

# SKALA B

MUSIC FROM CUBA







# ABOUT SKALA B

Skala B is a musical project that finds its inspiration in the original Cuban tradition, following its later evolution of what Cuban music has become today. A musical polychromy that has been influenced in some way by its neighbor countries and by Europe all together.

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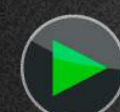
# WHAT DO WE DO

Skala B offers different formats, going from a small band of five musicians to a big orchestra of twelve musicians, expanding the harmonic basis of bass and piano with brasses, violins, minor and major percussions.

Skala B is based in Belgium, however her members are from all over the world (Belgium, Chile, Colombia, Cuba...), the band is mainly performing in Belgium, France and the Netherlands for the moment.

Our main goal is not only to make studio recordings and videos, we want to capture the heart of our audience during our live performances. Create a moment of happiness, a garden of Eden of musical emotions.

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# THE MUSICIANS



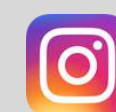
## Fernando Blanco Moya

Fernando started singing in children's choirs at a very young age in Cuba. When he reached eighteen, he started his musical training playing the piano, minor percussions and vocals. He formed many musical projects such as Hache Havana and Contrabando. Fernando lives in Belgium where he founded the band Skala B, for which he also writes and composes.

## Gabriel Valeria

Gabriel studied percussion with Yoel Del Sol in Cuba, and afro percussion at the Jazz Studio in Antwerp. Gabriel founded Proyección Latina. He was a member of Siempre Moreno, Proyecto Secreto, Savana Station, Maguaré, La Malquerida, Havana Sur and Quantum Café. Gabriel has worked with Leki, Tattoo del Tigre, Pieter Embrechts & the New Radio Kings, Marvin Gaye Tribute Band, Currently, he works as percussionist with Gregor Terror & the Calypso Gigolos, Sindicato Sonico, Maria Dolores Band and Skala B.

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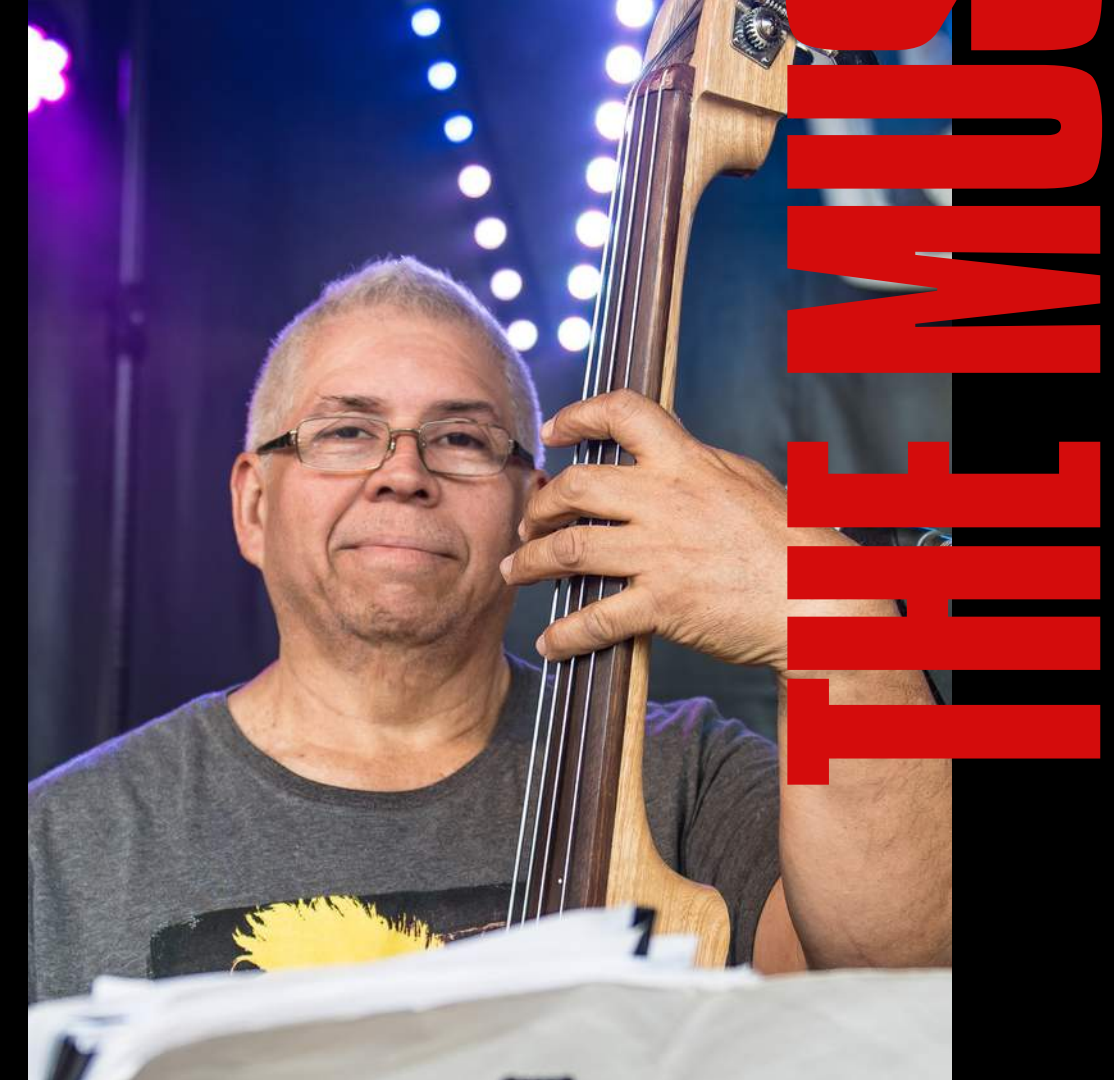
## Zulema Hechavarria

Flutist, bandleader, composer, percussionist, vocalist and choreographer. She graduated in 1999 at the Instituto Superior de Artes in Havana (Cuba). In 2000 she started to study at the Royal Conservatory in Antwerp (Belgium), where she got her Master Degree in Music as a flutist. She is a fierce ambassador of Cuban music, participating in different international platforms. Zulema was also a member of the award-winning group and Grammy Awards nominee Zap Mama. In Cuba she was a student of the masters Alberto Corrales, Richard Egues y Joaquin Oliveros and in Belgium of Aldo Baerten and Johan Rijcken,



## Marco Tulio Riascos

Bassist oriented to Latin and European styles such as salsa, merengue, bolero, jazz and blues, Marco was trained in Cali, Colombia, at the University del Valle. During his career as a bass player, he has worked with big names in Colombia and Venezuela such as Alfreddito Linares and his Orchestra, Grupo Camagüey, Piper and Latin Brothers. He has also played with Maelo Ruiz, Junior Gonzales, Heny Fiol, Ismael Rivera and Nino Segara. He is currently based in Belgium, where he is an active member of Skala B.



THE MUSICIANS





## Domingo Lopez Diaz

Domingo started his musical education as a pianist at the age of ten at the Instituto de Ciencias y Artes in Chiapas, Mexico. In 2008 he moved to Belgium where he continued to develop his musical career and taught music at the House of Music, Jeugd en Muziek Brussel and Muziekacademie in Brecht. He obtained his marimba master's degree at the Royal Conservatory of Antwerp. He currently works as pianist for diverse projects such as El Juntocadáveres, D'Love Band, La Malquerida, Tamborazo Jazz and Skala B.



## Yusbel Remon Bravo

Born in Cuba, into a family of professional musicians, Yusbel started his musical education at the age of six. He plays congas, bongos and drums. In 1999, he integrates the group Son del Caribe, and also the band La Expresión Latina. Two years later, he joins Tradison en Trinidad Santi Spiritus. He currently resides in Belgium where he is permanent part of latin orchestras such as Doble Impacto, Contrabando, Residentes Inc. and Skala B.

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## Fania Rodriguez Gonzales

Fania studied classical piano at the Conservatory Alejandro Garcia Caturla in Cuba. She pursued her music studies at the National Art School Havana-Cuba. In 1999 she obtained her master's degree of Jazz at the Muziek Hogeschool Antwerpen and later at the Artesis Hogeschool in Antwerp. She currently works as a piano and jazz teacher in Antwerp at Muziek Academie, Marcel van Heuven and Jazz-Pop Studio. She also works as freelance pianist in orchestras such as Doble Impacto, Sun's Sister, La excelencia NY, Trio Puur, Ly-Belle, Trio F.O.G and Skala B.



## Sebastian Peña Ortiz

Sebastian Peña Ortiz is a musician with Chilean roots. At the young age of five he started playing the drums on the pans and cooking pots in the kitchen. In his twenties, he studied percussion at the Rotterdam conservatory. Influenced by Cuban and Popmusic he can adapt to any type of music. During his life he has played with many salsa and pop bands all over Europe.



THE MUSICIANS





## Wouter De Belder

Wouter completed his violin education in 1995 at the Music Academy of Schoten, after which he taught himself alto, cello, double bass and guitar. He composed the soundtrack for different short films and theater productions and collaborated with the Dutch designer Hart Hess. He has been composer in residency at Theater TOL in Antwerp and toured with the company all over the world. Wouter is currently playing in different bands such as Mariachi Reloaded, Sindicato Sonico, Mariachi Los Tarascos, La Malquerida, Bart Amand, LaPiratesse, Zwermers and many others.



## Len Van Kuijck

Len graduated 2000 from the Conservatory of Maastricht with Toon Roos. He obtained his masters degree Luca School of Arts Campus Lemmens Instituut with Nadine Bal. Len has played with bands such as To the point, The Royalties, Run for Cover, 4.women, Tentation, Mr Shark & the silverfish, Popvisit, Savana Station, Havana Sur, Skala B, Primetime and Funky D, and artists such as Lee Towers, Glennis Grace, Frans Bauer, Thomas Berge and Clouseau. Today, Len teaches at the Academies of Brasschaat, Kapellen en Wuustwezel and is freelance musician.

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"I was five years old when my father put me on a chair and made me sing for all his friends. From then on I never stopped singing. "

**- Fernando Blanco Moya**



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# VIDEOS

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Interview with Fernando



La esencia del guaguancó



Fragilidad



Melodia del Rio



Tibiri Tabara Descarga



Sin Clave y Bongo no hay Son



# VENUES 22-23

- 10.12.23 Merecumbé Latin Nights - Antwerp, Belgium
- 14.10.23 Fifth - Eindhoven, Netherlands
- 23.09.23 25 years Theater Tol - Antwerp, Belgium
- 15.09.23 Private Event - Antwerp, Belgium
- 03.09.23 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 23.07.23 Trefpunt Festival - Ghent, Belgium
- 08.07.23 Merecumbé Festival - Antwerp, Belgium
- 01.07.23 Fiesta Local - Antwerp, Belgium
- 03.06.23 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 06.05.23 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 15.04.23 Cuban Night Festival, Brussels Belgium
- 05.11.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 19.10.22 Al Vile Cinse - Visé, Belgium

- 01.10.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 17.09.22 Manifiesta Festival - Ostend, Belgium
- 21.08.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 23.07.22 Merecumbé Festival - Antwerp Belgium
- 15.07.22 Minigolf Beatrijs - Antwerp Belgium
- 11.06.22 Private Event - Durbuy, Belgium
- 04.06.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 03.06.22 Private Event - Leuven, Belgium
- 21.05.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium
- 15.05.22 Fifth - Eindhoven, Netherlands
- 30.04.22 Casino Viage - Brussels, Belgium
- 30.04.22 Private Event - Brussels, Belgium

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# CONTACT US

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## LOOK & LISTEN



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<https://rb.gy/639okh>





# A WORD FROM THE SINGER

"Famous? Not famous? I don't care. What I want is to work, and deliver the best job I can. And for Skala B to keep on moving, and getting better. That is my dream."

- **Fernando Blanco Moya**

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