

Yes, I'd like to make a donation to the Music Fund for Cuba

Name: _____

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Email: _____

Here's my gift of: £10 £20 £50 Other amount £ _____

Please tick here if you would like the Music Fund for Cuba to reclaim the tax via Gift Aid that you have paid on this and any future donations you may make.*

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Cheque enclosed (payable to Music Fund for Cuba)

Please debit my credit/debit card

Card number: _____

Start date: ____/____/____ Expiry date: ____/____/____

Switch cards only: Issue No. ____ Valid from ____/____/____

Name on card: _____

Address where card is registered (if different to above)

* In order for The Music Fund for Cuba to reclaim the tax you have paid on your donation(s) you must have paid income or capital gains tax (in the UK) equal to the tax that will be claimed (currently 28p for every £1 you give).

Standing Order form

(Please return to Music Fund for Cuba - not your Bank)

Name of Account Holder(s): _____

Address: _____

Account Number: _____

Sort Code: _____

Name & address of bank: _____

Pay Music Fund for Cuba, Co-operative Bank, 1 Islington High Street,

London N1 9TR,

Sort code: 08-92-50 Account Number: 50015566

£ _____ every month / year

starting on (date) _____ until further notice.

Signature _____

Please complete the appropriate section and return this form to:

Music Fund for Cuba, c/o CSC,
The Red Rose Club,
129 Seven Sisters Road,
London, N7 7QG

Alternatively, you can donate online at our website: www.musicfundforcuba.org.uk or www.justgiving.com/mffc/donate



You can now donate online directly to the Music Fund for Cuba.

Simply visit the Just Giving website www.justgiving.com/mffc/donate or set up a page for your own sponsored event.

Luciana Caffarelli from Aberystwyth ran the Cardiff marathon in October 2006 and set up her own page on the Justgiving website so her sponsors could donate online directly to her charity of choice, the Music Fund for Cuba, as well as using conventional sponsorship forms supplied by the Fund. 4 hours 50 minutes – congratulations, Luciana, and thanks for the £250 you raised for the Fund!



Message to all our supporters:

The Music Fund for Cuba is moving forward in leaps and bounds. In 2006 we launched Project: Teatro Miramar to renovate a dilapidated theatre in Havana for use by students and community arts. Superstar Silvio Rodríguez, UK band Madness and guitarist John Williams, honoured us with a legendary London performance to help get the project started. Meanwhile we have been able to provide thousands of pounds worth of music and performing arts equipment to schools in Cuba. I want to give a huge thanks to all of you who have raised and donated money. I know how tirelessly many of you are working to help. You are making a magnificent contribution which is greatly appreciated both here and in Cuba. Thank you,

R. Miller

Rob Miller, Charity Director

The Music Fund for Cuba was first established in memory of singer Kirsty MacColl in January 2001. Kirsty, who was killed in an accident in December 2000, had been hugely inspired by Cuban music and culture and campaigned against the injustice of the blockade. Her mother Jean MacColl and friends approached Cuba Solidarity Campaign to set up the Fund. The Fund became a fully registered charity in February 2003.

Cuba is well known for its rich cultural traditions. Its music and performing arts are enjoyed by people around the world, but this heritage and the future artistic development are threatened by a lack of basic tools and materials. Violin strings, paper for music scores, ballet shoes, paints and other small but essential items are all in short supply. The main reason for these shortages is the continuing economic blockade of the island by the United States.

The aims of the Music Fund for Cuba are:
To advance the education of the public, in particular children and young people, by the supply of musical equipment and materials to students, music schools and performing artists within Cuba.

If you are interested in helping the Music Fund or have ideas for fundraising projects in your local community please do not hesitate to contact director, Rob Miller, Tel: 020 7263 6452 or e-mail: info@musicfundforcuba.org.uk

Your support today could make a world of difference to young Cuban musicians and artists.

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The Red Rose Club, 129 Seven Sisters Road, London N7 7QG, UK

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Music Fund For Cuba Registered Charity No. 1096283

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MUSIC FUND FOR CUBA

SUPPORTING CUBAN MUSIC AND ARTS



Project Teatro Miramar a dream to be realised with your help

"The theatre will be a beautiful link between the schools and the local community."

Clara Gonzalez,
Deputy Director,
National School of Arts.

In 2006 the Music Fund for Cuba launched its most ambitious fundraising project to date, for the restoration of the Miramar community theatre in Havana: Project Teatro Miramar. The estimated cost of the project is £200,000. The results will see the rebirth of this Havana landmark building. Once again the theatre will resonate with the rhythms of young artistic endeavour.

**£200,000
TARGET**
for Project
**TEATRO
MIRAMAR**

Rare glimpse of a star

For only the second time in a career spanning 40 years, Silvio Rodríguez performed in the UK in September to launch the Miramar Theatre restoration project for the Music Fund for Cuba. A full house at the Barbican in London raised many thousands of pounds for the Fund, which organised the whole night. UK legendary ska band Madness plus Ska Cubano put in special performances prior to Silvio's appearance.

Rodríguez is a superstar in Cuba and Latin America and he gave a performance worthy of the superlative, accompanied by his band. With a distinctive, clear voice he hushed an excitable crowd, delivering the well-known ballads for which he is famed, as well as some more recently recorded material. His songs of everyday life and love eloquently characterise the music of the Nueva Trova movement of which he was a founder. Rodríguez held his audience spellbound complemented for one number by the truly sublime accompaniment of John Williams – a long-time friend and collaborator.

Hailed as a modern day troubadour, Rodríguez has chronicled life and change in Cuba from the 1950s and his songs have become the soundtrack to political struggle throughout Central and Latin America. At this special event he proved that his music still touches the heart and soul of his following.

Photo: Julio Etchart



The theatre

The 600-seat Miramar theatre was built in the 1950s before the revolution, in the Playa district of Havana. Initially a musical theatre then a cinema, after the revolution it continued to be used as the cultural centre for the local community but stopped public performances 15 years ago due to disrepair. Close to the office of CNEArt and the National School of Arts, it is still used for rehearsals by young bands, circus and dance groups but its role could be so much more.

The challenges

In the early 90s the Cuban economy suffered a dramatic downturn after the collapse of the Soviet Union, its then main trading partner, which, combined with the US economic blockade, meant no resources to repair the theatre, like many other buildings in Cuba. Mayle Benitez, CNEArt deputy director says:

"The air conditioning required imported spare parts to keep it working and so couldn't be repaired. The roof got damaged by a hurricane and began to let in water, the audio system broke down and could not be repaired, and the seats are worn out as they are now so old, but we could not afford replacements."

continues overleaf

You can help Cuba's budding young musicians and performers achieve their dreams by giving now to the Music Fund for Cuba's Project Teatro Miramar appeal.

MAKE A DONATION. TURN TO THE BACK PAGE >