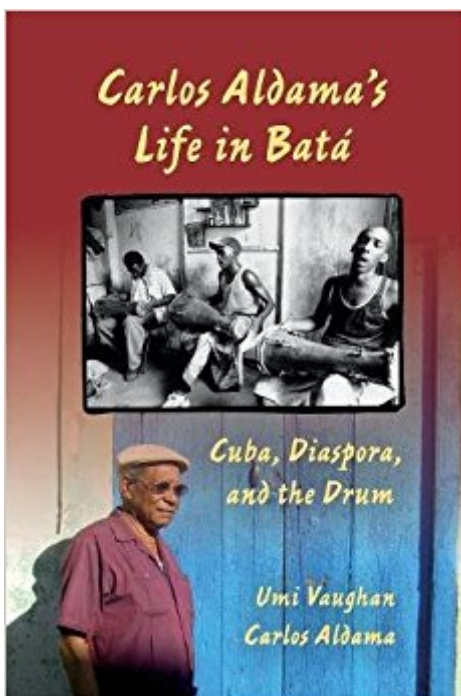


The book was found

Carlos Aldama's Life In Batá: Cuba, Diaspora, And The Drum



Synopsis

Batá identifies both the two-headed, hourglass-shaped drum of the Yoruba people and the culture and style of drumming, singing, and dancing associated with it. This book recounts the life story of Carlos Aldama, one of the masters of the batá drum, and through that story traces the history of batá culture as it traveled from Africa to Cuba and then to the United States. For the enslaved Yoruba, batá rhythms helped sustain the religious and cultural practices of a people that had been torn from its roots. Aldama, as guardian of Afro-Cuban music and as a Santería priest, maintains the link with this tradition forged through his mentor Jesus Pérez (Oba Ilu), who was himself the connection to the preserved oral heritage of the older generation. By sharing his stories, Aldama and his student Umi Vaughan bring to light the techniques and principles of batá in all its aspects and document the tensions of maintaining a tradition between generations and worlds, old and new. The book includes rare photographs and access to downloadable audio tracks.

Book Information

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Indiana University Press (April 2, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0253223784

ISBN-13: 978-0253223784

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #348,040 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #169 in Books > Arts & Photography > Music > Instruments > Percussion

Customer Reviews

"A solid ethnography, grounded in a rich and dramatic biography, reveals the creative power of the Yoruba drum to communicate sounds and words that are invested with rich secular and religious meanings about people and culture, identity and history, life and after-life. Only a scholar-performer with an uncommon imaginative talent could have written this extraordinary book." — Toyin Falola, Distinguished Teaching Professor, The University of Texas at Austin, and editor of *The Yoruba Diaspora in the Atlantic World* "Everything you need to know about batá and batá-playing is in this text, expertly taught and philosophically interpreted by Carlos Aldama and his star yamboki (apprentice), Umi Vaughan....I am proud to have read this Afro-Cuban classic." — Robert Farris

Thompson, Trumbull Professor of the History of Art, Yale, and author of *Aesthetic of the Cool: Afro-Atlantic Art and Music*"What a beautiful duet and deep dialogue between anthropologist Umi Vaughan and his batá teacher Carlos Aldama we find in these pages. We are so fortunate their paths crossed and that we now have the gift of their interwoven story, which makes the meaning of the drum in Cuban history, religion, and culture come alive. This is anthropology carried out with dedication, passion, and trust, and most of all with illuminating grace." — Ruth Behar, Professor of Anthropology, University of Michigan, and author of *An Island Called Home: Returning to Jewish Cuba*

Carlos Aldama is omo Añá (sworn to the drum) and a priest of Changá in the Santería—a religion. He is a founding member of Conjunto Folklórico Nacional de Cuba, studying under its original musical director Jesús Pérez (Oba Ilu), and eventually serving as musical director himself. He has worked with the National Symphony of Cuba, playwright Roberto Blanco, Karl Marx Theatre director Alex Valdez, and has played with Adalberto Álvarez y su Son, Lázaro Ros and Olorun, and Gonzalo Rubalcaba. Aldama was born in Havana and now lives in San Leandro, California. Umi Vaughan is also omo Añá, and is a priest of Ochun in the Santería—a religion. He is an artist and anthropologist who explores dance, creates photographs and performances, and publishes about African Diaspora culture. Vaughan is Assistant Professor of Africana Studies at California State University, Monterey Bay and author of *Rebel Dance, Renegade Stance: Timba Music and Black Identity in Cuba*. Vaughan lives in Oakland.

The one I received was good

I would recommend this book to all those looking for understanding and spiritual connection with the mother land through the medium of praise music.

Every student of Bata drumming should have a copy of this book. Carlos tells the history as he lived it. His student, Umi, adds perspective in a most enlightened way.

Besides been a friend and Elder in Mr. Carlos Aldama's life, reading his memoirs fills in the details of the product of his life.

:-)

[Download to continue reading...](#)

Carlos Aldama's Life in BatÃñ: Cuba, Diaspora, and the Drum Cuba: Explore Cuba. The best of Havana, Varadero and ViÃales. (Cuba Travel Guide, Cuba Night Life, Cuban Cigars, Cuba Embargo, Cuban Cuisine) Cuba Travel Guide: 101 Coolest Things to Do in Cuba (Budget Travel Cuba, Havana Travel Guide, Backpacking Cuba, Travel to Cuba) Alfred's Drum Method, Bk 1: The Most Comprehensive Beginning Snare Drum Method Ever! (Beginning Drum Pack -- Book, Pad, & Sticks), Drum Pack (Book, Pad, & Sticks) Cuba: 101 Awesome Things You Must Do in Cuba.: Cuba Travel Guide to the Best of Everything: Havana, Salsa Music, Mojitos and so much more. The True ... All You Need To Know About the Cuba. Corresponding with Carlos: A Biography of Carlos Kleiber Cuba: 101 Awesome Things You Must Do in Cuba: Cuba Travel Guide to the Best of Everything: Havana, Salsa Music, Mojitos and so much more. The True Travel Guide from a True Traveler. The African Diaspora: Slavery, Modernity, and Globalization (Rochester Studies in African History and the Diaspora) Artists, Performers, and Black Masculinity in the Haitian Diaspora (Blacks in the Diaspora) Forging Diaspora: Afro-Cubans and African Americans in a World of Empire and Jim Crow (Envisioning Cuba) Music and Revolution: Cultural Change in Socialist Cuba (Music of the African Diaspora) The Scattered Tribe: Traveling the Diaspora from Cuba to India to Tahiti & Beyond Sound Innovations for Concert Band -- Ensemble Development for Young Concert Band: Chorales and Warm-up Exercises for Tone, Technique, and Rhythm (Snare Drum/Bass Drum) Drum Rudiments & Musical Application: Master all 40 Drum Rudiments and apply them in Musical Context Hal Leonard Snare Drum Method: The Musical Approach to Snare Drum for Band and Orchestra Hidden Cuba: A Photojournalist's Unauthorized Journey to Cuba to Capture Daily Life: 50 Years After Castro's Revolution Alfred's Drum Method, Bk 1: The Most Comprehensive Beginning Snare Drum Method Ever! Drum Techniques of Led Zeppelin: Note for Note Transcriptions of 23 Classic John Bonham Drum Tracks The Drum Book: A History of the Rock Drum Kit Sound Innovations for Concert Band, Bk 1: A Revolutionary Method for Beginning Musicians (Percussion---Snare Drum, Bass Drum & Accessories), Book, CD & DVD

[Contact Us](#)

[DMCA](#)

[Privacy](#)

[FAQ & Help](#)