

## **Presentation of the Cuban *Nueva Trova* :**

For more than twelve years now, the inner yard of the Cultural Center of Pablo de la Torriente Brau, in Havana, has been converted into a place hospitable to this form of poetry in songs that has been called, now over more than three decades, the Cuban *Nueva Trova*.

The area of circulation, reflexion and debates *A guitarra limpia* gathers the young Cuban troubadours in concerts playing in the yard of the Centro Pablo, located in the Centro Historico of the city, called Old Havana. Founded by the poet, filmmaker and writer Victor Casaus, assisted by Maria Ofelia Santucho and by a team of young creative and multifunctional collaborators, the Centro Pablo constitutes, with its manifold activities, one of the most dynamic protagonists of the contemporary cultural scene of Cuba.

Three « trovadores » coming from the Centro Pablo will make an exceptional tour in Switzerland from November 25 to December 9. They are Norge Batista, Roly Berrio, and Yamira Diaz.

**Norge Batista**, trovador from Las Tunas (1969), is a member of the Association Hermanos Saíz et de la Unión Nacional de Escritores y Artistas de Cuba (UNEAC). He has authored two disks produced by the Spanish brand AYVA MUSICA: « Búscame adentro », recorded in Havana, and produced by Eduardo Ramos (1997), and « Algo crece », recorded in Santiago de Cuba (2001).

Two of his songs, « Búscame adentro » and « Réquiem por la soledad de un ángel », appear in the Fourth Collume of the *Antología de la Nueva Trova*, edited by EGREM. He collaborated on the stage with Cuban and foreign artists, among whom: Vicente Feliú, Frank Delgado, la Vieja trova santiaguera ; the Argentinian Rafael Amor, the Spaniard Ismael Serrano, the Uruguayan Quintín Cabrera. He appeared in concerts in Cuba, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland.

He is currently working at his third disk, « Puente oscuro », which will come out this year at AYVA MUSICA, under the musical direction of Miguel Núñez.

**Roly Berrío**, a trovador from Santa Clara (1972), is a prolific author. At the end of the 1980' he began to compose themes of great originality, interpreted in the minstrel manner he had inherited from his early beginnings in the theatrical world. Before appearing in solo, he was a member of the *Enserie trio*. He is part of the National Project of the Association *Hermanos Saíz*. He played in almost all the provinces of the country and was on tour in Spain, Guatemala, Mexico and et Columbia.

Roly is the author of the two themes of the movie *Havana blues*, by Benito Zambrano (Goya Price for the best original sound track in 2005), where Roly also features as actor. He has a very active life as a trovador; his compositions are gathered in the disk *Enserie*, a live recording of a concert organised in 1999 by the trio in the Casa de las Américas. He participated in the anthologies *Romántica*, *Brisas de La Habana* and *Identidad*. This latter gathers unpublished boleros by Carlos Puabla, interpreted by various artists. Roy was rewarded by the award of the Order of the Cultura Nacional.

**Yamira Díaz**, trovadora del Pinar del Rio (1972), is since 1994 a member of the *Hermanos Saíz* Association and of the National Project linked to that same organization. She has appeared in a variety of concerts in and outside Cuba. This trovadora is characterized by her authorial work which also includes music for the theater and for

video. In 2001 she has recorded in collaboration with the discographic company *Egrem* the disk *Mi pueblo y yo*. She has also participated to the Anthology **TROV@NÓNIMA.CU**, recorded by Bismusic in 2001, and « Acabo de soñar », recorded for the *Egrem* in 2003. Over the last three years she has directed her own group of musicians as well as the musical space *El trovazo* in the province of Pinar del Rio. She has received from the Cultural Center Pablo de la Torriente Brau a grant for the creation of « Sindo Garay ».

Musical extracts on the next page :

<http://www.unil.ch/ircm/page87860.html>

[www.centropablo.cult.cu](http://www.centropablo.cult.cu)

[www.centropablonoticias.cult.cu](http://www.centropablonoticias.cult.cu)

[www.artedigitalcuba.cult.cu](http://www.artedigitalcuba.cult.cu)

[www.aguitarralimpia.cult.cu](http://www.aguitarralimpia.cult.cu)

[www.victorcasaus.com](http://www.victorcasaus.com)