



**THE STAR-STUDED, GRAMMY®-NOMINATED CLASSIC
TREMENDO TRIO
FROM RAY BARRETTO, CELIA CRUZ, AND ADALBERTO SANTIAGO
RETURNS TO VINYL**

The long-out-of-print title arrives as part of Craft Latino’s centennial celebration for “The Queen of Salsa,” and features “Nadie se salva de la rumba,” “Así empezó él son montuno” and “Margie”



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Los Angeles, CA (August 6, 2025)—**Craft Latino** announces a special reissue for the 1983 GRAMMY-nominated salsa classic *Tremendo Trio*, which unites three of Latin music’s greatest talents: legendary bandleader and percussionist **Ray Barretto**, beloved vocalist **Adalberto Santiago**, and the “Queen of Salsa,” **Celia Cruz**. Returning to vinyl on **October 3rd** for the first time since its original release, and available for [pre-order today](#), this star-studded album is packed with *salsa dura* dancefloor favorites, including “Nadie se salva de la rumba,” “Así empezó él son montuno,” and “Margie.” This edition of *Tremendo Trio* was **cut from the original analog tapes** by **Dave Polster** and **Clint Holley** at Well Made Music and pressed on **180-gram vinyl**. Fans can also enjoy the remastered album in both **standard and HD digital audio available now**. Additionally, a **limited-edition “Tremendo Rojo” color vinyl variant** (only 300 copies) is available as a stand-alone, or a bundle option that includes a collectible Fania Retro Logo T-shirt, exclusively online at Fania.com.

This release arrives as part of Craft Latino's centennial celebrations honoring Celia Cruz and her extraordinary contributions to the musical landscape. Widely regarded as one of the most influential Latin artists of all time, Cruz was an internationally beloved star who sold over 10 million records over the course of her five-decade career. A ten-time GRAMMY nominee, she received numerous accolades, including the National Medal of the Arts, a Smithsonian Lifetime Achievement Award, a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame, and a posthumous GRAMMY Lifetime Achievement Award. Cruz was also inducted into both the *Billboard* Latin Music Hall of Fame and the International Latin Music Hall of Fame, among others. In 2024, she made history as the first Afro-Latina to appear on U.S. currency through the American Women's Quarter Program. Throughout the year, Craft Latino is commemorating Cruz with a series of vinyl and digital reissues, playlists, video content, and more.

1983 marked a special moment in time for Latin music when three of its biggest stars united for one "tremendous" album, *Tremendo Trio*. Bringing serious star power was the "Queen of Salsa," **Celia Cruz** (1925 – 2003). After launching her career in the early '50s as a member of the celebrated vocal group, La Sonora Matancera, the Cuban singer was forced to flee to the U.S., amid the Cuban Revolution. Settling in New York City, she embarked on a solo career, collaborating with some of the era's biggest Latin stars—including Tito Puente and Memo Salamanca. In the mid-'70s, Cruz experienced another career resurgence, thanks to a string of internationally bestselling albums with Johnny Pacheco and Willie Colón, among others, as well as regular live performances with the Fania All Stars.

At the helm was the GRAMMY-winning bandleader and percussionist, **Ray Barretto** (1929 – 2006). One of the foremost names in Latin jazz and Afro-Cuban rhythms, Barretto straddled the worlds of jazz and Latin music, while he was at the forefront of the boogaloo and salsa scenes. After rising to fame with his 1963 hit, "**El Watusi**," Barretto went on to release such popular albums as 1968's *Acid*, 1972's *Que viva la música*, and 1975's *Barretto* and served as the musical director of the world-renowned collective, **Fania All Stars**. As a percussionist, Barretto was also an in-demand studio musician, who played alongside some of the biggest stars in jazz, pop, and rock, including Charlie Parker, the Bee Gees, and the Rolling Stones.

For *Tremendo Trio*, Barretto enlisted his longtime collaborator—and one of salsa's most iconic vocalists—**Adalberto Santiago** (b. 1937). Renowned for his beautiful, wide-ranging vocals, Santiago rose as a singer for bandleader Chuíto Vélez—during which time he earned the nickname "the Puerto Rican Elvis Presley." In the mid-'60s, he joined Barretto's band, releasing seven studio albums together between 1966 and 1972. A longtime member of the Fania All Stars, Santiago also fronted the popular group Típica 73, all while enjoying a highly successful solo career that began in the late '70s. When he reunited with Barretto for *Tremendo Trio*, Santiago was at the height of his fame.

Together, the three stars deliver old-school *salsa dura* magic on *Tremendo Trio*. The album opens with the joyful "**Nadie se salva de la rumba**"—an enduring favorite that showcases the talents of all three artists and sets the tone for the album. With their inspired *soneos*, Cruz and Santiago's powerhouse performances complement one another, while Barretto contributes a series of stunning conga solos throughout the track. Other dancefloor staples include "**De repente**," and "**Margie**," while "**Así empezó él son montuno**" remains a standout hit for all three performers.

Produced by Barretto and arranged by the great **Luis Cruz**, the album is bolstered by a talented line-up of musicians, including pianist **Oscar Hernández**, bassist **Ray Martínez**, trombonist **Joe De Jesus** and a trumpet section consisting of **Charlie Hernandez**, **Ken Fradley**, **Ray Gonzalez**, **Tim Quimette**, and **Tony Barrero**. Joining Barretto on percussion are **Carlos Soto** (bongos) and **Ralph Irizarry** (timbales), while the celebrated Charanga artist, **Felo Barrio**, adds backing vocals.

A commercial and critical success upon its release, *Tremendo Trio* has long been an essential title in any salsa fan's record collection. In addition to earning a nomination for Best Tropical Latin Performance at the 26th annual GRAMMYS, the title also took home a Latin ACE Award for Salsa Album of the Year in 1984.

[Click here](#) to pre-order *Tremendo Trio*.

[Click here](#) to find the exclusive bundle including the "Tremendo Rojo" color vinyl with a collectible Fania Records Retro Logo T-shirt.

Tremendo Trio tracklist (vinyl)

Side A

1. Nadie se salva de la rumba
2. Debes callar
3. Margie
4. Ya no puede ser

Side B

1. De repente
2. Caminando
3. Así empezó el son montuno
4. La caña y la plantación

About Fania:

Highly influential, both musically and culturally, Fania Records spread the sound of salsa music from the clubs of New York City to the rest of the world and became a revered global brand in the process. Fania's master recording catalog is the definitive home for genres such as Latin big band, Afro-Cuban jazz, boogaloo, salsa and Latin soul and includes artistic giants such as **Celia Cruz**, **Willie Colón**, **Héctor Lavoe** and **Rubén Blades**. With the creation of the international supergroup known as the **Fania All-Stars**, the label's signature musical style became known as the "Fania Sound." Fania's rich master catalog also includes the **Pete Rodriguez's** boogaloo classic "I Like It Like That" which was sampled by **Cardi B** in her #1 hit "I Like It." Additionally, three Fania Recordings, *Celia & Johnny* by **Celia Cruz** and **Johnny Pacheco**, *Azucar Pa' Ti* by **Eddie Palmieri** and *Live at Yankee Stadium* by the Fania All-Stars, appear in the National Recording Registry, a list of sound recordings that "are culturally, historically or aesthetically important, and/or inform or reflect life in the United States." For more info, visit Fania.com and follow on [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8v11111111111111111111), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/faniarecords), [Twitter](https://twitter.com/faniarecords), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/faniarecords), and [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/@faniarecords).

About Craft Latino:

Craft Latino is home to one of the largest and most prestigious collections of Latin music master recordings and compositions in the world. Its rich and storied repertoire includes legendary artists such as **Antonio Aguilar**, **Joan Sebastian**, **Pepe Aguilar**, **Celia Cruz**, **Héctor Lavoe**, **Willie Colón**, **Ray Barretto**, **La Lupe**, **Ruben Blades** and the **Fania All Stars**, to name just a few. Renowned imprints with catalogs issued under the Craft banner include **Musart**, **Fania**, **TH**, **Panart**, **West Side Latino** and **Kubaney**, among many others. Craft creates thoughtfully curated packages, with a meticulous devotion to quality and a commitment to preservation, ensuring that these recordings endure for new generations to discover.

Craft Latino is the Latin repertoire arm of Craft Recordings, the catalog label team for Concord. For more info, visit CraftRecordings.com.

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