

SABERES ALTERNATIVOS: Music as Knowledge in the African Diaspora

FALL 2008



Latin American Studies Program

THIS SERIES HIGHLIGHTS some of the alternative means by which knowledge is produced and communicated through artistic expressions in the African Diaspora. The series responds to the politics of misrepresentation of black music and focuses on its extensive influences, significance, and cultural memory. Lecturers will give particular attention to the urban landscapes that shape these artistic expressions. To contextualize the concept of performing diaspora, speakers will incorporate musical performances into their lectures.

■ “Negra Música Urbana” (Black Urban Music)

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2008

6:30 PM Gore Recitation Hall

Reception will follow.

Keynote Lecture/Performance:
Dão. Musician and composer from
Salvador, Bahia (Brazil)

Lecture will be presented in Portuguese.
Translation to English by Dr. Cynthia
Schmidt-Cruz

Dão, an Afro-Brazilian singer and composer, is part of a new generation of musicians from Salvador, Bahia, the cradle of blackness in Brazil. His work represents the essence of original black music, with a strong influence of US soul, blues, funk, and rock and roll, as well as reggae and samba duro. He has performed with his band, Caravanablack, at several venues in Salvador and the state of Bahia, including Black Consciousness Week in 2006 and the anniversary of Salvador's foundation in 2007 and 2008.

■ “Cubana-Be, Cubana- Bop: Race and Rhythm in Afro-Latin Jazz”

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2008

6:30 PM Gore Recitation Hall

Reception will follow.

Charles Carson, Assistant Professor
Department of Music

■ “Favela Rising” International Film Series

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2008

7:30 PM Trabant Theatre

Q&A session with Jeff Zimbalist will follow.

Favela Rising (Jeff Zimbalist, director) depicts the development of the Afro-Reggae movement in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), created by Anderson Sá, a former drug-trafficker. Through hip-hop music, the rhythms of the street, and Afro-Brazilian dance, he rallies his community to counteract violent oppression enforced by teenage drug armies and sustained by corrupt police.

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