



WILLIE COLÓN AND HÉCTOR LAVOE'S 1969 MASTERPIECE *COSA NUESTRA* RETURNS TO VINYL AND CD

The bestselling title arrives on 180-gram vinyl and CD on September 25th and features such classics as "Ché ché colé," "Ausencia," and "Juana Peña"

This is the moment when salsa became the Nuyorican equivalent of rock'n'roll—with Willie and Héctor as its glamorous stars. —Rolling Stone's "50 Greatest Salsa Albums of All Time"



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Los Angeles, CA (July 29, 2026)—**Craft Latino** pays homage to the late **Willie Colón** with a **vinyl and CD reissue** of his breakthrough 1969 album with **Héctor Lavoe**, ***Cosa Nuestra***. A cornerstone of Latin music history, the pair's fourth album has long been considered a salsa masterpiece, thanks to such memorable selections as "**Ché ché colé**," "**Ausencia**," "**Te conozco**," and "**Juana Peña**." Arriving on **September 25th** and available for **pre-order today**, this special edition of *Cosa Nuestra* features **all-analog (AAA) mastering** and is pressed on **180-gram vinyl**.

A **limited-edition Metallic Blue** color pressing (**only 300 copies**) will also be available as a standalone or bundled with a Fania Retro Logo T-shirt at Fania.com. Fans can also enjoy the remastered album in both **standard and hi-res audio available now** on digital music platforms.

One of the most formidable and innovative duos in Latin music, **Willie Colón** (1950–2026) and **Héctor Lavoe** (1946–1993) began their partnership in the mid '60s, when Colón was just 16 and Lavoe was 21. Meeting at **Fania Records**, the New York City pair quickly established a following, thanks to their soulful 1967 debut, ***El Malo***. By the end of the decade, following ***The Hustler*** (1968) and ***Guisando*** (1969), Lavoe and Colón had matured into their signature sound, moving beyond the popular boogaloo craze to pioneer the sounds of salsa.

Fittingly titled ***Cosa nuestra*** (“Our Thing”), Lavoe and Colón capped the ’60s with an impeccable album that would not only solidify their legacies but also define the next decade of Latin music. Building upon the gangster themes of their earlier records, their fourth album cover depicts Colón as a mobster, readying to dispose of a body in the Hudson River. The music inside is just as formidable. Overseen by Fania co-founder **Johnny Pacheco**, who served as Recording Director, as well as producer **Jerry Masucci**, the session finds Colón settling into a fresh sound with new band members, including **Eric Matos** (trombone), **Little Louie Romero** (timbales), **Milton Cardona** (congas), **José Mangual Jr.** (bongo, cowbell), **Santi González** (bass) and **Professor Joe Torres** on piano.

Many of the songs on the album paint gritty vignettes of urban life: from stories of the neighborhood mooch (“**Te conozco**”) and a man’s dismay at his friend’s betrayal (“**Tú no puedes conmigo**”), to the woman who repeatedly betrays her lovers—only to fall victim to heartbreak herself (“**Juana Peña**”). In the popular bolero-son “**Ausencia**,” meanwhile, Lavoe sings about the pain of a man mourning his broken relationship, forever haunted by his former lover’s betrayal.

Among the lighter selections are “**Sonero mayor**,” which pays homage to the art of improvisation and soneo (a talent that Lavoe famously embodied), while the album’s biggest hit, “**Ché ché colé**,” was inspired by an African children’s game. Fusing traditional African and Latin rhythms, the effervescent song captured the hearts of a global audience, pushing Colón and Lavoe into overnight stardom and making *Cosa nuestra* their first gold-selling album in the US.

Cosa nuestra remains a seminal salsa album and has long been considered among Colón and Lavoe’s finest collaborations. *AllMusic* declared, “*Cosa Nuestra* is not only Willie Colón's first masterpiece, it's his best.” In 2024, *Cosa nuestra* ranked at No.13 in *Rolling Stone*’s “50 Greatest Salsa Albums of All Time” list, with the publication hailing: “*Cosa Nuestra* marked the point of inflection where everything came together.... This is the moment when salsa became the Nuyorican equivalent of rock’n’roll—with Willie and Héctor as its glamorous stars.”

In the following years, Colón and Lavoe would find even greater success with such best-selling titles as ***La gran fuga*** (1970), ***El juicio*** (1972), and the beloved Christmas classics ***Asalto Navideño Vols. 1 & 2*** (1971 and 1972, respectively), before amicably parting ways in the mid-’70s. Embarking on a solo career, Lavoe would soon be considered one of the great interpreters of salsa music, while Colón would serve as a key figure in the scene as a trombonist, composer, producer, and leader of his namesake orchestra.

In recent years, the album’s influence has continued to reach new generations. In 2024, Rauw Alejandro paid tribute to Colón and Lavoe’s landmark recording with his own *Cosa nuestra*, drawing inspiration from the spirit and aesthetic of the original 1969 classic. Featuring collaborations with artists including Bad Bunny and Pharrell Williams, Alejandro’s album highlighted the lasting impact of Colón and Lavoe’s work and its continued relevance among today’s leading Latin music artists.

[Click here](#) to pre-order *Cosa nuestra*.

[Click here](#) to find the exclusive bundle including the limited-edition Metallic Blue color vinyl with a Fania Retro Logo T-shirt.

Tracklist (Vinyl)

Side A

1. Ché ché colé
2. No me llores más
3. Ausencia
4. Te conozco

Side B

1. Juana Peña
2. Sonero mayor
3. Sangrigorda
4. Tú no puedes conmigo

Tracklist (CD/Digital)

1. Ché ché colé
2. No me lores más
3. Ausencia
4. Te conozco
5. Juana Peña
6. Sonero mayor
7. Sangrigorda
8. Tú no puedes conmigo

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/faniarecords), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/faniarecords), [X](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, the Fania All Stars and Daddy Yankee 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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