



DAILY NEWS

Tito Rojas powers up with former band at Lehman Center for the Performing Arts

BY VIVA STAFF | NEW YORK DAILY NEWS VIVA | Thursday, August 6, 2015, 2:41 PM

Old-school salsa fans are in for a rare treat this month when a pair of powerhouse Latin music acts are reunited - to share a New York stage for the first time ever.

It's been more than 30 years since Tito Rojas performed with orchestra Puerto Rican Power prior to his going solo .

That changes on Saturday, Aug. 15, when Rojas, the self-styled "El Gallo Salsero" - the Salsa Rooster - is joined by special guests Puerto Rican Power, under the direction of Luisito Ayala, at the Lehman Center for the Performing Arts in the Bronx.

Born in Puerto Rico, the 60-year-old Rojas recorded his first album in the 1970's as a member of Pedro Conga y su Orquesta Internacional.

Rojas, who went on to sing with Conjunto Borincuba, then joined Puerto Rican Power as lead vocalist in 1983 and scored hits with salsa versions of the ballads "Noche de Boda" and "Quiereme Tal Como Soy" before he ventured out on his own a decade later.



[Tito Rojas set to perform at Lehman Center for the Performing Arts in the Bronx, Aug. 15](#)

Founded in the early 1970s by bassist Jesus (Chuy) Castro, Puerto Rican Power would sign with Fania Records and go on to accompany some of the biggest names in salsa, including Celia Cruz, Cheo Feliciano, Ismael Miranda and Hector Lavoe.

The band's November 2014 album, "Somos el Poder," features Rojas and other guest artists on the song, "Homenaje a Braulio."

Also on the bill is San Juan-born crooner Yan Collazo.

Lehman College/CUNY is at 250 Bedford Park Blvd. in the West Bronx.

Tickets are \$50-\$65; call 718-960-8833 or go to LehmanCenter.org.

SALSA MONTH IN THE BRONX

August has been (unofficially) deemed Salsa Month in the Bronx, with a series of performances, concerts, panel discussions and film screenings presented by WHEDco's Bronx Music Heritage Center (BMHC) throughout the month.

Included is "Mambo Diablo: My Journey with Tito Puente," a discussion with author Joe Conzo Sr. about the history of the Fania Records label.

The event, at BMHC Lab (1303 Louis Nine Blvd.) is on Friday, Aug. 14, at 6 p.m.

For info on other events, go to whedco.org

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