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Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture presents

Tres Mujeres Magníficas

del Jazz Latino

Annette Aguilar | Jenn Jade Ledesna | Laura Andrea Leguía

Three magnificent New York Latina jazz musicians create a not-to-be-missed tripleheader bill celebrating Women's History Month
Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 7:30 pm

[HIGH RESOLUTION ARTISTS PHOTOS](#)

(Bronx, NY) – The Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture celebrates Women's History Month with a special evening --Tres Mujeres: Magnificas del Jazz Latino with Annette Aguilar, Jenn Jade Ledesna, and Laura Andrea Leguía -- on Saturday, March 25, 2017 at 7:30pm in the Repertory Theater of Hostos Community College, located at 450 Grand Concourse in the Bronx.

Tickets range in price from \$5 - \$15 and can be purchased by calling (718) 518-4455 or online at www.hostoscenter.org. Box Office window hours are Mon. – Fri., 1 PM to 4 PM. Hostos Community College can be reached by the IRT 2, 4, 5, and busses Bx1, Bx2, Bx19 to East 149th Street and the Grand Concourse.

The triple bill will include jazz inspired by different parts of the Caribbean, Central, and South America. Nicaraguan-American percussionist **Annette Aguilar** and her acclaimed band, String Beans, demonstrate their virtuosity and versatility with a wide range of material with an emphasis on Brazil. Returning to the US after a long residency in Paris, the Dominican / Puerto Rican-American vocalist **Jenn Jade Ledesna**, accompanied by her trio, brings her high-energy and effervescent style to standards and originals. The Peru-born saxophonist / composer **Laura Andrea Leguía** and her ensemble fuse Afro-Peruvian folklore and modern orchestration to give audiences a new sound: one that is at once African, Andean and American.

Quotes on the Musicians

“Annette A. Aguilar sat behind her army of congas and began playing fiercely while the seven other members of Stringbeans slowly filled in around her...the results were spectacular.” – Washington City Paper

“What soul, what presence, what imagination, what beauty... the spellbinding voice of Jennifer Ledesna’s could calm the most ravaging sea.” – A Tarde, Salvador da Bahia

“Leguía’s extraordinary technique and style shimmers with singular splendour...Leguía has a genius for soft timbres and a spectacular range of colours and shades.” – Latin Jazz Network

Biographies

Annette A. Aguilar is a percussionist, bandleader, composer, and music educator, best known for her Latin and Brazilian jazz band Annette A. Aguilar & StringBeans. Aguilar has played with Tito Puente, Stevie Wonder, The Four Tops, Jefferson Airplane, and The Grateful Dead and in the Broadway shows *Streetcorner Symphony*, *The Capeman*, and the Grammy-winning *Smokey Joe's Cafe*. As Latin Jazz Ambassadors for the U.S. State Department, Annette A. Aguilar & StringBeans have toured extensively around the world in addition to releasing three albums and playing at the Kennedy Center, Jazz at Lincoln Center, among other important American jazz venues.

Born in San Francisco to Nicaraguan parents, Aguilar began playing the drums in sixth grade after seeing the Beatles on television. By sixteen she was performing with well-known artists such as Chepito Areas (formerly of Santana), Cal Tjader, and Sheila E. She studied classical music at San Francisco State University and earned a master's degree in music from the Manhattan School of Music as well as a master's degree in music education at the City University of New York. She also studied Latin music with Louis Bauzo at Boys Harbor Conservatory, and with Jerry Gonzalez of the Fort Apache Band. Aguilar currently teaches percussion at the Third Street Music School Settlement in New York and the Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music in the Bronx. In 2014 she organized the first annual Women in Latin Jazz Festival in Upper Manhattan.

Songstress **Jenn Jade Ledesna**, a multilingual NYC native, is an alumna of The New School University Jazz Conservatory and of “Famed” LaGuardia High School of Performing Arts. An Equity actress and vocal jet setter, Ms. Jade often performs at the French cabaret *Aux Trois Mailliez* in Paris. She has sung at Lincoln Center and Carnegie Hall alongside Bobby McFerrin, the Bill T. Jones / Arnie Zane Dance Company, and her group *The Jazz Immigrants* who have performed at Norway's International Silda Jazz Festival. Jenn Jade released her debut album entitled “TRUTH” in 2009.

Classically-trained, Jenn Jade has studied music with Jim Carson, Anna Ext, Wynton Marsalis, Richard Harper, Buster Williams, and Wycliffe Gordon. She has been invited twice to the Kennedy Center to debut her original compositions in the *Betty Carter Jazz Ahead* residencies and was also a finalist in Switzerland's Montreux Jazz Festival International Voice Competition. She also received an award for "Outstanding Musicianship" at the Kurt Elling Master Class, IAJE in Toronto, Canada. On television, Jenn Jade has appeared as a Semi-Finalist on CBS's *Nueva Estrella Awards* and has been featured in French and Chilean press as well as in *The New York Times*.

Laura Andrea Leguía is a sought-after saxophonist, bandleader, and composer. She has performed worldwide with artists such as Maria Schneider, Ingrid Jensen, Alex Acuña, Eva Ayllón, Arturo O'Farrill, the Gabriel Alegria Afro-Peruvian Sextet, as well as with her own project, the Laura Andrea Leguía Afro-Peruvian Big Band. *Saxofón Criollo*, her debut solo album, emphasizes the composition of songs in traditional Peruvian Criollo style, with harmonies that belong in the jazz tradition. In 2014, her first big band piece was commissioned by the New York Foundation for the Arts and was performed by the renowned Afro-Latin Jazz Orchestra at Symphony Space as part of the *Música Nueva* festival. In 2015, she was commissioned by the Instituto Cultural Peruano Británico to write eight pieces of music for the 10th Annual Festival de Ensembles, a week-long, Lima-based event that featured musicians from around the world.

Laura Andrea Leguía started her musical career in the National Conservatory of Lima, Peru and obtained her Masters in Composition from New York University, where she studied jazz composition under masters Gil Goldstein and Kenny Werner.

About the Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture

The Hostos Center for the Arts & Culture consists of a museum-grade art gallery, a 367-seat Repertory Theater, and a 900-seat Main Theater, presenting artists of national and international renown. It is easily accessible from Manhattan, Queens and New Jersey and is a mere 15 minutes by subway from midtown Manhattan. www.hostoscenter.org

About Hostos Community College

Hostos Community College is an educational agent for change, transforming and improving the quality of life in the South Bronx and neighboring communities since 1968. Hostos serves as a gateway to intellectual growth and socioeconomic mobility, and a point of departure for lifelong learning, success in professional careers, and transfer to advanced higher education programs. The College's unique "student success coach" program, which partners students with individualized guidance, is emblematic of the premier emphasis on student support and services. Hostos Community College is part of CUNY, the nation's leading urban public university serving more than 480,000 students at 24 colleges. <https://www.hostos.cuny.edu/>

What: Tres Mujeres: Magnificas del Jazz Latino with Annette Aguilar, Jenn Jade Ledesna, and Laura Andrea Leguía

When: Saturday, March 25, 7:30 PM

Where: Repertory Theater
Hostos Center for the Arts and Culture
450 Grand Concourse, Bronx, New York 10451

Cost: \$15 Reserved Seats; \$5 For Students and Under 18

Phone: 718-518-4455

Website: www.hostoscenter.org

Subway/Bus: IRT Trains 2, 4, 5 and Buses BX1, BX2, BX19 to 149th Street and Grand Concourse.