptations, The Four Tops, Martha Reeves, Franky Valli, etc...

In London played with the BBC Jazz Orchestra, the London Jazz Orchestra, working with Cleo Lane & Johny Dankworth.

Moved to Canada in 2000 with my Canadian wife. Just finished playing "Dirty Dancing" in Toronto.

Currently involved with "Jersey Boys".

I work with varies jazz groups around the GTA (Mike MacClennan, Gary Morgan, Hilario Duran, Bob Rice

Vern Dorge: Tenor Sax, Alto, Baritone, Soprano Sax and Flute



Saxophones, flute and woodwind specialist Vern Dorge is a fixture on the Canadian and international music scene, featured on many live concerts, television and recordings, in a variety of music genres. Arriving in Toronto from Alberta in 1974 has become known as a featured soloist with the likes of Blood, Sweet & Tears, Gordon Lightfoot, Anne Murray, and many others artists. He has had many great performances with highly acclaimed artists such as Tony Bennett, Aretha Franklin, Ella Fitzgerald, Roberta Flack and others.

Vern is graduated of the Humber College Music



Diploma Program. Currently he is leading his sextet. **Alexander Brown. Trumpeter, Composer, Director and Educator**

Alexander vast experience is coming from the beautiful era of Jazz in Cuba, where he was born and performed in every Jazz venue.

Alexander is an accomplished musician graduated from the prestigious Institute of Music and Arts in Havana. Brown toured extensively throughout Europe, USA and Caribbean countries performing at every major Jazz festival.

Since Alex move to Canada he has been growing in his career teaching, composing and performing with many of the Canada's well-known musicians and bands.



Dave Dunlop. Trumpeter

Dave is a native of London Ontario. In 1975 he moved to Toronto to attend Humber College. Studying with Rainer Schmidt and Don Johnson had a huge impact on Dave's playing and helped prepare him for a long and varied career. His trumpet and flugelhorn have been heard around the world in many styles of music from Cuban to Gospel. Big bands have always been a big part of his career.

Some of the theatrical productions have been "*Chicago*", "*Fosse*", "*Saturday Night Fever*", "*Hairspray*" and "*Les Miserables*". Live shows have offered plenty of variety backing up greats like Natalie Cole, Aretha Franklin, Aaron Neville, and Lou Rawls to Roger Daltrey and Petula Clark. The list of jazz greats includes Mel

Torme, Mercer Ellington, Al Jarreau, Doc Severinson, Manhattan Transfer, Tito Puente, John Pizzarelli, Maria Schneider, Joe Lovano, Bill Holman, Vince Mendoza, Gonzalo Rubacala, and Dave Valentin.



Christopher Butcher. Trombonist, Composer and Educator

Christopher is a trombone player quickly establishing himself as a unique force in the Canadian jazz scene. Chris lives in Toronto, having moved from his hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba to study at Humber College's prestigious jazz degree program. Having recently graduated with numerous awards, Chris is already a presence in many aspects of the music scene, including recording sessions, Toronto's many diverse live music clubs, and festivals across Canada, The United States and Europe, as a music journalist, and teaching music in schools or out of his own studio.

Moving to Toronto and experiencing its diversity first hand brought many forms of world music into Chris' life, as he has quickly established himself as a first call trombone player to Toronto's many Cuban, Brazilian, Salsa, Latin Jazz and Flamenco bands, including the Juno award winning Hilario Duran's Latin Jazz Big Band, Luis Mario Ochoa's Cimarron, Cache and Maninho Costa's Batucada Carioca.

Just having turned 23, Chris is building a reputation as a fine young musician as he was selected as one of three finalists in the International Trombone Association Carl Fontana Jazz trombone competition



**Joaquin Hidalgo. Percussionist, Producer & Director.
Conga Player**

Joaquin Nuñez Hidalgo born and raised in Cuba earned his degree in Percussion at the Escuela Nacional de Artes in Havana

As a professional artist, Joaquin has had a successful music career. Finally settling in Canada, Joaquin quickly became emerged into the circle of music by performing with various artists in most of the festivals in the country as well as internationally (Barbados, Montreal, Toronto, Beaches Jazz Festival, etc). Other than finding him performing in these venues, Joaquin is also bringing his vast performing experience to the classroom by offering numerous clinics and workshops.



Mark Kelso. Drummer, Producer, Singer & Composer

Originally hailing from Belfast, Northern Ireland, Mark kelso not only is he a skilled musician who plays drums and assortment of percussion, but he is also a talented singer, producer and composer as well. He brings a rare excitement, a wealth of experience and a high degree of professionalism to every project he works with.

Aside from playing many TV and radio jingles and movie soundtracks Mark has also been featured in "Drums, ETC" "Canadian Musician" and "Modern Drummer" magazines. Mark has also been a featured clinician at the Montreal Drum fest and Cape Breton Drum Festival. Currently, Mark is Head of the Percussion Department at Humber College's School of Music in Toronto. Mark endorses and is a featured clinician for Yamaha Drums, Paiste Cymbals, Remo heads, Headhunters, drumsticks, and Orion Percussion.