

Lidani

GARIFUNA

TIMES

PUNTA ROCK: THE INTRODUCTION OF PEN CAYETANO



In the Summer of 2001, Mohabob Flores revealed the story no one has been able to hear. Up until this day, the story of Punta Rock and its creator has been considered by many as a Myth.

Introduction by Jerry Castro, Jr.

Bio and Pictures by the Honorable Pen Cayetano

PUNTA ROCK INTRODUCTION

*P*unta Rock is a creation of Pen Cayetano in 1980, just as Belize former British Honduras was about to be independent. After playing with different bands and performing also in Mexico and Guatemala and learning about different cultures Cayetano realised that his people the Garifuna had their own strong roots. He also noticed that the Garifuna youth of Belize was losing their cultural foundations and he knew that they needed something to step with the time. That was in the early 80's. It was time for a change.

Pen experimented at his Art Studio at 5 Mohoroad in Dangriga with the Garifuna rhythms and different instruments and discovered the turtleshells as a percussion instrument. With a few friends including Mohobob Flores, Myme Martinez, Bernard Higinio, Peter Jeep Lewis, Faltas Nolberto and Calypso Lopez, he was practising his new sound when he got the idea of quickening the traditional Punta rhythm, adding the electric guitar and the turtleshells to it. Cayetano called the music Punta Rock and named the group "The Turtle Shell Band". The band started to perform by doing so called Roadblocks in Dangriga and later they moved to Belize City, where they performed in different clubs like the "Bunfire" and "Purple cup". The Turtle Shell Band took the Punta Rock out of Belize and spread the message across the Caribbean, Mexico and the USA. International recognition they gained in 1983 at the New Orleans Jazz Festival.

*T*he songs were written mostly in Garifuna language talking about the history, calling for pride and awareness of the culture and not losing it what means UWALA BUSIGANU. Some songs referring on the hardship of the Garifuna and their experience as well as love, joy and happiness. Pen Cayetano, popular known as the 'Küüing of Punta Rock' achieved numerous awards and citations in music and art. Various bands all over Belize and Honduras started to pick up the Punta Rock sound and from then on the music took a life of its own

Belizeans like most Caribbean people who have been devalued by centuries of colonial suppression, tend not to appreciate their own roots & culture. Pen Cayetano, recognised as one of Belize's most innovative artist and musician, found it necessary to move to Germany in 1990. In his new home he taught his kids in art & music and formed the familyband "The Cayetanos" in 1998 and started a new generation of Punta Rock music. He produced four musical recordings entitled "IN MI COUNTRY" (1994), "SWEET AFRICA" (1996), "PUNTA ROCK" (2000), "THE BEGINNING" (2001). It is a fact, that Punta Rock is a force in the process of developing cultural awareness and strengthening national identity in Belize for all ethnic. Punta Rock is worldmusic.

*P*en Cayetano was born 1954 in Dangriga in the southern part of Belize - former British Honduras. He is a self-taught painter & musician. As early as in Primary school he showed interest in art & music. Growing up he studied the culture of the Garifuna and the Creole. He was painting and doing music at Pen's Art Studio at 5 Moho Road in Dangriga, until he moved in 1987 in his new Studio at 74 St. Vincentstreet. His favourite medium is oil on canvas. Cayetano met and studied with fellow artist Benjamin Nicholas and Master Drummer Isabel Flores both Garifuna. They did several exhibitions and musical shows together.

*A*s an Ambassador of Art & Music Pen Cayetano did also many exhibitions in the USA and finally in 1990 he moved his studio to Ahrhuthstraße 8 in Ahrweiler, Germany, where he lives with his family. In Germany he became a member of the ARE - Gilde, a forty year art league. He is also a member of the GEMA and Bildkunst. Cayetano continues to portray the Garifuna culture and paints also landscape of his new adopted home in Germany. His paintings were shown in several exhibitions in Germany, Hong Kong, Austria, Switzerland, England and the USA. At least once a year he travels to Belize to present his new Art & Music.

AWARDS

- 1986** : Citation from the National Garifuna Council of Belize for outstanding contribution in the field of Culture and Music
- 1996** : Citation from Belize College of Arts, Science and Technology for outstanding contribution in the development of Belize
- 2000** : Award from DaYabra Entertainment Los Angeles for Outstanding Leadership in Creativity, Music and Art
- 2001** : Nomination for Scholars & Artists in Residence in St. Vincent by the University of the West Indies

The contents of this biography, Pen Cayetano picture and Turtle Shell Band painting was obtained from Pen Cayetano's Website:
www.cayetano.de



PEN CAYETANO, PUNTA ROCK CREATOR
LIGATIMA@UREACH.COM

PHOTO OBTAINED FROM PEN CAYETANO'S WEBSITE: WWW.CAYETANO.DE

LIDANI GARIFUNA TIMES MAGAZINE

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THE rEsEaRcH oF pEn CaYeTaNo

By JeRrY cAsTrO, jR., eDiToR

PEN CREATED PUNTA ROCK TO REGAIN THE YOUTH FROM THE INFLUENCE YOUNG GARINAGU WERE HAVING DUE TO THE MIGRATION OF THEIR PARENTS. BUT NOW IS THE NATIONAL MUSIC OF TWO NATIONS: HONDURAS AND BELIZE.

I have not personally met him, but I see him in the clubs downtown Manhattan, Black and White social club in the Bronx and numerous places around the world.

I have not attended his concerts, but I hear him through the tunes of J-Love (James Lovell), Day-Ann, Jimmy "Suave" Suazo, GNG, Garifuna Legacy and Rebels.

*W*e have spoken a few times, thanks to the specials of pre-paid telephone cards. And honestly, it was an honor to speak to the man who virtually created what Banda Blanca took credits for in the early 1990's. It was an honor to conversate to the base of the Legacy's, Fernandez', Rebels' Garifuna Stars' and those who are the fruit of the seed planted at 5 Moho Place in Dangriga. But the question I was asked is, how did I came about finding the Garifuna version of George Washington Carver, Little Richard and RUN DMC?

It is a question I have yet not been able to answer because I am still dreaming.

*M*ohabob Flores, an original member of the Original TurtleShell Band, let it all out in Waporu in the Bronx at around 6 PM on a Friday while the lazy sun was hiding behind the evening clouds last summer. He told a group of young men about the creator, many whom consider it to be "God", but to me then and now, my God have been Pen Cayetano while I praise the religion of Punta Rock. He spoke about the beginning, that afternoon in Dandriga in his Art Studio, it was a story that no one wants to end, because there was so much into it, that no one wanted to live. After his speech, he gave the contact on how to reach and speak to Pen. To which I did from my office in Harlem.

*S*ince the summer of 2001 until today, I have learned a lot about what happened in Dangriga. Mohabob was in the United States during the month of April, but was not able to meet him because of the many projects we are currently working on. Lidani felt obligated in bringin out this introduction due to the fact that our youth now is fading from our culture by replacing it with P. Diddy, Rocawears and J-Los.

*P*en Cayetano, Mohobob Flores, Myme Martinez, Bernard Higinio, Peter Jeep Lewis, Faltas Nolberto and Calypso Lopez contributing in preserving the culture in the 20th century. With all the changes at hand in technology, communications, way of life and cultural self esteem, who will lead Garinagu, especially the youth, in maintaining what Joseph Chatoyer died for against the British in the 21st century?

TO BE CONTINUED IN PART II



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THE FIGHT IS ON

OAGANIC A NICARAGUAN ORGANIZATION IS FIGHTING TO SAVE THE GARIFUNA CULTURE IN NICARAGUA.

This interview was conducted by Bluefieldspulse.com

Uniting The Caribbean Coast Of Nicaragua At Home And Abroad

Kemsey Sambola is the president of OAGANIC (organización Afro_Garifuna Nicaraguense) an organization working to restore the Garifuna culture on the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua. Bluefieldspulse is delighted to have had the opportunity to sit down with Ms. Sambola for a brief interview. In our interview with Kemsey we learned like so many others when it comes to the Black culture on the coast no one cares to lend a hand. People like these are truly heroes since they all work as volunteers and do not get a salary for the work they do.

Pulse: Ms. Sambola, where are you from?

Kemtsy: Orinoco

Pulse: What is the purpose of your organization?

Kemtsy: The purpose of OAGANIC is to rescue the Garifuna culture here on the Caribbean coast and to bring some type of development to our community.

Pulse: Are you receiving any type of aid from the government to help you in your effort?

Kemtsy: No

Pulse: Does the government show any interest in helping you?

Kemtsy: No, I don't think they care much about the coast to try to help us out.

Pulse: Have you tried soliciting any aid?

Kemtsy: Yes but The ministry of culture said that he can only help us out with human resources.

Pulse: What did he meant by that?

Kemtsy: I don't know.

Pulse: Any help from foreign organizations?

Kemtsy: Yes, EPN from Norway.

Pulse: How many people make up the body of your organization?

Kemtsy: Twelve, all from the different communities.

Pulse: Do you have a dance group?

Kemtsy: Yes, there are three dance groups. One is from ages 6 -12 and the others are 13 and up.

Pulse: What are the names of these groups?

Kemtsy: We have the Ruguma, The Orinoco dancing group and the children dancing group.

Pulse: Has any of your dancing group travel to perform abroad?

Kemtsy: No.

Pulse: Would you like the opportunity to take your groups abroad to showcase your culture?

Kemtsy: Yes, we would definitely like to exchange our culture with the world.

Pulse: Do you have any ties with the Garifuna groups in Honduras and Belize?

Kemtsy: Yes, not only Honduras and Belize but also Guatemala.

Pulse: Kemtsy, what is the living condition in your community?

Kemtsy: Only the community of Orinoco has a complete primary and secondary school. The population in Orinoco is around 1,600. the other communities are smaller. La Fe has about 150 people with no school. San Vicente is another small community with no school because the government don't pay the teachers to teach. This is why most of the people leave the communities to come to Bluefields so that their kids can get a better education.

Pulse: What about the lighting system?

Kemtsy: Only Orinoco has a generator and the community must supply the diesel, when we can't supply the diesel we go without light.

Pulse: Kemtsy, is one of your goal to change this situation?

Kemtsy: Yes.

Pulse: How do you think you can accomplish this?

Kemtsy: By helping the kids get a better education and hope that they will give back to the community once their education is completed. So, it is very important for OAGANIC to exist.

Pulse: How was OAGANIC founded?

Kemtsy: The university of Uraacan asked the community to choose a project they would like to implement in the community and the people chose the rescuing of their culture.

Pulse: Kemtsy thank you so much for your time.



Members of OAGANIC and a music band
(photo by OAGANIC)



Kemsey Sambola, OAGANIC President
(photo by blufieldpulse.com)



OAGANIC members traveling to the Garifuna community in Orinoco (photo by OAGANIC)

LIDANI GARIFUNA TIMES MAGAZINE AND ITS SUPPORTERS ENCOURAGES ITS READERS TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAUSE OF SAVING THE GARIFUNA COMMUNITY IN NICARAGUA. YOU CAN CONTACT OAGANIC VIA EMAIL AT:

oaganic@adephca.org.ni



A TRIBUTE TO GARIFUNA PROFESSIONALS

BY DR. THEODORE ARRANDA

Garifuna Excellence It is propitious to begin the commemoration of the travail of our ancestors, their expulsion from their home, Yurumein, their being dumped on the shores of Honduras and now their survival throughout the Diaspora of: Honduras Nicaragua Guatemala Belize United States of America Yurumein

It is most propitious to give tribute to their descendants, no longer in the precarious circumstances our ancestors were in, but now to their Professional Descendants. If it were easy to do, their achieving professional status would simply be a logical consequence.

However, Garinagu made it in the face of hardship, in the face of rejection, in the face of ethnic and social discrimination in the face of being numerical minority.

When we were dumped in Honduras we couldn't and didn't seek refugee status. Some of us in the diaspora are still not counted in national census as is the case till very lately in Guatemala and Nicaragua. When in the early 1990's I asked the then-Minister of Health, Dr. Cesar Castellanos, to go meet and see the condition of Garinagu on the northern coast of Honduras he answered unashamedly, that there was nothing to see there. Dr. Ernesto Salmeron, the then-Minister of Health in Nicaragua didn't even know of Garinagu in Nicaragua.

Here, in Belize, when I was constructing this Monument, Chüülühadiwa Garinagu, a very high official was disgusted with my putting time and effort into recounting the history and travails of Garinagu because he stated that from his childhood he only saw Garifuna women sleeping at the market in Belize City and in the boats on Fore Shore from where they would bring their baskets on their heads to sell cassava and starch from house to house on the streets of Belize City. As far as he was concerned, that's all there was to Garinagu.

Our people live in extreme isolation in Bluefields and Orinoco in Nicaragua. We suffer severe material poverty in Livingston of Guatemala and in Greggs and Sandy Bay in Yurumein. We know material poverty We know rejection We know hardship But poverty is not the lack of money. It is the emptiness of spirit and Garinagu are full of spirit. That's why we are rising That's why we are transforming That's why we are excelling.

It is out of the ashes of travail suffering and slaughter that Garifuna is transformed to Glory and beauty. Garifuna is born into physical strength, nurtured in independent spirit, cultivated into fighting and overcoming odds. That is the Garifuna legacy. That is the Garifuna culture. And by any and all definition That is Excellence —————

—Garifuna Excellence.

Belize has enforceable rights through its enforced Constitution. Know those rights and exercise them and let everyone know that you will exercise them.

You are all professionals. Know your profession Do your job competently and be ready and willing to share.

The other day, I went to a bank when I ran into a very competent and polite teller - - a rather beautiful Garifuna young lady. In the course of our conversation, I urged her to learn what banks are about, to stay on her job and to know and do her job well. She stated willingness to do so except that opportunities for improvement and further training were very limited. I then told her that knowing her job, staying on it and doing it competently are the qualifications for promotion and further training. Furthermore, they are the attributes for self-confidence, security and self-assertiveness. Greater opportunities follow naturally, I said, and we need competent and professional Garifuna bankers. Promotion and further training are available only to those who are on the job. When in early 1990's, when I was Minister of Health, Belize needed medical specialists. I pushed for and developed a program of bringing in Cuban specialists while Belizean general practitioners were sent out for specialization. Except for Dr. Claudina Cayetano, there was no Garifuna physician.

There just were no Garifuna bodies to send out for further training and specialization. This was one time when Garinagu were being sought out for further training and opportunities. But none was available.

But in everyday life, please, do not expect or wait for anything to be given to you. Please, do not claim good will or preferential treatment from anyone. Just be ready and be there prepared for opportunities to embrace them because if you are not - - they will just pass by. You will achieve, You will get what you deserve. And for God's sake - - Keep it.

This tribute is to thank you for what you have done and to show you our appreciation. We have confidence in your doing your duties. Carry the banner of Garifuna excellence throughout the Diaspora and give solace and hope everywhere. - - in and out of Belize. Show your children the amplitude of opportunities to choose from. Lamentation and complaint about them won't make it. Complaints and punishment won't correct early pregnancies, they won't stop search for and use of drugs, alcohol and cigarettes included.

Precepts and good examples are always the best teachers

Show them: Honourable Professions Respectable jobs In-bred respect.

Show them: Garifuna Excellence

Our Belizean ancestor did survival farming, fishing-for-the-pot and immediate survival. But you are doing Medicine Law Agriculture The Arts

When Simeon Sampson is the best defence lawyer in Belize - - that's Garifuna Excellence

When Osmon Peter Martin is the first Belizean Catholic Bishop - - that's Garifuna Excellence When Punta Rock is the musical identity of Belize - - that's Garifuna Excellence

When Chüülüühadiwa Garinagu is the only Monument celebrating a people in Belize - - that's Garifuna Excellence When we celebrate our professional achievement and pay tribute to our professionals That's Garifuna Excellence. You have made it all possible. Pass on the torch and a few years from here, your children will be much better.

Dr. Arranda is a member of the World Garifuna Organization and is the Paramount Chief of the Garifuna People.

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THE GARIFUNA VOTE 2002

THE RACE FOR GOVERNOR IN NEW YORK



Carl McCall, the first African-American elected to statewide office in New York State, was re-elected to his second term as Comptroller of the State of New York on November 2, 1998. He received 2.9 million votes, more than any other statewide candidate, and carried 45 counties across New York.

Carl McCall was one of six children raised by his mother, a single parent on welfare. He graduated from Dartmouth College, and attended Newton Theological School and the University of Edinburgh

Carl has had a long and distinguished career in both the public and private sectors. He was a vice president of Citicorp for eight years, and served as the President of the New York City Board of Education. He also served as an ambassador to the United Nations, Commissioner of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Commissioner of the New York State Division of Human Rights, and was elected to three terms as New York State Senator.

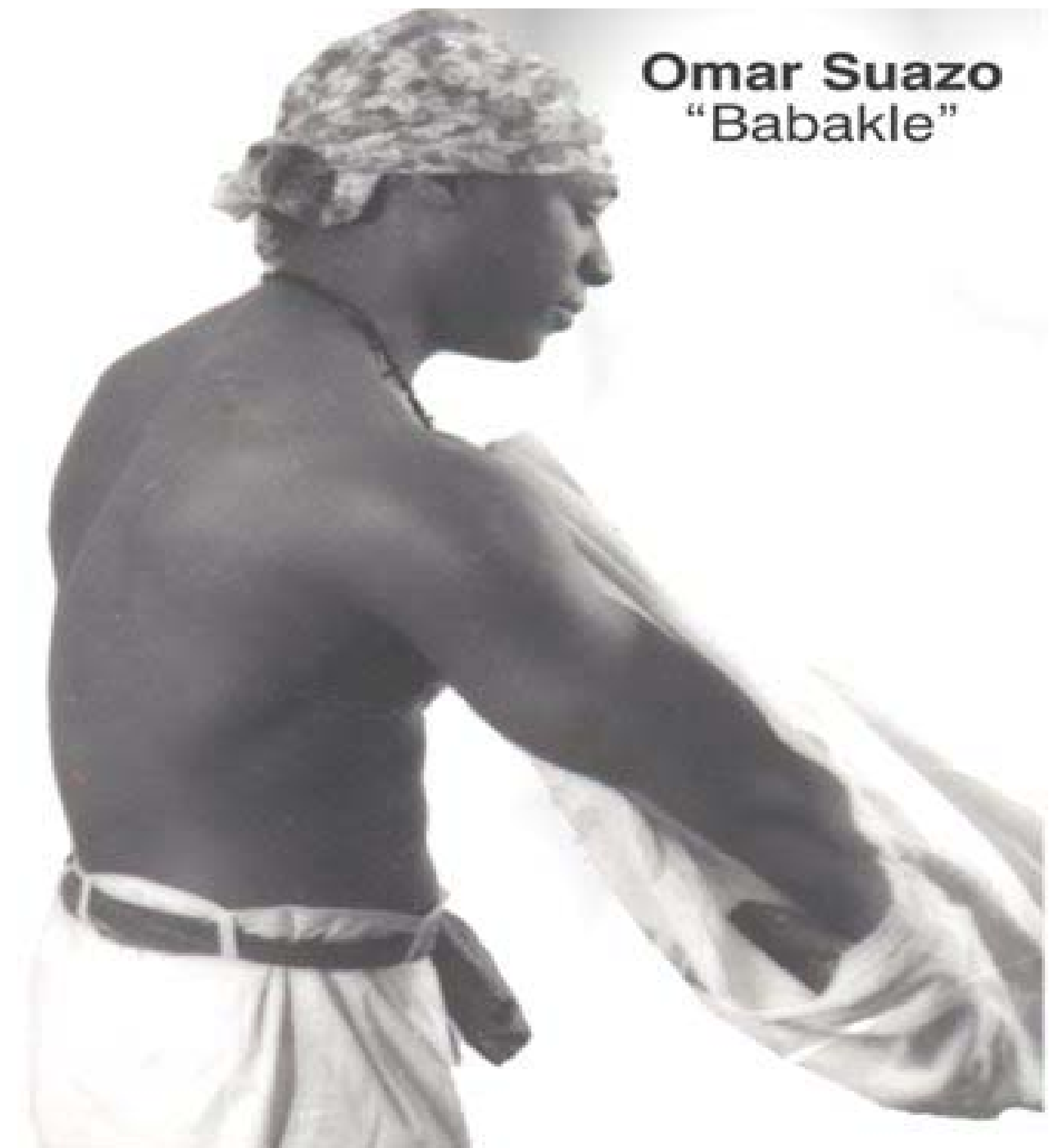
As Comptroller, Carl McCall has successfully sued the Governor twice to stop illegal raids on the State Pension Fund. He has also led the fight to provide a permanent cost of living increase for retirees from public service in New York.

As the sole fiduciary of the State and local retirement systems, Comptroller McCall has overseen the growth of the State pension fund from \$56 billion when he first took office to more than \$112 billion today. Carl has more pension investment responsibility than any other single individual in the United States.

A life-long advocate for education, Comptroller McCall led the fight for restoration of budget cuts to New York's public university system. He has received numerous awards and honors for his work to reform government and to improve educational opportunities for young New Yorkers.

He is married to Dr. Joyce Brown, president of the State University of New York's Fashion Institute of Technology, and has a daughter, Marci McCall.

The biography and picture of Mr. McCall was obtained from his campaign website: <http://www.mccall02.org/html/home.shtml>



Omar Suazo "Babakle"

WWW.BABAKLE.COM
LOG ON TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THIS YOUNG
GARIFUNA ARTIST.

ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

ENTERTAINMENT NOTICES AND NEWS

LIDANI GARIFUNA TIMES MAGAZINE TOP 10

JAMES LOVELL WILL PERFORM FOR BROOKLYN BOROUGH PRESIDENT AND AT LINCOLN CENTER IN NEW YORK

New York, NY

Garifuna artist and the Prince of Punta Rock, James Lovell, will have two important performances in New York City. The first will be for Brooklyn Borough President, Marty Markowitz. "I feel good that this is happening which will promote Punta Rock and put the movement in a nother level" said Mr. Lovell who is also a school teacher under the Board of Education.

His second performance will be hel at Lincoln Center on Broadway. This will feature Garinagu artists from the city and also Garifuna International Band.

The performances are as follow:

July 10th at Brooklyn Borough Hall which will begin 12 PM

(This event will be for one hour and it will be hosted by the Brooklyn Borough President himself.)

The second event will be held at Lincoln Center in West Broadway on July 18th, 2002 beginning at 6 pm. For more information, contact Punta Rock Records at: puntarockrecords@hotmail.com

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE, DO NOT FORGET TO CHECK THE LIDANI CALENDAR

ARTISTS / BANDS

1. **Pen Cayetano & the Original Turtle Shell Band** *THE BEGINNING* Featuring *Mohabob Flores, Myme Martinez, Bernard Higgins, Faltas Nolberto and Peter Jeep Lewis*

2. **PARANDA: AFRICA IN CENTRAL EMERICA** Featuring *Pali Nabor, Lugua Centeno, Aurelio Martinez, Andy Pallacios, Sidu and more.*

3. **Aziatic**

4. **Jimmy Suazo / James Lovell**

5. **Paula Castillo**

6. **Garifuna Legacy / Fernandez Band**

7. **Grigga Boyz Featuring Aziatic**

8. **DJ Mulato Punta Remix (2002)**

9. **Punta Rebels**

10. **UREMU: The collection of Garifuna songs**

Bands to watch out for: **Garifuna New Generation (GNG), Remolino, Garifuna Kids and J-Kids**

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**THE
RHYTHM
IS IN THE DRUM**

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LIDANI SPORTS

THE 'PARANDEROS' OF GARIFUNA SOCCER

By Jerry Castro, Jr.

Pictures obtained from google.com

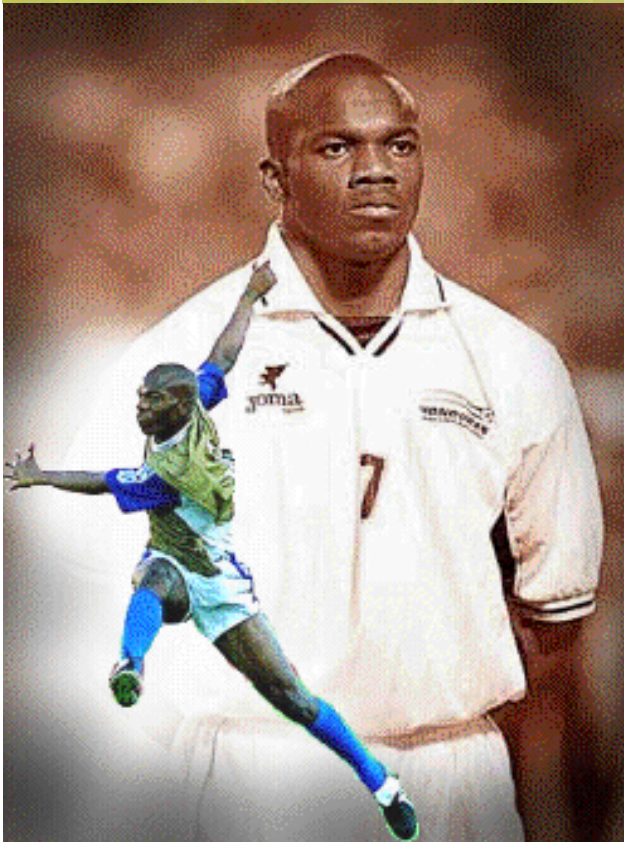
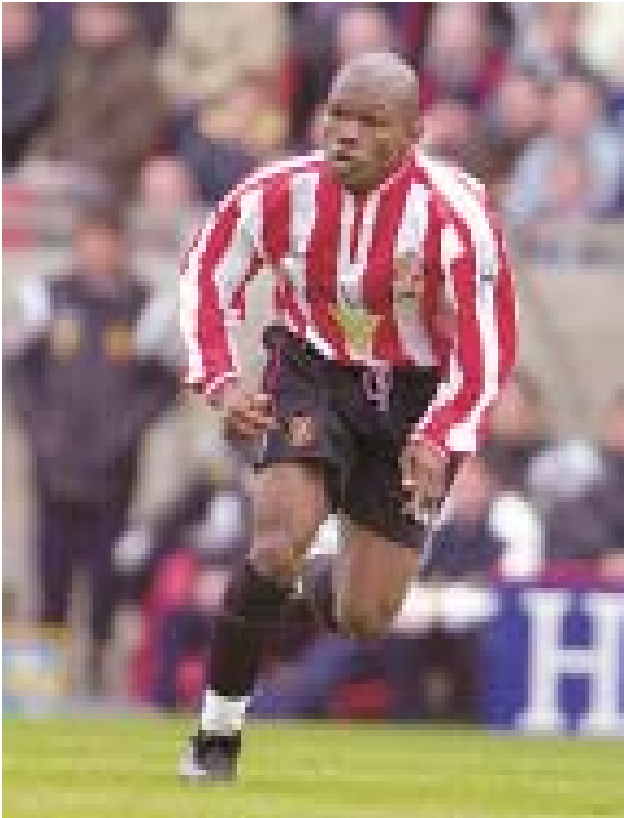
Congratulations to Brazil in their 5th World Cup Championship. But lets be real about something here. Costa Rica cannot mess with Brazil, but Honduras can. Remember what happened in Copa America in Colombia when Saul Martinez stormed in the tournament like U.S. Special Forces on Tora Bora? Brazil would have had a headache if Honduras would have qualified and belonged to the group they were in. Mainly because Tyson Nunez, considered to be the best set up man in Latin America, David Suazo and Saul Martinez, would have crippled the legs of Ronaldo and make an Oscar winner out Rivaldo.

But can Honduras, with the **JUDUTU CREW** make it to Germany in 2006? Yes, they can and they will. These guys have some unfinished business and must accomplish their - our- dream of participating in events of this magnitud. Yes we believe that they can make it, with one exception: that they fire "El Primitivo" because of the fear that he may not put my man David to play the qualifying game. I seriously encourage the Honduran Soccer Federation to hire Bora Milutinovic and have eat some Alabundiga with Gulilawaru in the coasts of Trujillo (home of Tyson Nunez), or allow Phil Jackson to spread the ZEN philosophy in coaching them.

Being a Labugana may seem odd to many of my cheers to the Honduran Soccer team. It is not that they are Honduran, but Garinagu who listens to Punta, Paranda and Aurelio. I cheer for this guys because they have taken our culture into new heights (I spoke to Tyson Nunez few months ago and he revealed that during the game against the U.S. where Honduras won, they confused the Americans while talking to themselves in Garifuna. I simply hope that Dubya don't choke, declare war or an Embargo when reads this).

We, the Garifuna people, will be looking forward to Germany in 2006. In a conversation with Ronnie, I told him that I was ready, alongside a group Garinagu, to go Korea if Primitivo would have allowed David to play against Mexico and wake Montesuma from his grave because Tyson, Saul and David were ready to take us to Korea 2002.

Clockwise: Milton "Tyson" Nunez (Top). David Suazo and Saul "the special force" Martinez below.



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Dear friends:

We want to take this opportunity and welcome you to our family, Lidani Garifuna Times Family. Our purpose simply relies in providing you with information regarding the concerns of the Garinagu in any part of the world. In addition, we would also like to be part of your celebrations and defeats.

In the 205th year Anniversary of Garifuna Heritage, we are more than glad to bring this magazine out. It was our mission to which we will make our tradition.

I want to emphasize that the work done here it is solely to benefit those who are in need of a Garifuna medium; those who are in need of services and those who want to give a story that everyone wants to know about.

I want to thank Ronnie for the work (behind the scenes) that he was involved in. OAGANIC, for allowing us to become a part of the struggle in putting them as a highlight of Lidani's worthy cause. The artists: James, Jimmy, GNG, Aziatic, Andy P, Aurelio, The Creator (Pen) and all the DJ's who have allowed us to give the flyers.

Finally, I want to congratulate the graduating class of 2002. From the very smallest to the Bachelor's, Masters and PH.D's. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

Thank you all and we invite you get the copy of our next publication.

Serenmein,
Jerry Castro, Jr.

NEXT ISSUE

GARINAGU VICTIMS OF 9/11
HONDURAN NATIONAL DAY PARADE IN NY
LIDANI EXCLUSIVE:
A LOOK AT THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO
ADVOCATE
FOR GARIFUNA RIGHTS
LABUGA'S CELEBRATION OF 200 YEARS OF
GARINAGU PRESENCE
PUNTA ROCK IN THE 21ST MILLENNIUM
YOUR WAY INTO HOUSING COURT
BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT, ADOLFO
CARRION ADDRESS ON 205
AND MORE.

CREDITS:

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H. Carl McCall's Biography and photo was obtained from Mr. McCall's mentioned website.

Omar Suazo's "BABAKLE" poster was provided and used with permission of Mr. Suazo

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