



## ESTRELLA ACOSTA

Cuban born vocalist Estrella Acosta is an accomplished and versatile singer-songwriter. Though she never stopped singing the folk songs of her motherland, she is equally at home embracing various Brazilian and jazz idioms. With her warm earthy voice she creates an energetic yet intimate and personal style, rooted in the sounds of her native Cuba.

She has left a travel footprint that truly makes her a citizen of the world. After completing a degree in Latin American Studies from the University of Texas at Austin, she set out to pursue her musical dreams in a journey that took her to Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro, New York City and, finally, Amsterdam, where she now resides.

Estrella has recorded six albums for the label eStar, which have won international acclaim:

- 'Navegando de la Habana a Rio' (1996), her debut album of original music by Luizão Paiva, Leo Amuedo and herself,
- 'Alma Guajira - Cuban Country Songs' (2003), nominated for a Dutch 'Edison' award,
- 'Esquina 25' (2013), with her Latin jazz quintet and Leo Amuedo,
- 'Mujeres de Luna - Songs by Cuban Women Composers' (2017), with the Pavadita string quartet and guests Orlando 'Maraca' Valle and Horacio 'El Negro' Hernández.
- 'Noche Cubana' (2020) with Cuban tres player Carlitos Irarragorri, and
- 'Tierra' (2023), her new album, featuring songs by female songwriters from the countryside of Cuba as well as her own compositions. Nominated for a Latin GRAMMY® 2023.

Estrella has been a featured artist in several more albums. She was invited to bandoneon-player Carel Kraayenhof's project 'Memorias de Cuba', which included a CD recording for Universal Records and live concerts at a.o. Amsterdam's Concertgebouw with the Metropole Orchestra.

In 2015 she sang with an all star cast in a bilingual children's album produced by Ben Gundersheimer (a.k.a. Mister G) called 'Los Animales'. This album won a Latin GRAMMY®.

Her festival appearances include the North Sea Jazz Festival, Curaçao Jazz Festival, Madison World Music Festival, World Music Chicago and Sunfest in London, Canada.

Estrella has performed with many great musicians, including Toninho Horta, Craig Handy, Edy Martinez, Ernestinae Stoop, Leo Amuedo and Jovino Santos Neto. In the Netherlands, she fronts 'Esquina 25', a band of top international musicians who participate throughout the years in her various projects.