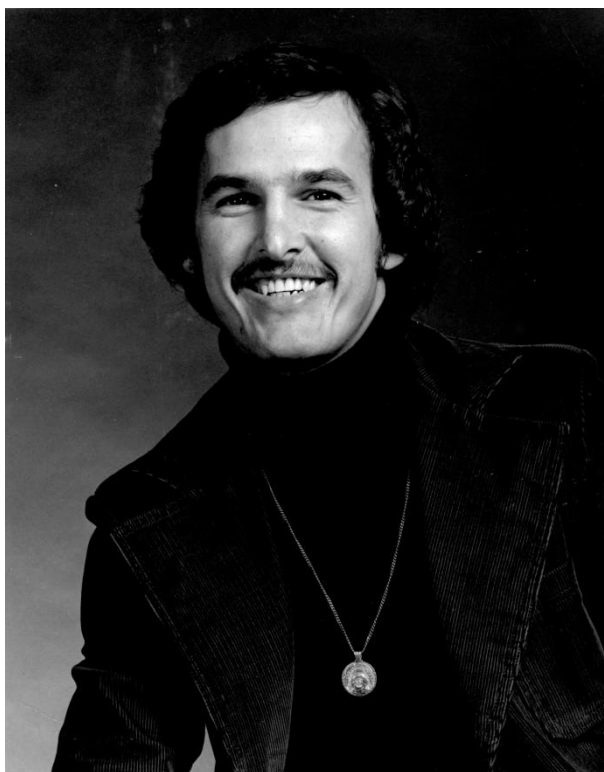




Guide to the Ray Ramos Collection



**Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora
Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños
Hunter College, CUNY
2180 Third Avenue @ 119th St., Rm. 120
New York, New York 10035
(212) 396-7877
www.centropr.hunter.cuny.edu**

Descriptive Summary

Creator:

Title: The Ray Ramos Collection, 1973-2011

Dates: 1973-2011

Volume: 1.5 cubic feet

Repository: Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora, Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños

Abstract: Ray Ramos is a composer, sonero, performer and bandleader with over 40 years in the music business, 20 recorded CD's and an estimate of 60 recorded tracks. He has performed with 'El Conjunto Saoco' and is the founding member of 'La Charanga Sensual' and the 'Ray Ramos y Su Sonora Orchestra.'

Administrative Information

Collection Number:

Provenance: Donated by Ray Ramos

Processing History:

Transfers:

Copyright: Ray Ramos

Restrictions:

Preferred Citation: The Ray Ramos Collection, 1973-2011, Archives of the Puerto Rican Diaspora. Centro de Estudios Puertorriqueños, Hunter College, CUNY.

Processing Archivist: Jonathan Morales, Ana Rosa Perez under the supervision of Pedro Juan Hernandez

Date: November 2011, November 2013

THE RAY RAMOS COLLECTION, 1973-2011

Biographical Note:

Ray Ramos is a composer, sonero, performer and bandleader with over 40 years in the music business, 20 recorded CD's and an estimated 60 recorded tracks. He was born on June 19, 1947 and grew up on 110th St. in El Barrio. As a young child he began singing on the streets; as a teenager he sang Doo-Wop with a group of Puerto Ricans and African Americans in their band, "The Tellers". In the beginning stages as a salsa musician he performed background vocals and lead vocals for bands such as 'The Ralphi Pagan Sextet', and lead vocals for Joey Aponte, Louie Rey and others. In 1976 he joined 'El Conjunto Saoco', recording his first album with Salsoul Records as lead singer. He recorded three albums with "Saoco" thereafter. He eventually went on to form his own band 'La Charanga Sensual' and later formed the 'Ray Ramos y Su Sonora Orchestra' in 1981.

Ray Ramos signed with Kim Records in 1982, recording his first LP titled "Ray Ramos y Su Sonora" and his second LP titled "Salsa Tracks" thereafter. In 1987, he recorded with Palm Records and in 1988 recorded "Fiesta de Besos" with El Abuelo Records but is best known for his song "La Receta" which he wrote for Johnny Polanco. The song became very popular in Europe, leading Ramos to perform at numerous salsa clubs in London, England. "La Receta" has been featured in movies such as "Death to Smoochy", "Dance with Me", "Ivory Towers" and "The Way She Moves".

He has done extensive research on Afro-Cuban music and is a member of the *American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers*. He worked as a vocational counselor and job-trainer at various social service agencies throughout his early years as a musician. He has performed at venues such as *The Copacabana, El Flamingo, La Maganet, La Bar Bat*, among many others and has toured all over the world in countries such as Colombia, Puerto Rico, Costa Rica, England, Canada, Martinique. He continues to be active, performing in various locations throughout the United States and abroad.

Scope and Content:

The collection is divided into the following series:

- I. Biographical and Personal Information
- II. Music and Media
- III. Periodicals
- IV. Photographs

Access Points:

Name

Aponte, Joey
Aviles, Orlando
La Charanga Sensual
Colon, Steve
Colon, Willie
Conjunto Saoco
Curbelo, Jose
De La Paz, Ray
Fiol, Henri
Holland, Chet
Jerry Gonzalez & Fort Apache Band
Jobos, Isabela
Lavoe, Hector
Millan, William
Monguito (Ramon Quian)
Orchestra La Metropolitana
Orquesta Aragon
Orquesta Flamboyant
Orquesta La Vida
Pagan, Ralphie
Paul Ortiz y La Orquesta Son
Polanco, Johnny
Puente, Tito
Quintana, Ismael
Ray Ramos y Su Sonora
Rey, Louie
Richie Ray Orchestra
Rivera, Johnny
Santiago, Adalberto
Santiago, Ray
Santos, Daniel
Soba, Landy

Subject Organizations

El Abuelo Records
American Society of Composers, Authors & Publishers
The Bar Bat
Billboard
Bronx Community College, CUNY
City of New York Human Resources Administration
Club Broadway
The Copa Cabana
Department of Correction, City of New York
Golden Music Records
H & G Records
Jazz Mobile
Kim Records
Lehman College
La Mirage
National Institute of Mental Health

Palm Records
Queens College, CUNY
Ray Ramos Productions
The Red Parrot
Roseland
Salsoul Records
SOB's
Studio 54
The Supper Club
Village Gate
Westgate Lounge

Subject Topics

Mental Health Counseling
Record Labels
Salsa
Salsa Bands
Salsa Performances

Subject Places

Alaska
El Barrio, New York
City Island, New York
Colombia
Costa Rica
London, England
Long Island, New York
Los Angeles, California
Miami, Florida
New York
Orchard Beach, Bronx
Panama
Puerto Rico
San Jose, Costa Rica

Series I: Biographical and Personal Information (1973-2008)

This series contains an array of personal items including flyers, contracts, articles and draft of autobiography in Spanish and English.

Box	Folder	
1	1	Articles/interviews (undated)
	2	Autobiography draft
	3	Contract Agreement (1977)
	4	Flyers & Ads/Cards (1982-2003)
	5	Identification documents, certificates and others (1973-2008)
	6	Music Career and Recordings (undated-2006)
	7	Performances & Contracts (1983-2007)

Series II: Music and Media (Undated, 1997-2008)

This series contains copies and originals of Ray Ramos albums/cd's, album cases and DVD's of live performances

Box	Items	
2		CD's
	1	Johnny Polanco y Su Conjunto Amistad- Amistad Para El Mundo Entero (2008)
	2	Johnny Polanco y Su Conjunto Amistad- L.A. Amistad (1997)
	3	Margarita Caliente 2 (Framed)
	4	Saoco Macho Mumba (1998)
	5	Sonando en Alaska La Ultima Frontera (Framed)
	6	Think Global Salsa: Amnesty International (2007)
	7	Tonga Mix (1999)
		CD Case
	8	Ray Ramos & Su Sonora "Leal"
	9	Ray Ramos Salsa de Puerto Rico Para El Mundo Entero
	10	Ray Ramos Singer/Composer/Bandleader/Producer/ Recording Artist
	11	Sonando en Alaska La Ultima Frontera (2005)
	12	William Millan y Saoco Papa Montero (1997)
		DVD's
	13	Ray Ramos Orchestra Live at West Gate
	14	Ray Ramos- Latin Jazz Alive n' Kickin'
15	Saoco- Live Performance	
16	Saoco Live; Ray Ramos y Su Sonora; Love Boat	
17	Orchard Beach Boat Ride	

Series III: Magazines/Ads and Newspaper Clippings (1983-2003)

This series contains magazines and advertisements of Ray Ramos albums and performances

Box	Folder	
3	1	BochinChat, Canales, Variedades Latinoamericanas (1983-2000)
	2	Orchard Beach, Sabor Magazine, Vista USA (circa 1990's-2003)
	3 & 4	Latin Beat Magazine 1997, 1999-2003
	5	Newspaper articles/clippings (undated, 1984-2003)

Series IV: Photographs

Photographs and collage of Ray Ramos at various venues, copies of album covers, including albums not in collection, and contact sheet images of digital collection of photos

Box	Folder	
3	6	Ray Ramos pictures & album cover prints (undated)
	7	Digital images-contact sheets (139 images)
		Oversized Materials
OS		Large photo collage (notes on people in photo collage)