



Hot News from the Oxnard Salsa Festival!

May 11, 2016

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Oxnard Salsa Festival Announces Entertainment Line-up for the 23rd Annual Event

Oxnard, CA – The City of Oxnard spices up the summer season with the 23rd Annual Oxnard Salsa Festival held in downtown Oxnard July 30-31, 2016. The annual celebration takes place at Plaza Park, Fifth and 'B' Streets from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. both days and celebrates everything salsa....the food, the music and the dance!

The fun begins with a special Friday Night Concert featuring Cecilia Noel, a passionate, flamboyant and exotic singer & performer, originally from Lima, Peru. Noel and her crew, 'The Wild Clams' combine the elements of salsa, soul, jazz, funk and afro-cuban music that deliver an infectious Latin sound that takes on 80's classic rock 'n roll hits. The band received acclaim for their explosive live shows performing in a variety of venues throughout Los Angeles including the House of Blues and the Playboy Jazz Festival. In addition, Noel released 'A Gozar!' (Compass Records), an infectious set of playful 'salsoul' grooves for which Noel is known for and which earned her a spot on Putumayo's critically acclaimed Latin Party release in 2010. Noel also performs and records with husband and former 'Men at Work' front man, Colin Hay. General adult admission is \$15 and \$20 at the gate. A table seating six is available for \$120.

The musical entertainment runs continuously throughout Salsa Festival weekend featuring fiery and electric bands that are sure to move visitors to their feet! The main stage band line up for the weekend is as follows:

Saturday, July 30, 2016

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Lily Hernandez y Su Orquesta

Chino Espinoza y Los Duenos Del Son

Richardo Lemvo & Makina Loca

Sunday, July 31, 2016

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

4:45 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Conjunto Afro Son

Son Mayor

Orquesta Tabaco y Ron

Lily Hernandez y Su Orquesta ignites the festival with its high energy band starting at 11 a.m. A Cuban singer of Camagueyan origin, Lily Hernandez was discovered by Calixto Oviedo while listening to a demo she had recorded. A few years later, her career quickly developed and included performances at jazz festivals in Spain, Austria, Germany, Sweden, Italy and the U.S. She was nominated for a Latin Grammy for her participation on the CD, Raul Lara y Sus Soneros while also receiving honors from Salsa stars of Puerto Rico and New York City. Hernandez sings son, salsa, timba, bossa and is known for her unique and powerful energy. She currently is working with Latin Train, La Sonora Clasica and other Los Angeles based bands.

The fiery entertainment continues with one of the most sought-after Salsa Orchestras in Los Angeles, **Chino Espinoza y Los Duenos Del Son**, playing from 2 pm to 4 pm. Lead singer, Chino Espinoza has been featured on many recordings including Bobby Rivas, Bolivia, Mojaditicos, Pete Escobedo, Bette Midler and many more. For years, he was the lead singer for the Los Angeles based Orchestra Son Mayor. He has also been privileged to work with top musical artists as well as acting in many productions, with his most recent appearance in the PBS series, 'An American Families, where he acted along with Edward James Olmos and Raquel Welch. He has also done a variety of TV commercial work including the very popular Dr. Pepper commercial with Mexican artist, Thalia. In addition, k Dimelo! Records recently released his newest album, 'Maria', which is receiving rave reviews from Salsa fans.

Finishing out Saturday's lineup at 4:45 p.m. is **Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca**. Ricardo Lemvo has established himself as a pioneer with his innovative music blending Afro-Cuban rhythms with pan-African styles described by the Los Angeles Times as 'seamless and infectious'. Since forming his Los Angeles-based band, Makina Loca in 1990, he has refined his craft and vision, raising his joyous voice with strength and singing songs that celebrate life while inspiring his audiences to let loose and dance their worries away! Lemvo has released five CD's in addition appearing on many radio and television programs including BBC Radio, National Public Radio, CBS Sunday Morning, NBC Today Show, CNN World Beat and many more.

Conjunto Afro Son fires up the action on Sunday at 11 a.m. Conjunto Afro-Son, based in Los Angeles, is a collaboration of seven talented musicians hailing from different parts of North, Central and South America. Their lifelong musical inspirations are such salsa pioneers as Conjunto Libre, Johnny Pacheco, Pete 'Conde' Rodriguez, Hector Casanova and Willie Colon. Led by Bobby Escoto, this premier salsa band is filled with high energy and amazing sounds.

The entertainment continues with one of the most sought-after Latin bands in Los Angeles, **Son Mayor**, playing from 2 pm to 4 pm. With its unmistakable vintage and contemporary Cuban sounds, Son Mayor easily captivates people from all walks of life, filling the souls of those who seek expression through artistic movement. The high-energy band plays for numerous corporate events and special occasions including well-known salsa clubs scattered throughout southern California. Son Mayor began approximately 18 years ago when a young teen named Eddy Ortiz heard the sounds of Oscar D'leon for the first time on the radio, which changed the course of his musical career forever. The multi-talented and versatile musicians who comprise Son Mayor bring innovative and diverse sounds to the stage.

Closing out Sunday, Festival goers can enjoy the sizzling salsa sounds of **Orquesta Tabaco y Ron**, a southern California favorite who perform 4:45 pm to 6:45 pm. This 10-piece group is led by producer and pianist Hector Manuel Rivera and lead vocalist Martin Padilla. This exciting 'big band' orchestra has recorded four studio albums, a remix production and multiple compilations exclusively for Dimelo! Records.

The 23rd Annual Oxnard Salsa Festival is presented by the Oxnard Downtowners, and sponsored by Gold Coast Broadcasting, Bud Light, Mission Foods, Ford, Ventura County Star, and many other generous community partners.

The two-day event draws an estimated 50,000 salsa lovers to the City of Oxnard for an action packed weekend. In addition to musical entertainment, other event highlights include the Salsa Tasting Tent, an eclectic vendor marketplace, international foods, kids korner, a salsa recipe contest, and the popular, 'Dancing with our Community Stars' dance contest & charity fundraiser.

For those wishing to travel by train, the Oxnard Amtrak Station is just three short blocks from the festival site. Amtrak Pacific Surfliner offers 'Kids Ride Half Price' and seniors get 15% off fare. Festival admission and parking are free. No coolers or pets are permitted on Festival grounds.

For out-of-towners planning to attend the Oxnard Salsa Festival, why not make a weekend out of it? Oxnard's on-the-coast location makes for an ideal summer getaway. With two or more days in Oxnard, Festival-goers can enjoy a day at the beach, bike riding at the harbor, sport fishing, golf or even the Dallas Cowboys Training Camp in addition to all of the salsa festivities. Oxnard hotel options range from mid-priced rooms to oceanfront and seaside settings. For a listing of hotels and visitor attractions, visit www.visitoxnard.com or call the Oxnard Convention & Visitors Bureau at 1-800-2-Oxnard.

For Festival information, call 805-535-4060, or visit www.oxnardsalsafestival.com

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