



*presents*

**music that grips the senses**  
**CLASSIC MEETS CUBA**

**KLAZZ BROTHERS & CUBA PERCUSSION**  
LIVE IN SINGAPORE - 12 SEPT 2005 - ESPLANADE THEATRE

**Havana**, a cultural melting pot: Three musicians from the Dresden Philharmonic, on their first tour of Cuba, meet two Cuban colleagues by pure chance. The three Germans were known as the Klazz Brothers while the two Cubans were the Cuba Percussion. Their styles got acquainted immediately after a spontaneous session amazed the five of how well their diverse musical styles complemented each other. They have since become a worldwide phenomenon with the release of two award-winning albums *Classic Meets Cuba* & *Jazz Meets Cuba* on Sony Classical & received a nomination in this year's Grammy Awards for *Best Classical Crossover Album*. In 2005, the group, accompanied by the Münchner Rundfunkorchester, released *Symphonic Salsa*, a breathtaking album which broadens the dialogue between Classic and Cuban music in a symphonic dimension. Their broad appeal to mainstream audiences is testified by their music being featured in the soundtrack of Hollywood blockbusters, *Collateral*, starring Tom Cruise and *Hitch*, starring Will Smith.

**Back in Singapore by popular demand ! Groove the night away to the Cuban-Salsa beat of KLAZZ BROTHERS & CUBA PERCUSSION as they make the classical-jazz audience swing and salsa audience dance.**

12 SEPT 2005, 8PM, ESPLANADE THEATRE

Tickets: \$38 \$58 \$78 \$98 \$118 from SISTIC starting 25 July 05 (prices exclude \$2 SISTIC fee)

Hotline: 6348 5555      [www.sistic.com.sg](http://www.sistic.com.sg)

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# KLAZZ BROTHERS & CUBA PERCUSSION

## **3 outstanding musicians from Germany**

TOBIAS FORSTER . KILIAN FORSTER . TIM HAHN

## **2 breathtaking percussionists from Cuba**

ALEXIS HERRERA . ESTEVEZ ELIO RODRIGUEZ LUIS

### *THE FASCINATION OF OPPOSITES (CLASSICAL - JAZZ - SALSA – CUBAN)*

Part I: The Klazz Brothers featuring Cuba Percussion get Mozart & Co. swinging with famous classical melodies combined with hot Cuban rhythms. The spontaneous improvisations and hot drum solos by these musicians are the purest rejuvenation of works by Mozart, Brahms, Beethoven, Schubert or Bach.

Part II: Timeless Jazz classics by Duke Ellington, George Gershwin, Miles Davis, Charlie Parker are charged up with hot Latin rhythms and earthy drum solos as these standards are rejuvenated with breathtaking energy.

What you are hearing is not a commercial conglomeration of different styles that was created but a spontaneous interaction of highly gifted musicians from different cultural environments complementing each other in a mysterious and fantastic way.

### *Concert appearances (excerpt)*

Munich Prinzregenttheater, Dresden Semperoper, Leipzig Gewandhaus,  
Bonn Beethovenhalle, Bremen Glocke, Berlin Komische Oper, Nuremberg Oper  
Halle Oper, MDR Musiksommer, Nordhessen Kultursommer, Rheingau Music Festival  
Schleswig Holstein Music Festival

### *Television performances*

ARD, ZDF, BR, MDR, Deutsche Welle, BR Alpha

### *Awards*

- + FIRST PLACE Amazon Classic Charts
- + 2003 ECHO KLASSIK AWARD in the *Classics Without Borders* category
- + 2003 JAZZ AWARD for the CD *Jazz Meets Cuba*
- + 2005 GRAMMY AWARD NOMINATION for *Best Classical Crossover Album*

# KLAZZ BROTHERS CLASSICAL JAZZ

Classical music goes jazz. This by no means involves the Klazz Brothers putting revered old classical masters in a jazzy sort of straitjacket. Their music 'swings' without denying its classical roots. It is no coincidence that all three musicians have an excellent classical training behind them.

For **Kilian Forster** and **Tobias Forster**, it was the early encounter with Leonard Bernstein, who often invited the brothers to work with him, that turned out to be a crucial experience. Today Kilian is solo bassist with the Dresden Philharmonic. The classical soloist, jazz musician, composer and conductor has long stopped distinguish the boundaries between serious and easy-listening music.

As a concert pianist, **Tobias Forster** not only devotes himself to playing music from Bach to Prokofiev, but particularly impresses with his jazz improvisations and his own compositions. Well-known jazz musicians such as Betty Carter, David Baker and Roby Lakatos have come to appreciate him as an innovative and versatile jazz pianist. In addition to his work as a composer, Tobias Forster is principal arranger of the production *Classic meets Cuba*.

**Tim Hahn** has been commuting between Europe and America since his student days, participating in numerous master classes. Concert tours with various ensembles took him all over Europe, to Canada, China and the USA. The drummer is in great demand, with one invitation for studio productions, concert tours and television appearances, after another and engagements by artists like José Carreras and Andrea Bocelli.

# CUBA PERCUSSION SALSA SON

Cuban music, with its great variety of rhythm and melody, its impulsive virtuosity and its folkloristic roots, has had a huge influence on dance, rhythm and the development of musical styles in the whole world. The unique phenomenon of Cuban music appears to be based on a simple secret: It draws its power and vitality from the contagious love of life of the Cubans themselves. And vice versa! Any doubts that may exist will disappear on being carried away by the rhythms of the two Cuban percussionists Alexis Herrera Estevez and Elio Rodriguez Luis.

The timbales player **Alexis Herrera Estevez** gave concerts with all sorts of jazz and salsa bands, including also with the legendary guitarist of the Buena Vista Social Club, Compay Segundo. Today he is a member of the Havana Ensemble, considered as one of the best and innovative Latin jazz ensembles in Cuba.

The conga player **Elio Rodriguez Luis**, also member of the Havana Ensemble, has demonstrated his spectacular feeling for rhythm in the course of numerous tours and concerts in Europe and America, together with musicians such as Arturo Sandoval and the 'King of the Timbales', Tito Puente.

## Discography



NEW RELEASE !  
SYMPHONIC SALSA  
OUT NOW

# PRESS COMMENTARY

Masterful - Gifted entertainers Heroes of 2004 - Jazz classics light up like fireworks - Music that grips the senses - Pure enjoyment from the first note - An absolute high point - Another brilliant arrangement from the Klazz Brothers - New synergistic bombshell combining the spontaneity of jazz with the richness of classic - Klazz is addictive - The guests were captured by the charm of the five, dancing along to the 'Salsa Hymn' - The eternal freshness of the exotic: son, samba, and salsa rhythms culminated in an orgiastic storm of drumming that made the audience go wild - Varied fireworks of percussion and melody, a rush of unimaginable sound registers and colours - What the percussion duo produced...at breathtaking tempos and crazy rhythmic clashes...brought out feelings somewhere between highest admiration and envy - Art of the Fugue, swinging Bach - the old Baroque master would certainly have enjoyed it - Parody, great music, comedy and masterful interpretation all in one: first class! - Bach, Beethoven and Schumann would have truly enjoyed the 'jazzification' of their works - A captivating listening experience of an incredible frequency range

## *Sources:*

Suddeutsche Zeitung - Hannoversche Allgemeine Zeitung - Abendzeitung - Jazzzeitung -  
Sächsische Zeitung - Stuttgarter Zeitung - Burghausener Nachrichten - Leipziger Volkszeitung -  
Passauer Neue Presse - Dresdner Neueste Nachrichten - Amazon Redaktion - Deutsche Welle