

## NOTES ON INDESTRUCTIBLE TOUR

It is the rare person, wherever he or she is in the planet, who has not, at some point, moved to the sound of salsa. But not many can explain what salsa is with the depth the genre deserves.

What is salsa? That is the question that moved Diego el Cigala to embark on this project.

A restless artist, as curious as they come and used to great challenges, Diego has built a career that has reached the rare achievement of receiving awards such as the Latin GRAMMY® for venturing in genres that are not his own, such as tropical music or Argentine tango.

From his encounters with Caribbean music, Diego extracted great musical treasures, each time revealing a bit more about the common roots of the music on both sides of the Atlantic. These experiences have led him, inevitably, to come in contact with salsa and admire its songwriters and performers.

And as it couldn't have been any other way, El Cigala wanted to live the experience fully and immerse himself in the origins and development of salsa. For that, he embarked on an adventure that took him to some of the countries that contributed to its sound in New York City, where salsa emerged as the product of the realities of life in the Latin neighborhoods, as a way of communicating and as a compendium of the cultural expressions of the Latin immigrants, especially those from the Caribbean.

Studying the movement, and inspired by its great talents, Diego has recorded a collection of songs by composers such as Ray Barreto, Tito Curet, Cheo Feliciano and René Touzet and from the repertoire of artists and ensembles such as Héctor Lavoe, La Sonora Ponceña and the Fania All Stars. Recorded in different countries, each of these songs then took on the colors and sonorities of salsa in each territory.

In this search, Diego visited Cali (Colombia), San Juan (Puerto Rico), Havana (Cuba), Punta Cana (Dominican Republic) and New York City and Miami (United States) recording parts of this album in each place. He then traveled to the south of Spain, to Jerez de la Frontera in Andalusia, and completed the project by adding flamenco elements such as guitar, *coros* (choruses), cajón and *palmas* (clapping).

As part of this cultural exchange, Diego has had a chance to benefit from the talent of artists such as Oscar D'León, Bobby Valentín, Larry Harlow, Roberto Roena, Eddie Montalvo, Nicky Marrero, Jorge Santana, Gonzalo Rubalcaba, Los Muñequitos de Matanza, Luis Perico Ortiz, Horacio “el Negro” Hernández, José Aguirre and Diego del Morao. They are just some of the more than 70 musicians of various nationalities who contributed their essence to *Indestructible*.

*Indestructible* because time will never be able to erase the legacy and musical richness of salsa, a genre that shows us that borders don't exist.