



CUBAN
BIGBAND



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MADRID

2025

CMQ
BIGBAND

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ABOUT

LUIS GUERRA

AND

THE BENY MORÉ PROJECT



Luis Guerra presents "CMQ Big Band," a project that brings together 17 Cuban and Spanish musicians to pay tribute to the music of Beny Moré, with special guest Lázaro Armenteros.

It was in Havana in the mid-1940s that Beny Moré, a peasant from Santa Isabel de las Lajas who had been trying to make his way in Havana for some time, became known through a contest on CMQ radio station. His name became synonymous with Cuban Music, and he is undoubtedly one of the most popular Cuban artists of all time.

The Genius of Beny Moré

The brilliance of Moré's work is attributed not only to his unmistakable voice and charisma but also to the excellent work of the musicians and arrangers who were part of his "Banda Gigante". People like Generoso Jiménez, Eduardo Cabrera, Joaquín Mendivel, Pedro Jústiz, and many others who remained anonymous were responsible for the innovative ideas and sophisticated harmonies that defined the "Beny Moré Sound ».

The Impact of 1959

The year 1959 brought significant changes to the Cuban music scene. With the nationalization of casinos, clubs, and private businesses in general, the thriving Big Band culture in Havana became almost extinct. The music performed by these orchestras gradually disappeared from the repertoire of the island's musicians. Many of these artists, given the new circumstances, decided to emigrate. Thus, most of the Cuban music written for the Big Band format was forgotten, including the famous arrangements that brought glory to the great Benny Moré's music.

The CMQ Big Band Revival

The CMQ Big Band brings back this wonderful sound. To achieve this, Luis Guerra has transcribed note by note, part by part, the arrangements of fifteen songs by the "Sonero Mayor" (Benny) from the original recordings.

To perform them, the "CMQ Big Band" was formed, consisting of 17 young virtuoso musicians, with Lázaro Armenteros, Moré's cousin, as the lead vocalist, singing with the depth and Cuban essence that only a blood tie can provide. This project brings to light the music of "El Sonero Mayor" in its original format and with its authentic arrangements, offering a unique opportunity to enjoy the golden age of Cuban music.



MEDIAS



<https://rfi.my/Azcj>

<https://www.jazzmagazine.com/les-news/jazz-live/biarritz-cmq-big-band-salsa-cubaine-du-demon/>



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https://youtube.com/@cmqbigband9036?si=ETym_-RM_ZYc9a0V



<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/14JDL9UZTGQW6BYFHIDCMN>



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