

Hector “coco”Barez

Percussionist



Born in Santurce, Puerto Rico on March 22, 1976, Héctor “Coco” Barez is one of the most active Puerto Rican percussionists of his generation. During his extensive career he has had the opportunity to represent the Island in both folkloric and popular music stages.

Coco received a BA in Physical Education from the University of Puerto Rico (UPR) in Río Piedras. He studied percussion at the UPR, the Inter American University of Puerto Rico, the Music Conservatory of Puerto Rico, and the Los Angeles College of Music (LACM) in Pasadena, California. Nevertheless, Coco attributes his highest level of learning to the streets of Puerto Rico and its bomba and rumba percussionists such as La Familia Cepeda, Los Hermanos Ayala, Los Pleneros de la 23, Alfredo

Rodríguez, Nicolás Lebrón, Paoli Mejías, Héctor Calderón, Víctor Emmanuelli, Samuel Gascot, and Raúl Rodríguez amongst others.

He was a member of the Ballet Folclórico Nacional de Puerto Rico “Areyto,” Pleni-bom, Los Pleneros de la 23 Abajo, Son del Batey, EL Bombazo de Puerto Rico de los Hermanos Emmanuelli, Taller Tamboricua, and Bataklán.



*In 2017, Hector Barez received a commission from the Puerto Rican Institute of Culture and the National Endowment for the Arts to create his own musical proposal which he entitled *El Laberinto del Coco*. In this unique journey he uses Bomba, the oldest genre of music of african heritage in the island, as the rhythmic base that will condense all his experiences in music creating an exhilarating pathway between past and present times.*

Barez, worked for 8 years with the band Los de Atrás Vienen Conmigo, which accompanied the Puerto Rican rap duo Calle 13 for 10 years. He recorded in 4 of the 5 Grammy-award winning productions of Calle 13.

He has also had the opportunity to perform and record with artists such as Shakira, Alejandro Sanz, Maná, Don Omar, Bacilos, Bayanga, William Cepeda, Cultura Profética, Tamela Hedstrom, Diana Fuentes, Jerry Medina, Mikrowaves, Mekong Express and Calma Carmona amongst others.

He is currently a member of Richmond Virginia own salsa band Bio Ritmo and Miramar (Boleros), who recently dedicated its debut album to the great Puerto Rican composer and songwriter Sylvia Rexach.

Coco keeps a busy schedule touring with Miami based band Bacilos and working on building El Laberinto del coco 2021 Tour



Hector "coco" Barez is an Adjunct Latin percussion instructor at Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) Since 2019, and a musician for the University of Richmond Dance Department since 2015. He also teaches and does workshops on Puerto Rican percussion all over the globe.

Sponsors: Meinl Percussion, Vic Firth Drumsticks, Remo Drum Heads. Paiste Cymbals

Photo Credit: Tania Fernández

Social Media

Bandcamp

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/hector.barez/>

<https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=el%20laberinto%20del%20coco>

Instagram

<https://www.instagram.com/cocobarez/?hl=en>

<https://www.instagram.com/ellaberintodelcoco/?hl=en>

Discography:

- EL Laberinto del Coco Single "Las Condiciones" (Obi Música 2020)
- Mistura Pura" The Blue Bus"(Ubiquity Records 2020)
- La Niña del Cabo "Bogomila"(La niña del Cabo 2020)
- The Flavor Project "Food for thoughts" (Flavor Project 2020)
- David Schulman & Quiet Life Motel "Dance, Ghost" (2020)
- Miramar Salida & Urgencia (Daptones Records 2019)
- Mekong Express (Egghunt Records 2018)
- El Laberinto del Coco (Obi Música 2017)
- Soja- Poetry In Motion(ATO 2017)

- *Miramar "Tributo a Sylvia Rexach"(Barbes Records 2016)*
- *Afro-Zen All-Stars " Greatest Hits"(2016)*
- *Emerson Araujo" Emerson Sound(2016)*
- *Mistura Pura "Hollywood Spritz(Ubiquity Records 2016)*
- *1,2,3, Andres (2015)*
- *Keith Morris & The crooked Numbers" Dirty Gospel"(2015)*
- *Tamela Hedstrom "En este lado del Mundo(2015)*
- *Jeremy Simmons" Pie in the sky"(2015)*
- *Jerry Medina & La Banda" A Mi Manera"(2014)*
- *Calma Carmona "I Got Life"(2014)*
- *Calma Carmona " Bag of Bones"(2014)*
- *Diana Fuentes "Planeta Planetario"(Sony Music 2014)*
- *Bio Ritmo "Puerta del Sur (2014)*
- *Mestis "Basal Ganglia"(2012)*
- *Tamela hedstrom "Tamela" (2012)*
- *Sono Sono Homenaje a Tite Curet Alonso(2011)*
- *Calle 13 "Entren los que quieran (Cd Released October 2010) Latin Grammy Winner)*
- *Calle 13 Los de atras vienen conmigo (2008 Latin Grammy Winner)*
- *William Cepeda y Angel Luis Torruellas (2008)*
- *William Cepeda Bomba Sinfonica (2007)*
- *Debora Brum (2007)*
- *Calle 13 " Residente o Visitante" (Sony 2007 Latin Grammy Winner)*
- *Alejandro Sanz "El Tren de los Momentos" (Warner Music 2006)*
- *Sietenueve" Trabuco" (2007)*
- *Homenaje a Rafael Hernández- Proyecto discográfico del Instituto de Cultura*
- *Puertorriqueño: "Nuestra Versión" (2006)*
- *La Sista "Majestad Negroide", (2006)*
- *Edgar Abraham "Wine Sax", (2006)*
- *Anthony Carrillo "Guapería Rumbera", (2006)*
- *Maná: "Labios Compartidos Remix", (2006)*
- *Velcro: "El Album", (2006)*
- *Calle 13: "Calle 13", 2005 (Latin Grammy Winner)*
- *Los Rufianes: "Nada Personal", (2005)*
- *Heineken Jazz Fest 2004: "Edgar Abraham", (2004)*
- *Andres Avelino: "Aliento de Vida", (2004)*
- *Debora Brum "Brasileira", (2004)*
- *Felix Alduen"Candela" (2005)*
- *William Cepeda: "Heineken Jazz Fest 2003", (2003)*
- *Bayanga "Bayanga" (Ras Records/ Sanctuary Records 2002)*
- *Cultura Profética: "Diario", (2002)*
- *Planéalo "Más Allá", (2001)*
- *Cultura Profética: "Cultura En Vivo", (2000)*

- *Especial del Banco Popular: "Raíces", 2001*
- *Edwin Colón Zayas: Amigos del Tiple Vol. 1.*

DVDs/documentaries:

- *Raíces del Banco Popular*
- *Queridos Reyes Magos del Banco Popular*
- *Documentary 10 En La Música*
- *Documentary Sono Sono Homenaje a Tite Curet Alonso*
- *Las Carpetas (Musical Composer)*
 - *Entre Puerto Rico y Richmond: Women in Resistance Shall Not be Moved.*

Commercials & Videos

El Laberinto del Coco

- *Bombuleria*
- *Live at the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center 2019*

Glenfiddich 21 "The Finishing Touch" Calma Carmona 2016

Music Videos

Calle 13

- *La jirafa*
- *Se vale to'*
- *El Tango del Pecado*
- *La Cumbia de los Aburridos*
- *Fiesta de locos*
- *Viña del Mar 2008*
- *Viña del Mar 2011*
- *En Vivo en Cuba 2010*
- *Grammy Latino 2007, 2009, 2011*
- *Rock in Rio, Madrid 2010*
- *Nelly Furtado Feat Calle 13 "No Hay Igual" 2006*

Bayanga

- *Solo los locos*

Debora Brum

- *Los Hombres son todos Iguales*

Tamela Hedstrom

- *Se me Fue*

Bio Ritmo

- *NPR Tiny Desk Concerts 2014*
- *Bio Ritmo Live at Rio Loco Festival Toulouse France Junio 2015*
- *Video Tema” Oriza”*

Bacilos

- *En Vivo Viña del Mar 2007*

Miramar

- *NPR Tiny Desk Concert Series 2017*
- *Miramar at Bric Jazz Festival 2018*