

Grammy-Nominated Music Trio DLG to Highlight Latino Inaugural Celebration Ball

Entertainment 2009-01-15 13:18:38

Washington, DC – 2009 Grammy-nominated salsa trio DLG has been named to perform at the 2009 Latino Inaugural Celebration Ball on January 20 at the Organization of the American States world headquarters. The Latino Inaugural Celebration will be hosted by Teresa Rodriguez, Univision Correspondent and Host of “Aqui y Ahora,” and will feature a star line-up of “who’s who” among the nation’s leading Latino politicians, elites, and Congressional Hispanic Caucus members.

DLG (Dark Latin Groove) is an innovative band that mixes salsa, reggae, reggaeton, bachata and hip-hop. The band has gone through several incarnations and recently relaunched with new members Miss YaYa, James da Barba and Ness after a nine-year hiatus. *Renacer*, DLG’s current album has been nominated for the 2009 Grammy Award Best Tropical Album category.

“Performing at the Latino Inaugural Ball as the evening’s only Latin urban group is an extreme honor for us, we are excited at the possibilities of performing for President Obama” said Miss YaYa. “We are the people’s music and this is the people’s event, our music will serve to celebrate the next generation of Latinos,” said James da Barba.

The group is the creation of 36 year-old Sergio George, who came to prominence arranging chart-topping salsa arrangements for crooners La India (Dicen Que Soy), Marc Anthony (Todo a su Tiempo), and Tito Nieves (I Like It Like That). Sergio’s brainchild was to create a band of dark-skinned Latino singers and usher in a fusion of salsa and reggae. Through a talent search, discovered singer rapper James “Da’ Barba” De Jesús, and Wilfredo “Fragancia” Crispin. The lineup was set with a core of young musicians including Papo Pepin (congas), Rubén Rodríguez (bass), and Luis Bonilla (trombone).

DLG’s first album, *Dark Latin Groove*, became an immediate success and entered Billboard’s Top Latin Albums chart and the top ten on the magazine’s Tropical/Salsa albums list. Capping off the successful debut, the group earned a Grammy Award nomination for Best Tropical Latin performance and a nomination as Best New Tropical and Salsa Artist for the *Premio Lo Nuestro* award.

Their sophomore release, *Swing On*, peaked at number two on *Billboard*’s Tropical/Salsa chart and number fourteen on its Top Latin Albums chart. The album also won DLG the *Billboard* Latin Music Award for Album of the Year by a tropical or salsa group. The group repeated that feat with its third release, *Gotcha*, which was released in 1999 and quickly entered the top ten on the *Billboard* top Latin Albums chart. The album also earned DLG another Grammy Award nomination for Best Tropical Latin performance.

The Latino Inaugural Celebration is being organized by representatives from national and local community based grassroots organizations, former campaign organizers, as well as the Latinos in Information Sciences and Technology Association, U.S. Hispanic Leadership Institute (USHLI), The CasaBlanca Project and Latinas Unidas for Obama.

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WHEN : 2009-01-15 13:18:38

WHERE :

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