

## **SANTERIAS - *DEMONIOS* - Album and Song Descriptions**

Two years in the making, *Demonios* is the culmination of intense collaboration amongst the four members. Their sophisticated blend of traditional and contemporary Latin styles traverse terrains of Spanish Flamenco, Brazilian Bossa nova and Tropicália, Colombian Cumbia and Classic Rock. Songs in Spanish, Portuguese and English engage in social commentary and personal reflection alongside the spontaneity of exploring solid drumlines and thick basslines!

While worldly in scope, all eleven songs on Santeria's *Demonios* (MAPL, SOCAN) were written, recorded and produced in Toronto at Jay Guerriere's self-owned Latin Lounge Studio. Below are individual song descriptions collaboratively provided by the group members.

### **COSAS MATERIALES (5:12) – Track 1**

*Lyrics by Dino Toledo - Music by Santerías*

The sound and movement of the subway inspired Dino one morning as he was noticing everyone sitting in a kind of stupor, indifferent to the world's plights, numbed by material comforts. The motion of the subway becomes a Flamenco bulería rhythm - pushed forward by band member's individual flourishes - culminating in a vibrant, fiery song.

### **PAIXÃO (4:39) – Track 2**

*Lyrics and music by Rubi, featuring Nick "Brownman" Ali on trumpet.*

Originally written by Rubi for the SolAzul project, Santerias decided to make a version of it with a traditional Brazilian feel, to bring out the raw paixão (passion in Portuguese) Brazil is famous for. The song talks of our quests for passion in life, by seeking everything from the sublime to the mundane. Sometimes this pursuit can be fulfilled with just the right danceable rhythm!

### **DEMONIOS (6:14) - Track 3**

*Lyrics by Rubi - Music by Santerías*

A real collective effort! Dino came up with traditional flamenco guitar musings, Jay added fiery cajon and Oriana pumped it with bass lines ebbing and flowing with the music. Rubi added flamenco poetry and a traditional flamenco melody, with the dark lyrics speaking of shedding one's inner demons. Featuring palmas and jaleos by famed Flamenco dancer, Carmen Romero.

### **SECOND LENGUA (4:36) - Track 4**

*Lyrics and music by Oriana Barbato*

A smooth urban guajira with a Santana-ish flair. Oriana captures what it is like to be an immigrant trying to fit into a brand new country - where English, Spanish, Spanglish, bad accents, no accent and good accents - are all part of the hustle of learning a new language.

### **TEU NOME NO VENTO (4:03) – Track 5**

*Lyrics by Rubi, music by Dino Toledo*

Inspired by a sad, romantic moment shared by good friends of his, Dino came up with this Bossa gem literally overnight. Jay created a classic Bossa nova rhythm while Rubi added lyrics in Brazilian Portuguese, later creating an English version for the CD.

## **SANTERIAS *Second Lengua* - Song Descriptions**

### **NUEVOS CAMINOS (3:49) - Track 6**

*Lyrics by Rubi, music by Santerías*

Originally an instrumental piece written after Ana, the band's first singer, left in search of new paths (nuevos caminos). It combines more traditional Flamenco rhythms with dark, dramatic guitars. Rubi wrote the lyrics and melody to transform the song beyond its instrumental origins.

### **TERASTARIYE (5:19) - Track 7**

*Lyrics by Rubi, music by Santerías*

What started out as a band jam of Led Zeppelin's Whole Lotta Love is playfully transformed into a dynamic array of Latin, Flamenco and Brazilian beats with vocal patterns playing on phonetics. The chorus of made up words highlights the voice as an instrument rather than a lyrical tool.

### **ECHALE SAL (5:09) - Track 8**

*Lyrics by Dino Toledo, Jorge Araiza and Ana Raquel; music by Santerías*

A newer, faster version of this song, first heard on Santerias' debut, *Bosketches*. Dino wanted to write a tune reminiscent of Los Fabulosos Cadillac and Sargento Garcia. Lyrics by former singer Ana and former bassist Jorge beckon, "Come, my brother, eat from my plate, I have enough for two. Come my brother, eat from my plate, perhaps tomorrow it will be I who is hungry". On this new version, Oriana adds a dark, heavy bass while Jay works up the drum kit, and Rubi adds new vocal lines to flesh out the sound.

### **CUMBIA SANTERA (4:48) - Track 9**

*Lyrics by Rubi, music by Santerías*

Rubi was inspired to write this song when camping in Killarney Park. Recipes for finding happiness and love, and for defeating an enemy are not found in the supernatural, but in the day-to-day magic that surrounds us in music and the beauty of nature. A haunting yet soothing Colombian Cumbia rhythm is flavoured with a warm quena flute and rooting percussion.

### **ASHRAH (5:31) - Track 10**

*Music by Santerías, featuring Lisa La Mantia on vocals*

Ashrah, the denouement of our CD, is a trance inducing instrumental piece with an Arabic taste and a layered anatomy specifically composed for belly dancer Maya to perform. Asrah means "10" in Arabic, and perfectly features a wide assortment of guitars, percussions and bass thick with passion, and enhanced by a vocal line by Flamenco dancer Lisa La Mantia.

### **YOUR NAME IN THE WIND (4:03) – Track 11**

English Version of **TEU NOME NO VENTO**

*Lyrics by Rubi, music by Dino Toledo*

For more information on the group - and to hear their songs along with band photos and video - please visit [www.santerias.ca](http://www.santerias.ca) and [www.myspace.com/santerias](http://www.myspace.com/santerias)