

Latin Afro Pop Band to Rock Alameda

Guarandinga at Rhythmix for one night — this Saturday

**Courtesy Rhythmix
Cultural Works**

A new sound has been making its way throughout the Bay Area and will be landing in Alameda this Saturday. The concert has been set for 8 p.m. Rhythmix Cultural Works (RCW) that presents the unique, funky sounds of Guarandinga for an unforgettable one-night-only dance party that mixes culture, food, dance and community. Guarandinga fuses Afro-Venezuelan rhythms and Latin pop with hot Caribbean beats. Dance all night as their seamless interweaving of Spanish and English lyrics create a dynamic and energizing sound.

Bringing together some of the finest Bay Area musicians, Guarandinga's co-founder, lead singer and lyricist Rowan Jiménez was the also founder and lead vocalist for the Bay Area's Latin alternative band OriXa, which received a California Music Award for outstanding Latin album and the ASCAP Latino Award for best independent group.

Co-founder, bassist and producer Jeremy Allen, owner of Musiquito Productions and a music educator, has performed nation-

ally and internationally for more than 20 years and has an extensive background in Venezuelan traditional music. Other outstanding members include: percussionist Brian Andres (founder of the Afro-Cuban Jazz Cartel), vocalist Kenya Moses and Chris Carter on guitar.

Guarandinga takes inspiration from across the musical spectrum. Their influences range from recognizable artists like: Yerba Buena, Bomba Stereo and Anti Balas to genres and eras that don't initially appear to fit together like: hip hop, alt-Latin, rock, early electronica, and dancehall. This chemistry and Guarandinga's Afro-Venezuelan roots make the band's original music so provocative and danceable. Their unique blend of seemingly disparate sounds lead some to describe the band as defying categorization.

In typical RCW fashion, concertgoers will also be treated to a culinary experience in "a taste of Venezuela": Delicious *arepas* freshly prepared by Arepita Mobile. These handmade gluten-free grilled pockets of corn meal are crunchy on the outside, moist on the inside and stuffed with a variety of flavors.

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Tickets for the Guarandinga show cost \$20 in advance or \$25 on the day of the show.

RCW brings people of all ages together to experience and explore music, dance, visual art and educational opportunities. The organization seeks to build community by inspiring engagement in the arts as a way to learn about each other and the world.

With a strong commitment to provide programming relevant to the local population, RCW strives to promote cultural awareness, encourage participation in the arts and to support artists in the presentation of their work. To date, more than 70,000 people have engaged in arts experiences, attending high-quality performances of world music, dance, theater, exhibits and community events at RCW.

To order tickets, or find out more, visit www.rhythmix.org or call 865-5060.



Andrea Cash

Vocalist Kenya Moses (left) and co-founder, lead singer and lyricist Rowan Jiménez front the Latin Afro-pop band Guarandinga appearing in Alameda this Saturday.