

Carlos Santana - Back At Bethel (2010)

Written by bluelover

Thursday, 30 December 2010 19:58 - Last Updated Friday, 17 July 2015 18:55

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- 01 Woodstock Chant / Soul Sacrifice
- 02 Carlos' intro / Maria Maria
- 03 Foo Foo
- 04 Corazon Espinado [play](#)
- 05 Percussion solo / Bass solo
- 06 Jingo
- 07 Riders on the Storm
- 08 Black Magic Woman / Gypsy Queen
- 09 Oye Como Va
- 10 Dance the Night Away
- 11 Evil Ways / A Love Supreme
- 12 Sunshine of Your Love
- 13 Smooth [play](#)
- 14 Dame Tu Amor
- 15 Bridegroom / Into the Night / Freedom
- 16 Band introduction / Love Peace and Happiness

Musicians:

- * Carlos Santana – guitar
- * Chester Thompson – keyboards
- * Raul Rekow – drums, konga
- * Karl Perazzo – percussion
- * Benny Rietveld – bass guitar
- * Dennis Chambers – drums
- * Andy Vargas – vocals
- * Bill Ortiz – trumpet
- * Jeff Cressman – trombone
- * Tommy Anthony – guitar

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There are a lot of great rock guitarists in the world, but there aren't all that many whose signature sound is so distinctive that they can't be mistaken for anyone else once you've heard a phrase or two. A prominent place in the pantheon of those inimitable axe-slingers will be forever reserved for Carlos Santana, who is returning to the Bethel Woods Center for the Arts this Sunday as part of that venue's summerlong celebration of the 45th anniversary of the Woodstock festival.

Surprisingly, it's only the third time that Santana will ever have played at the hallowed site, which must hold a special place in his player's heart. It's easy to forget that in 1969, the name Santana wasn't already an international byword for rock/blues/jazz/world music fusion. Though it was rapidly amassing fans on the San Francisco club scene – including Fillmore impresario Bill Graham – his band had yet to release its eponymous first album. But Santana's hard-driving performance of the 11-minute instrumental "Soul Sacrifice" became a high point of the movie Woodstock, and the exposure drove the band's debut LP and the single "Evil Ways" to the top of the charts and kept them there for a long time.

Santana's career has had its ups and downs over the years. A lot of time spent woodshedding with jazz greats like Herbie Hancock, Wayne Shorter, Alice Coltrane, Jack DeJohnette, Dave Holland, Ron Carter, Tony Williams, John McLaughlin and McCoy Tyner honed the guitarist's improvisatory chops but distanced some of the band's more rock-oriented early fans. Still, Santana keeps circling back to his percussion-heavy Latin roots, and he has charted a Billboard Top Ten album in every decade since the 1960s: a feat equaled only by the Rolling Stones. He has won ten Grammy Awards and three Latin Grammys, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1998 and was appointed to the Number 20 spot on Rolling Stone magazine's list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time.

So if his appearance as a relative unknown at the Woodstock festival back in August 1969 lit the fuse of a very successful career, why hasn't Carlos Santana come back here more often? In his 2010 performance at Bethel Woods, Santana called the site "Ground Zero for peace and love...the place where miracles keep happening." Maybe this return visit signifies the beginning of a trend – or maybe not. Best not take a chance of missing this living legend of trans-genre, cross-cultural electric guitar while he's in our neck of the woods. ---Frances Marion Platt, hudsonvalleyalmanacweekly.com

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