

LATIN FORUM {music}

# SoundBites

Sit back and enjoy some news and reviews from the world of Latino music and Hispanic performers.

## Revolutionary Funk

It's long been known that tough times make for great art. Nowhere is this more evident than in the world of music. The 1960s cultivated a generation of singers and songwriters who belted out messages of protest or love. Hopelessly poor corners of the American Southeast birthed the blues. Perhaps it's frustration that fuels artists to channel their emotions into their music. The album *Si Para Usted Vol. 2* explores the music in revolutionary-era communist Cuba. It was a sound that could only have been created at this one time—people were fearful and hopeful, angry and resentful and nostalgic for a yesterday only a second gone. That's all here. For those uninterested in the history lesson, the album serves too as a compilation in the best sense. A retro “best of” it brings together such bands as Los Brito, Grupo Monumental, Combo los Caribe and those long gone such as the Orquesta Cubana de la Musica Moderna in a blend of funk, jazz, big band and the traditional sounds of the tropics.

