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Comments

This is my opinion: I am Puerto Rican, and I grew up as many kids do in this country with all that goes with being brought up by my family in another culture attempting to adapt to this country.

My father was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, raised in New York. My father taught me Salsa, however, then it resembled Mambo more than Salsa. I began when I was eight years old. As a child he told me of my lineage and instilled that I should be proud of it and I am. During this time he often spoke of our culture socially and its contributions musically which was hubbed on Mambo, Cha-Cha, and Salsa.

He spoke of often how Salsa evolved over a period of time spanning almost 15-20 years. He played his music and taught me to dance as to I have done with my son.

Make no mistake, the music which they called Tropical, and or Latin Music (They-meaning the American Culture and the standards that they always inevitably seem to set) had its beginnings in Cuba with the father of Musica del Tropical, Benny Morre and later Chao.

Benny was truly the father of the ritmo especial, and the music was soon to be labeled as the tempo for Mambo. Cuba was highly commercialized in the eyes of many Americans due to the associations in the late twenties, thirties and forties of American Gangsters and their associations with Cuba's leaders. I therefore grew up listening to these guys and the music that was apart of mine and my fathers world. People like Beeny, Chao, Celia Cruz, Eddie Palmeri and so on.

In the late thirties and early forties Cuba was highly visible and became a focal point for Americans to look upon Cuba as the exotic and forbidden island. Mambo was heralded all Cuban and that was that. Cuba took credit for Salsa because of its presents and the allure of it mystic.

In all actuality according to my father and what he told be as a boy the music and Mambo came from Cuba. Salsa on the other hand evolved out of Mambo and Cha Cha. Los Borenquens enjoyed Mambo but it was too slow and unexciting.

Cha Cha came along from Puerto Rico and was the rage but it to fell to routine. What I was told was that in an effort to dance effortlessly and have fun without the restrictions of Mambo and Cha Cha the Puerto Ricans developed Salsa. Which is a combination of Mambo and Cha Cha.

By the way in the Music Category for the Grammys now this type of Music is now referred to as Afro-Latin Music. for many years the word to most Americans simply meant you were Mexican. Even today many Mexicans think and take credit for Caribbean music and dances.

Salsa vino sobre como una evolución de dos bailes Puerto Ricans del puerto generalmente baile y lo usaba como una manera hablar a su mujer y los seduce. Como mi padre me dijo una vez es una manera hacer a la mujer dar cuenta de usted pero debe ser muy bueno.

Cuando lo interpreto está sigue como:

Mambo: Cuba ChaCha: Puerto Rico Salsa: Puerto Rico Merenque: Republica dominicano Rumba: América del Sur Rumba Bolero: América del Sur Cumbia: América del Sur Modificó Cumbia: México Punta: Centroamérica, Honduras