

NG

PRESS KIT 2026

NICKO GUERRERO.

DRUMMER · COMPOSER · RESEARCHER

A Colombian voice.
An open-ended rhythm.

BOGOTÁ ROOTS · BOSTON BASED

nickoguerrero.com

AT A GLANCE

COLOMBIAN RHYTHM. JAZZ LANGUAGE.

Nicko Guerrero is a Bogotá-born, Boston-based drummer and composer who brings the rhythmic heritage of the Colombian Caribbean — bullerengue, lumbalú, fandango, porro — into the open language of contemporary jazz. His debut album, **Pura Bulla**, grows from fieldwork in San Basilio de Palenque and a master's degree at the Berklee Global Jazz Institute.

WHY BOOK NICKO

01

A STORY AUDIENCES CAN FOLLOW

Music rooted in Palenque — the first free town of the Americas and UNESCO Intangible Heritage — told on stage and in conversation.

02

CREDENTIALS THAT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

The first Colombian admitted to the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. Stages in ten countries, including Estéreo Picnic and Corona Hell & Heaven.

03

PRESS AND PLATFORMS IN PLACE

Coverage in El Tiempo, W Radio, Caracol TV and Señal Colombia. The album is on every major platform, with three official videos.

FORMATS

TRIO

An intimate format for clubs, series and listening rooms.

PURA BULLA ENSEMBLE

The full album sound with an international ensemble — accordion, vibraphone, Greek laouto and more — for festival and concert-hall stages.

LECTURE-CONCERT & MASTERCLASS

A play-and-talk format on the research behind Pura Bulla, for universities, conservatories and cultural institutions.

Ensemble size, set length and technical needs are adapted to each stage. Technical rider and hospitality notes on request.

BASED IN

Boston, Massachusetts

ORIGIN

Bogotá, Colombia

LANGUAGES

English · Español

BOOKING

info@nickoguerrero.com



VISIT THE WEBSITE



PHOTOGRAPHY / KATYA VEBER

EDUCATION

M.M. Contemporary Performance, Berklee (2019) · Post-master fellowship, BGJI (2020)

FLAGSHIP PROJECT

Pura Bulla

ALSO

Berklee faculty accompanist · workshops & masterclasses

SPONSORED BY

Bosphorus Cymbals · RTOM (Moongel)

THE ARTIST

ROOTED. RESTLESS. RESONANT.

Born in Bogotá and based in Boston, Nicko Guerrero is a drummer, composer, researcher and educator — the first Colombian admitted to the Berklee Global Jazz Institute. For more than a decade he has built a body of work that treats the rhythmic heritage of the Colombian Caribbean as a living, contemporary idiom.

His sound sits at the confluence of bullerengue, lumbalú, porro and jazz: rigorous, lyrical and unmistakably his own. It comes from direct fieldwork with the community of San Basilio de Palenque, formalised as a master's thesis at Berklee, and carried today to stages, universities and international platforms.

"The drum is not a backdrop for the song — it is the song. In Palenque, rhythm is a library, and my work is to read it in conversation with jazz until both traditions begin to speak a third language that neither could write alone."

NICKO GUERRERO · BOSTON · 2026



THE DEBUT ALBUM · OUT NOW

PURA BULLA.

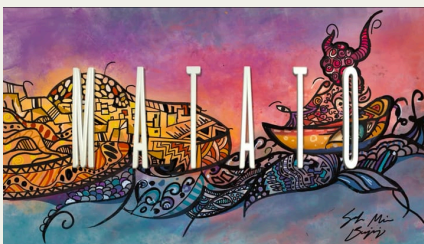
The Colombian Caribbean. The freedom of jazz. A meeting of rhythms, memories and musicians from across the world. Pura Bulla was composed from fieldwork in San Basilio de Palenque and recorded with an international ensemble.

SEVEN COMPOSITIONS

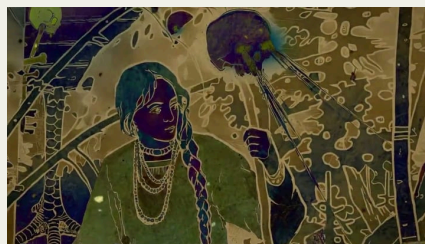
01	Matato	Bullerengue chalupa	05	El Viajero	Porro
02	Ritual	Lumbalú	06	Ambrosio	Bullerengue chalupeao
03	Fandango de Luna	Fandango	07	Well You Needn't	Thelonious Monk · arrangement
04	Bacatá	Jazz · Afro-Colombian			

Streaming editions also include short interludes.

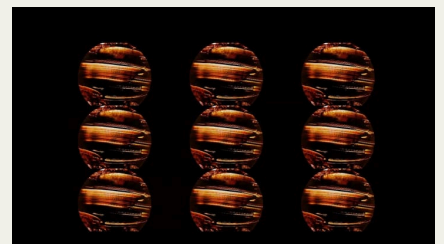
OFFICIAL VIDEOS

**MATATO**

Aug 2020 · Watch ↗

**RITUAL**

Oct 2025 · Watch ↗

**FANDANGO DE LUNA**

Dec 2025 · Watch ↗

**LISTEN ON ALL PLATFORMS**

Spotify · Apple Music · Bandcamp · YouTube
ditto.fm/pura-bulla

STAGES

TEN COUNTRIES, ONE VOICE.

INTERNATIONAL TOURING

US	New York · Boston · Miami
CO	Bogotá · Cartagena · Palenque
MX	Mexico City · Culiacán
ES	Madrid · Barcelona
AR	Buenos Aires
PE	Lima
DO	Santo Domingo
CR	San José
PR	San Juan
BR	São Paulo

FESTIVALS & MAJOR STAGES

ESTÉREO PICNIC

Colombia · main Latin festival

CORONA HELL & HEAVEN

Mexico

DR JAZZ FESTIVAL

Dominican Republic

FEDUJAZZ

Dominican Republic · education

FLADEM CONGRESS

Mexico · music education

LIVE DATES



Concerts, tickets and RSVP — always up to date:

nickoguerrero.com/shows

ALL DATES

TRAJECTORY

A DECADE, IN MOMENTS.

2014**INTERNATIONAL TOURING BEGINS**

US · Latin America · Spain · Caribbean. Freelance recording and touring drummer across genres.

2016**FIELDWORK IN SAN BASILIO DE PALENQUE**

Research with the Cabildo Benkos Biohó — the foundation of Pura Bulla.

2017**DEGREE IN MUSIC EDUCATION**

Universidad Pedagógica Nacional, Bogotá.

2019**MASTER'S AT THE BERKLEE GLOBAL JAZZ INSTITUTE**

Full scholarship. First Colombian admitted to the BGJI. Thesis: Pura Bulla.

2020**POST-MASTER FELLOWSHIP · DEBUT SINGLE**

Releases "Matato", covered by Caracol TV, Canal Trece, RCN, Radiónica and El Bolivarense.

2021**INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC CIRCULATION**

Presents Pura Bulla at the I Congreso de Interculturalidad, Universidad Libre.

2022**PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPANIST AT BERKLEE**

Ensemble Department, Berklee College of Music.

2025**OPENING LECTURE · TWO SINGLES**

Universidad Central de Colombia. "Ritual" and "Fandango de Luna", covered by El Tiempo, Señal Colombia and Canal Trece.

2026**PURA BULLA, THE DEBUT ALBUM**

Out now on all major platforms.

RECOGNITION**2020****Post-master fellowship**

Berklee Global Jazz Institute

2017–19**Full scholarship · M.M.**

Berklee College of Music

2016**MACMEX Award**

Universidad Autónoma de Sinaloa

2015**Fellowship · Puerto Rican music**

Conservatorio de Artes del Caribe

2014**Berklee on the Road**

Conservatório Souza Lima, São Paulo

IN THEIR WORDS

FROM FELLOW ARTISTS.

"During his live performance, he demonstrated his ability to bring high emotional energy to the venue ... demonstrating his immense versatility and depth as a performer."

JOE LOVANO

Grammy-winning saxophonist, composer and arranger · Honorary doctorate, Berklee

"His sophisticated, elegant way of playing drums, combined with his passion and energy, sets him apart."

TERRI LYNE CARRINGTON

Four-time Grammy winner · drummer, producer, educator

"His evolution over the years has been incredible, and his approach to the arts and the atmosphere he creates when performing are out of this world."

OSCAR STAGNARO

Six-time Grammy winner · bassist · Professor, Berklee

"Very few musicians are able to accomplish what [Nicko] has already accomplished so quickly."

LUCIANA SOUZA

Grammy winner · singer, composer, educator

IN THE PRESS

ON RECORD, IN CONTEXT.

"The first Colombian admitted to the Berklee Global Jazz Institute, the world's most prestigious music institution — told his story."

W RADIO COLOMBIA Perfil W · 2019

"Nicko Guerrero focuses his interpretation, composition and teaching as a holistic tool to build social change."

EL ESPECTADOR Un chat con · 2020

"A fresh, multicultural and innovative proposal — involving improvisational sounds and musical elements from several parts of the world."

RCN RADIO 2020

"Ritual: a fusion between jazz and the Afro-Colombian heritage — a new chapter in Guerrero's intercultural vocabulary."

EL TIEMPO Cultura · 2025

SELECTED COVERAGE

EL TIEMPO W RADIO CARACOL TV RCN SEÑAL COLOMBIA CANAL TRECE RADIÓNICA
EL ESPECTADOR EL BOLIVARENSE ANTÓN MX COLECTIVO SONORO PULZO PUBLIMETRO
SHOUTOUT LA BERKLEE

STUDIED & WORKED WITH

Wayne Shorter NEA Jazz Master

Danilo Pérez BGJI artistic director

Terri Lyne Carrington Multiple Grammy winner

Joe Lovano Grammy winner

Dave Liebman NEA Jazz Master

Nicko Guerrero Four-time Grammy winner

FEATURED COLLABORATORS

Luciana Souza Grammy · Latin Grammy winner

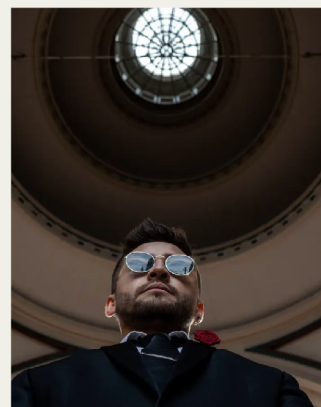
Jesús Molina Latin Grammy winner

Paola Jara Platinum artist · Colombia

Billy Kilson Dave Holland group

John Patitucci

NICKOGUERRERO.COM



BOOKING & CONTACT

BRING NICKO TO YOUR STAGE.

COLOMBIA · LATIN AMERICA

MANAGEMENT

BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

Festivals, institutions, cultural programmes and brand partnerships.

[WhatsApp](#)info@nickoguerrero.com

USA · EUROPE

BOOKING & PRESS

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Venues, presenters, press and media enquiries.

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INSTAGRAM	@nickoguerrero
SPOTIFY	Pura Bulla
APPLE MUSIC	Pura Bulla
BANDCAMP	Pura Bulla
YOUTUBE	Official channel

nickoguerrero.com

Press photographs, logo files, technical rider and hospitality notes available on request — or at nickoguerrero.com/press.

Photography: Katya Veber

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