

Interview with Selina Hernandez

Salsa music

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12 pm-1 pm

Tell me a little bit about yourself?

I am Selina Hernandez. I was born in a Mexican culture. Ever since I was little my parents will always play salsa music during events. I remember that my family will gather around with my relatives and celebrate my birthday by playing salsa music and dancing to salsa music. Therefore I decided to pursue it as a purpose in one.

Why did you decide to Major in music? and where did you study?

I have attended to Csun and gained my bachelors in composition in 2013. The reason I decided to major in composition is because I have always found it interesting to compose salsa music and singing since it brings everyone joy and happiness.

Tell me a little about salsa music?

Salsa music is based on simple rhythm and fast tempo therefore you can feel the energy that is played and put into the music. It's not just about the texture of the music, it's also about how you dress and how you perform. For instance in salsa, musicians need to dress in formal so the dancers stand out if there is going to be dancing involved which usually is. Salsa without dance seems boring to me. Therefore I also took dancing classes to gain some knowledge about salsa dancing. I still prefer playing the music though since I have played guitar for a long time.

How do you compose salsa music ?

You have to know a lot about interlocking pitches from different instruments that can crest melody to the song. There is usually a unique beat that stands out through the music. This type of ongoing beat is played with bongos which are Afro- Cuban percussion category.

