

Jose Gonzalez



Guitarist, composer and virtuoso Cuatro player,

Criollo Clásico Banda Criolla

Jose Gonzalez, is one of the foremost exponents of Puerto Rican / Latin music in the United States today. Acclaimed for his original compositions featuring "the Cuatro", (Puerto Rico's national instrument), his eight self-produced recordings have become bestsellers. His music has been featured in television and film productions by NBC, PBS, CNN, cable TV, as well as three Putumayo World Music collection CDs.



"Jose Gonzalez highlighted his musicality and virtuosism as a soloist with expressive phrasing and awesome technique!" – Jaime Torres Torres, El Nuevo Dia (University of Puerto Rico)



What the critics say

"One of the most beautiful concerts presented in San Juan in recent years! The genius of Gonzalez performing on our national instrument and as a musical director/arranger make this one of the most prestigious music ensembles of Puerto Rico."

Marisa Rosado President Casa Aboy Cultural Center/San Juan, Puerto Rico

"Our audience was enthralled by the beauty of your musical compositions. Your performance unquestionably ranks at the very top among the many events we have produced over the past 20 years." –Val Ramos - Yale College



"From the opening bars Criollo Clásico captured the enchanted audience of over 1,000 listeners complete and rapt attention. Jose, we adored hosting you!" Allison Myers, Director, Hill-Stead Museum, Farmington, CT

Please Call 413-253-9639

Available Programs

1. **Criollo Clásico** – Duo/Quartet - (acoustic / instrumental) Original compositions by Jose Gonzalez as well as Latin American, classical, pop and jazz music performed on Spanish guitars, Puerto Rican Cuatro, Flute and Latin Percussion.
2. **Banda Criolla** - (vocal / dance) 8-piece Latin band performing the songs of top Latino artists such as Santana, Juan Luis Guerra, Strunz and Farah, Buena Vista Social Club, Gypsy Kings and Banda Criolla.
3. **Workshops** - José Gonzalez, Criollo Clásico and Banda Criolla also offer workshops, lectures residencies and developmentally appropriate educational presentations designed for grade levels ranging from Kindergarten to University settings, museums, organizations and other educational institutions or groups. These performance events are designed to broaden people's cultural horizons and awareness of Puerto Rican Music, History, Art, Culture and Traditions.

Jose Gonzalez is a participating artist in the New England States Touring Program NEFA and the Massachusetts Touring Roster. Presenters (Universities, Libraries and Non-profit organizations) may be eligible to receive financial support for concerts and educational events and presentations. Call NEFA at (617)-951-0010 for info.

Promotional Materials

If you require promotional materials we will gladly provide you with any of the following:

- Promotional Brochures (just like this one or small B&W brochure)
- Sound requirements/Tech sheet
- 8 X 10 B&W promotional photographs
- Promotional CDs
- Press Release for media
- Promotional Posters



For further information please contact:

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monchi@massed.net



You may also visit our new website!
<http://members.tripod.com/~Lilor/index.htm>

About Jose Gonzalez and Banda Criolla



Guitarist, composer and virtuoso Cuatro player, *Jose Gonzalez*, is one of the foremost exponents of Puerto Rican / Latin music in the United States today. Acclaimed for his original compositions featuring "the Cuatro", (Puerto Rico's national instrument), his seven self-produced recordings have become bestsellers. His music has been featured in television and film productions by NBC, PBS, CNN, cable TV, as well as three *Putumayo World Music* collection CDs and on the new Bose Corp. CD *"World Music"*.

A graduate of the University of Puerto Rico, Jose has recorded and performed with major artists in the world of Latin popular music, (Libertad Lamarque, Sandro, Braulio, Danny Rivera, Andres Jimenez, Roy Brown, Wilkins, Giovanni Hidalgo and Ruben Blades). His vast musical experience includes performances in Mexico, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico, Martinique, Cuba, Curacao and the USA.

Jose has performed at:

1. Boston Fine Arts Museum
2. Berklee Performance Center
3. U-Mass, Bright Moments Festival
4. Chicago Arts and Science Museum
5. University of Puerto Rico
6. First Night Hartford '96, '97
7. Heineken Jazz Jam Series
8. Connecticut Classical Guitar Soc.
9. New Jersey Chamber Music Society

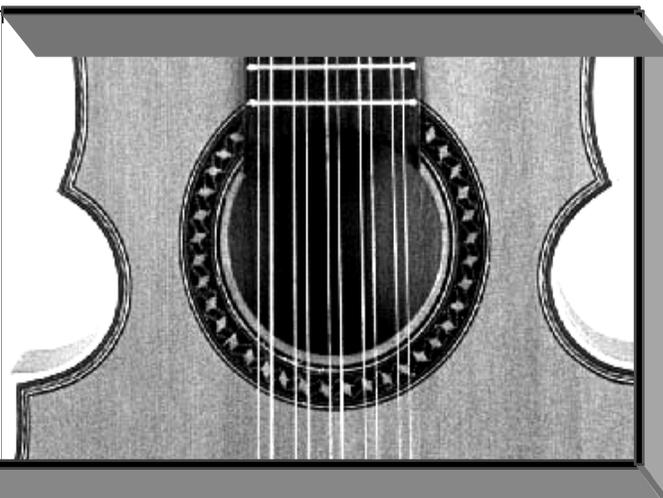


10. U-Conn, Hartford
11. Yale University, New Haven
12. Zoofari '96, '97, Utica NY
13. Hartford Symphony Orchestra
14. Puerto Rico Symphony Orchestra
15. World Guitar Festival, Martinique
16. Bronx Arts Ensemble, NYC
17. OAS (Washington, DC)
18. Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music

José is now introducing his new recording, **Banda Criolla/ "Bomba Le Lé"**. Featuring the contemporary dance rhythms of Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, the eight piece Latin band (Banda Criolla) performs an exotic mix of original compositions as well as the best of today's Latin / Caribbean music scene.

For information regarding, concerts, workshops, bookings and recordings please contact:

Jose González
26 The Hollow
Amherst, MA 01002-2721
(413) 253-9639
E-Mail: monchi@massed.net



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Our Music Catalog:

Criollo Clásico I:

"Some of the most lyrically beautiful music I've heard in some time.

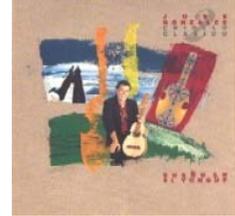
A flawless collection of instrumental gems"

- Lahri Bond – Dirty Linen Magazine



Criollo Clásico II – Sueño en el Yunque:

"...A wonderfully recorded and produced album, Gonzalez shines as both a player and a composer" -- Tom Mudd – Springfield Valley Advocate



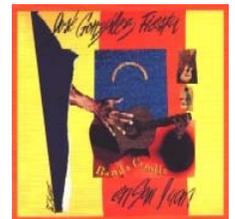
Criollo Clásico III – Fantasía Caribeña:

Highlighting Puerto Rico's national instrument, "the cuatro", Criollo Clásico III presents a collection of sound paintings inspired by places, events and musical styles from Puerto Rico and the Caribbean.



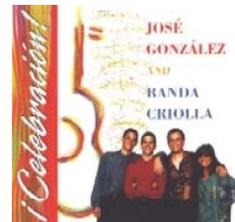
Jose Gonzalez and Banda Criolla - Fiesta en San Juan

San Juan is an enchanting city of contrasts between the old world and the new world, between North and South America, and between the restless energy of city life and the passive tranquility of Puerto Rico's beautiful mountain countryside. This tapestry of musical diversity is the main inspiration behind the concept that led to the composing of "Fiesta en San Juan". It is a collection of 16 years of musical experiences in San Juan.



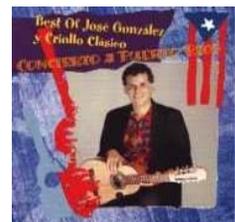
Jose Gonzalez and Banda Criolla - ¡Celebración!

A magnificent collage of nature, people, colors and sounds. "Celebración" is Banda Criolla's musical tribute to the festive sounds of Puerto Rico, Cuba and Santo Domingo. The rhythms of Salsa, Plena, Merengue, Rumba, Seis and Son are blended with "world" influences of Brazilian, Flamenco, jazz and rock beats to create this original collection of modern songs.



Best of Jose Gonzalez and Criollo Clásico – Concierto a Puerto Rico

In the late 1970's there began a musical renaissance in Puerto Rico that inspired many young musicians to rediscover their cultural roots. Adding to this native element came the inevitable allure of other sounds such as classical music, blues, pop, jazz, rock, Brazilian, folk and world music. As we step into a new century "Concierto a Puerto Rico" is heralding a bright future for Puerto Rico's national instrument El Cuatro.



Bomba Le Lé

A new generation of Puerto Rican musicians is leading traditional island rhythms into fresh musical territory. New bands, such as Banda Criolla, are experimenting with diverse world influences without leaving their authentic Puerto Rican roots behind. The world rhythms of Bomba, Jibaro, Salsa, Son, Flamenco, Samba, Bachata, Bolero, Jazz, and even Rock were all inspirational in creating these modern Latin songs.



All recordings are available by mail or phone order at our website.

Visit the Jose Gonzalez and Banda Criolla website:



<http://members.tripod.com/~Lilor/index.htm>