



JARANA BEAT

ANNENBERG CENTER DEBUT

There will not be an intermission.

Saturday, May 2 @ 8 PM

Prince Theatre

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Jarana Beat

“Mexico-via-Bronx combo Jarana Beat weaves intricate rhythms and delicate plucks with rich, yearning vocals to gorgeous and surprisingly jolly effect. Great stuff.” (*Time Out New York*)

Jarana Beat is a New York-based world music band, which since 2007, has aimed to share with a wider audience the unknown sounds of Mexico. It presents a new interpretation of music that blends the traditional with the contemporary, and how this bears fruit within a collective of artists in New York. The music is conscious, all original and deeply rooted; a combination of where Mexico’s Afro-Amerindian music came from and where it stands today. Having formed in Argentina as part of NYU’s 2007 Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics Encuentro, the band features a wide variety of traditional instruments, such as jaranas, leona, ayoyote shells and donkey jawbones. In addition, it features two, traditionally dressed dancers that interweave percussive footwork into the rhythms, creating dynamic performances in which the public can’t resist dancing.

Jarana Beat was featured on NPR’s *Latino USA* with Maria Hinojosa, in which reporter Willis Ryder Arnold graciously mentioned that “The audience dances like they can’t control themselves shuffling and rocking back and forth with grins plastered across their faces; Jarana Beat’s music cuts across all age groups.” “Listening to Jarana Beat you feel like part of the community, no matter what your background.”

In summer of 2013, Jarana Beat toured Mexico with a scaled-down version of the band in Veracruz (San Andres and Xalapa), Queretaro and Toluca. The band has also performed with artists such as Dan Zanes, Mono Blanco, Los Vega and Lila Downs, weaving a truly colorful journey through the Afro-Amerindian culture of Mexico. The rhythms of world music blending with the regional sounds of son jarocho from the Gulf Coast, son guerrerense from the Southern Pacific Coast, son huasteco from the Central & North-Eastern region, mexika from the Central, and norteña from the North, all converge into the point of departure for this musical creativity, opening an environment for expressing a unique musical amalgam.

The band released the album *¡Echupalante!* in 2011, and is currently working on its new production. Aside from performances, Jarana Beat is involved in additional projects including educational programs and cultural outreach. Through teaching and performing in venues such as Berklee College of Music, The Bowery Ballroom, Symphony Space and Dollywood’s Festival of Nations as well as an interview on NPR’s *Tell Me More* and an invite for an official showcase at SXSW 2012 in Austin, Jarana Beat weaves a truly colorful journey through the Afro-Amerindian culture of Mexico.

The band has released two singles from its newest work, *Vibración por Simpatía*, a meticulous compilation of 54 artists united in a symphony that expresses the sounds of a universal and ancestral Mexico. The recording explores the relations between relative cultures and folklore from different countries that historically shared the same roots, and that today meet in a new global and cosmopolitan scene.

With contagious charm and good vibes, this band can get any audience on its feet! Musical director Sinuhé Padilla-Isunza has mined the musical traditions of his native Mexico and other Latin American countries in an ongoing search for a distinct style with roots, resulting in the creation of this musical soundscape.