

Latin & Black Artists

Rodrigo Y Gabriela

Rodrigo and Gabriela are a Mexican acoustic guitar duo whose music is influenced by several genres including nuevo flamenco, rock, and heavy metal. The duo's recordings consist largely of instrumental duets on the flamenco guitar.

They both grew up in middle-class families in Mexico City. Their parents listened to flamenco, jazz, and rock music, but they both enjoyed heavy metal bands like Metallica.

The duo moved to Europe and took up residence in Dublin, Ireland, in 1999, despite not speaking any English.



Rodrigo Sánchez: born 9
January 1974 **Gabriela**
Quintero: born 11 June 1973

Genre: Acoustic, Nuevo flamenco

- ❖ The duo wrote the film score for *Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides* with Hans Zimmer. They have also written music for the film, *Puss in Boots*.

Gipsy Kings

Gipsy Kings are a band of Catalan rumba, flamenco, salsa, and pop musicians, founded in 1978 in Arles and Montpellier. Although they were brought up in France, they were brought up within Spanish culture and are largely responsible for bringing the sounds of progressive pop-oriented flamenco music to a worldwide audience.

The band started when brothers Nicolas and André Reyes, sons of flamenco artist Jose Reyes, teamed up with their cousins Jacques, Maurice, and Tonino Baliardo.

Gipsy Kings became popular with their self-titled third album, released in 1987.



- ❖ Los Reyes started out as a gypsy band, traveling around France and playing at weddings, festivals, and in the streets. Because they lived so much like gypsies, the band adopted the name Gipsy Kings.

Genre: Catalan Rumba, Flamenco

Camilla Cabello

Camilla Cabello is a Cuban singer, song-writer and actress.

In 2012, she auditioned for the X-Factor and joined a girl group, Fifth Harmony, in which she was known as the lead singer. Cabello and her band-mates released one EP and two studio albums. She left the group in 2016 to pursue a solo career.

In just 11 months of a solo career, Camila had won a total of 18 awards, became a multi-platinum artist with over 50 certifications, sold over 17 million units and gained over 4 billion combined YouTube and Spotify streams all without an album out.

Genre: Latin, Pop, R & B



Born: 3 March 1997 (age 26 years), Cojimar, Cuba



Cabello's Cuban heritage plays a significant role in shaping her music and artistic vision. Growing up in a Cuban-American household, she draws inspiration from rich cultural traditions and incorporates Latin rhythms and melodies into her songs.

Nina Simone

Nina Simone (born Eunice Kathleen Waymon) was an American singer, songwriter and pianist, arranger and civil rights activist.

Simone did not like people to classify her music, or say what genre it fell into, but people often call her a jazz musician.

She was often called "The High Priestess of Soul".

She recorded more than 40 albums between 1958 and 1974, making her debut with *Little Girl Blue*. Her autobiography, *I Put a Spell on You*, was published in 1992 and she recorded her last album, *A Single Woman*, in 1993.

Genre: Rhythm & Blues, Jazz, Soul

Born: February 21, 1933
In Tyron, North Carolina,
United States
Died: April 21,
2003 (aged 70) of breast
cancer



- ❖ She began playing the piano when she was the age of 3. Her first concert was a classical piano recital, when she was twelve. Her parents sat on the front row to watch her but were made to move to the back of the hall to make way for white people. Simone said she would not play until her parents were moved back to the front.

Stormzy

Michael Ebenezer Kwadjo Omari Owuo Jr., more famously known as Stormzy, is a British rapper, singer and songwriter.

Stormzy grew up in South Norwood with his mother, brother and two sisters. He loved music but his family were not musical. He began rapping at the age of 11 and his first performances were on social media.

He did not work hard at school although he was obviously clever. He later said, "It was A Levels that showed me that in life you need work ethic."

Genre: Rap, Grime

Born: 26th July, 1993,
Norbury,
South London



Stormzy's first EP recording was not produced by a record company, he produced it himself in 2014. Later that year he won Best Grime Act at the MOBO Awards.

Alicia Keys

Alicia Augello Cook, known as Alicia Keys, is an American singer and songwriter. A classically trained pianist, Keys started composing songs when she was 12 and was signed at 15 years old by Columbia Records.

Her first album became a critical and commercial success, selling over 12 million copies worldwide. It contained the Billboard Hot 100 number-one single "Fallin'" and earned Keys five Grammy Awards in 2002.



Born:

January 25, 1981 (age 42)
New York City, U.S

- ❖ Alicia Keys is an activist who supports many causes, from women's rights to global health. She is an ambassador for global health and justice.

Genre: R&B, Soul

The Sugar Hill Gang

The Sugarhill Gang is an American hip hop group, with three members: Michael "Wonder Mike" Wright, Henry "Big Bank Hank" Jackson, and Guy "Master Gee" O'Brien. They formed their group in 1979 in Englewood, New Jersey.

Their 1979 hit "Rapper's Delight" was the first rap single to become a top 40 hit on the Billboard Hot 100.

Although considered to be a one hit wonder group, the Sugar Hill Gang opened doors for African Americans into the music industry through hip hop, a genre today dominated by African Americans.

Genre: Hip hop music, Funk, Disco



- ❖ "Rapper's Delight" is still a major influence today. Rolling Stone Magazine ranked it #248 of the 500 Greatest Songs of All Time.