

## Cafêzz “World Fusion Jazz Band”



Reminiscent of the intricate process of coffee roasting, which involves fusing different country’s beans into a perfect blend to create delicious beverages, **Cafêzz** seeks to hand over diverse sound impressions to the listener. The band's style is very eclectic, embracing a wide array of Caribbean, Brazilian, Latin, Jazz, Funk, Rock, Folk and Classical influences.



Shortly after formed, the band has performed alongside top musicians like David Sánchez, Humberto Ramírez, Luis Perico Ortiz, Ricardo Pons and Oskar Cartaya, and has played at the **Puerto Rico Jazz Jam Fest**, **Carolina International Jazz Festival**, **Heineken’s Ventana al Jazz**, and **Inter Metro Jazz Festival**, among others. Recently, **Cafêzz** visited and performed in **Los Angeles, California** and at **Dazzle Jazz Club in Denver, Colorado**, and will continue touring overseas in the upcoming months.

“**Cafêzz**” is, in fact, the combination of the words café (coffee in Spanish) and jazz, and it captures their notion that a customary coffee moment could also be an occasion to share music with friends.

Their original music presents an ample melodic content combined with tasty rhythms, giving the listener rich aural textures to enjoy with ease.

Even though it includes elements from jazz, its performance is not focused on individual instrument virtuosity, but relies on the ensemble’s communication and interaction.

**Cafêzz** was formed in San Juan, Puerto Rico during the summer of 2014 by pianist **Carmen Noemí** and bassist **Edgardo "Egui" Sierra**, after completion and release of their **Music & Friends CD**. Their first formal performance was on August 13, 2014, during the Music & Friends release party at Downtown Bar & Grill in Hato Rey, Puerto Rico. The live concert featured 16 musicians who participated in the recording process, plus several special guests.

Following Downtown's presentation the group adopted several formats. The trio’s interplay included drummer **Freddie Burgos**, and made it easy to add **Christian Galíndez** on “latin percussion” (quartet), **Norberto "Tiko" Ortíz** on saxophone (Cafêzz Quintet); and **Waldemar Reyes** on “ethnic percussion” (sextet format).

### ALBUMS:



Released in 2014, **Cafêzz "Music & Friends"** debut album includes 14 compositions from Puerto Rican pianist Carmen Noemí. The music is organized in two parts, or play lists, and most of the compositions are allusive to coffee themes. First 7 tracks are relaxed and pleasant, like a “latte coffee”, while tracks 8 thru 14 are lively and exciting, as an “espresso”. The album features acclaimed guest performers like the Latin Grammy nominee **Paoli Mejías**, **Christian Nieves**, **Ricardo Pons**, **Pedro Rivera Toledo** and **Raúl Maldonado**, among others. In January 2015, “Cafêzz Music & Friends” Album was included on **National Foundation for Popular Culture's Top 20 Outstanding Recordings of 2014 produced in Puerto Rico**.



Released in 2016, “**Sol Boricua**” is Cafêzz’ second album and it’s music is aimed to listeners that enjoy an ample palette of sounds, such as the world jazz genre has to offer. The album includes 12 new compositions by Carmen Noemí, in an eclectic mix of styles intended to please a wide audience. “**Sol Boricua**” features guest performers like the Latin Grammy nominee **Pedro Guzmán**, **Jorge Laboy**, **Roberto Jiménez** and **Amed Irizarry**, among others. In January 2017, Cafêzz "Sol Boricua" Album was included on **National Foundation for Popular Culture's Top 20 Outstanding Recordings of 2016** produced in Puerto Rico. Also selected as one of “**The Best Releases of 2016**” by “**All About Jazz**” Magazine.

## PERFORMANCES:

Following Cafêzz' successful debut, the group became quite popular and was invited to perform in many revered venues. On September 15, 2014 the quintet performed at the Inter Metro Jazz Festival with renowned local guitarist **Jorge Laboy** collaborating on several pieces, including "Espresso Jam".



In the next weeks, they were invited to play at the "Hispanic Festival" at Paseo la Princesa, Old San Juan, PR (October), and at the "Ibero American Educational Research Congress" at the Sheraton Hotel, San Juan, PR (November).

On December 28, **Cafêzz** performed before an audience of **13,500** at the "Heineken Ventana al Jazz" festival, and shared the stage with acclaimed bassist **Oskar Cartaya** and local distinguished trumpeter **Humberto Ramírez**.

On August 8, 2015, Cafêzz performed at the "Carolina International Jazz Fest", and shared the stage with some of the finest jazz performers like prestigious trumpeter **Luis "Perico" Ortíz**, prominent saxophonist **Ricardo Pons** and the world renowned **David Sánchez** Grammy award-winner saxophonist.



The ensemble was invited to perform at "Jazz en la Inter Metro" Festival on April 26, 2016, and presented a new repertoire from their second album, "Sol Boricua", featuring an extended 11 piece group.



On June 26, 2016, **Cafêzz** performed at the 8th anniversary celebration of "Heineken's Ventana al Jazz" festival at the scenic "Bahía Urbana" music venue, and share the stage with **Negróni's Trio**. Other performances: **SOFO Culinary Fest at Old San Juan**, "Adoquin Jamming Nights" and **Panorama Sky Club**.

In January 2017, **Cafêzz** sextet performed at the prestigious "Puerto Rico Jazz Jam" festival, a 2 day event held at the historic "Teatro Tapia" in Old San Juan. On closing night, **Cafêzz** shared the stage with renowned trumpeter and band leader **Humberto Ramírez**. Critics raved about the sextet's performance and was reviewed as "Magistral" (masterly performance) by mayor several publications, such as "El Nuevo Día" newspaper and "News Event Media" Magazine.



During the month of February 2018, the group travelled to the U.S., performing in **California** and **Colorado**, including a **sold-out event at the prestigious Dazzle in Denver**. On the upcoming summer of 2018, Cafêzz is due to perform in **Europe** (Spain and Basque Country), **USA** (Minnesota and Florida), where they will bring their music to new audiences.

## AWARDS & CD REVIEWS:



☞ Cafêzz "Sol Boricua" Album selected as one of "The Best Releases of 2016" by "All About Jazz" Magazine.

☞ Cafêzz "Sol Boricua" Album was included on National Foundation for Popular Culture's Top 20 Outstanding Recordings of 2016 produced in Puerto Rico.

☞ All About Jazz Magazine -Reviews: "Sol Boricua" Album and "Music & Friends" Album 5 Star Review by James Nadal: -"Carmen Noemí is a cultured lyrical composer... her music is aptly imaginative in an organic sense...a visionary pianist".

☞ "Cafêzz Music & Friends" Album was included on National Foundation for Popular Culture's Top 20 Outstanding Recordings of 2014 produced in Puerto Rico.

☞ Also, "Music & Friends" was selected #55 on "iTunes TOP 100 World Music Albums of 2014".

More Information: [www.cafezzmusic.com](http://www.cafezzmusic.com) Follow us: cafezzmusic

