

# VENEZUELAN CULTURAL WEEK JAPAN 2007

## Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Japan

### Venezuelan Cultural Week Japan 2007 November 7<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup>

The Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Japan is happy to celebrate, with the Japanese public, the friendly ties that bind our two nations. Once again, we have made real this dream, thanks to the uninterested support from our Venezuelan and Japanese friends and Institutions, united by their cultural sensibility.

This year we will be offering the melodious participation of our marvelous group "Ensamble Gurrufío". They will perform on four occasions in Tokyo, Toyohashi, Okinawa and, again in Tokyo.

#### **Conference**

The Venezuelan Cultural Week will begin on the 7<sup>th</sup> with an interesting Conference given by Associate Professor Jun Ishibashi, of Tokyo University on the "Present State of Venezuelan Music" illustrated live by the musicians of Ensamble Gurrufío. Professor Ishibashi is an anthropologist specialized on Venezuelan Popular Culture and Ethnic Movements. He has received various Prizes and recognitions and has written several books and has produced documentaries on various aspects of our cultural and sociological traditions.

Conference "Actualidad de la Música Venezolana" November 7<sup>th</sup> 18:30~20:00 Tokyo University, Komaba Campus, No. 18; Entrance Free; Capacity 200 assistants; Ensamble Gurrufío will illustrate musical examples live.

#### **Ensamble Gurrufío**

To make traditional music with a different scenic and esthetic proposition, ever since **Ensamble Gurrufío's** beginnings in 1984, is something that opens a new door to Venezuelan instrumental styles, that will allow unique spontaneity and improvisation as well as the virtuosic interpretation of each of the members of the Ensamble.

It is thus that Ensamble Gurrufío was born, during friendly gatherings and "Jam Sessions" that gave a new sound to Venezuelan music.

The group is integrated by Asdrúbal "Cheo" Hurtado on the cuatro, guitar and bandola, Luis Julio Toro on the flute, David Peña on the Double bass and Juan Ernesto Laya on the maracas.

They have performed in Chile, Colombia, Dutch Antilles, France, Germany, México, Spain, and the United Kingdom. **Ensamble Gurrufío** is a Venezuelan musical

reference worldwide, incorporating contemporary elements that have elevated **Ensamble Gurrufio** to new heights.

**Gurrufio** has received many prizes such as the "Monseñor Pellín" distinction in 1998 and the National Artist's Prize in 1999.

In 2002, **Ensamble Gurrufio** surprises the cultural scene living birth to "La Camerata Criolla", a musical Project that reunites some of the best academic musicians of our country to explore and exploit, in a symphonic form, the universal elements of our national music.

CDs published: *Maroa* (1993), *El Cruzao* (1994), *El Trabadados* (1996), *Cosas del ayer* (1998), *En Vivo* (1998), *Gurrufio y Orquesta* (1999), *Serenata con Gurrufio* (2001) y *Sesiones con Moisés Torrealba* (2002).

### **Performances in:**

**Conference:** "Actualidad de la Música Venezolana"

By: Professor JUN ISHIBASHI (Associate Professor – Tokyo University)

November 7<sup>th</sup> 18:30~20:00

Tokyo University, Komaba Campus, No. 18 Hall

Free Entrance: one needs to register, Contact [yasuhiromikura@hotmail.co.jp](mailto:yasuhiromikura@hotmail.co.jp)

Capacity 200 assistants

Ensamble Gurrufio will illustrate musical examples live.

**Concert:** Venezuelan Cultural Week in Toyohashi

"Ensamble Gurrufio in Concert"

November 9<sup>th</sup> (Friday) Doors open 18:00, Concert starts 18:30

Toyohashi City Cultural Center

Entrance: 500yen

Organizer: Puente Rico –Venezuela Association

Contact: Secretariat Puente Rico –Venezuela, Ms. Haneda, tel: (0532) 54- 5673

**Concert:** Commemorative Concert of the opening of the Tedako Hall in the city of Urasoe

"The World of Venezuelan Music"

November 11<sup>th</sup> (Sunday) Doors open 17:30, Concert starts 18:00

Tedako Hall in the City of Urasoe

Entrance: Adults 1,000yen Under 18 years 500yen

Organizer: The World of Venezuelan Music realization committee

Contact: Urasoe Education Committee, Cultural Dep. Tel (098) 876-1234, ext. 6211

With the auspices of:

The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

Urasoe Cultural Association

Urasoe International Interchange Association

Okinawa International Center

**Concert:** "Ensamble Gurruffio in Concert"

November 14<sup>th</sup> (Wednesday) Doors open 18:30, Concert starts 19:00

Kioi Hall 6-5, Kioicho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo

Entrance: 3,000yen (inc.tax)

Contact: Ticket PIA,  
e-Plus,

Kioi Hall (tel:03-5276-4545),

Latina (tel:03-5768-5588)

Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (tel:03-3409-1501/2)

#### **INFORMACION**

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Gobierno **Bolivariano**  
de Venezuela

