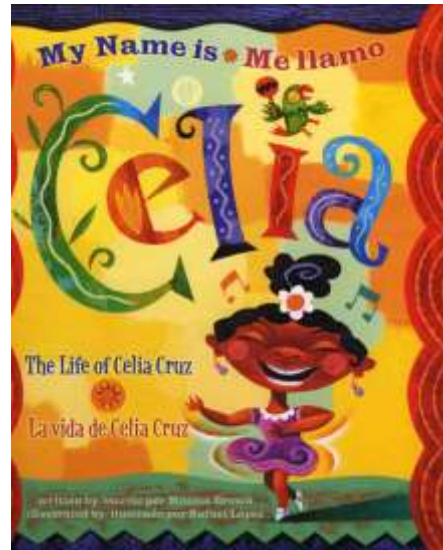


“When Celia Cruz sang, she brought happiness to all those who heard her.”



My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/Me llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz

Text © 2004 by Monica Brown

Illustrations © 2004 by Rafael López

Used by permission from Luna Rising

Grade Levels

K-4

Curriculum Areas

Spanish and English Language • Music • Social Studies • Art

National Language Arts Standards

NL-ENG.K-12.7 EVALUATING DATA

Students conduct research on issues and interests by generating ideas and questions, and by posing problems.

They gather, evaluate, and synthesize data from a variety of sources [e.g., print and non-print texts, and artifacts].

NL-ENG.K-12.8

DEVELOPING RESEARCH SKILLS

Students use a variety of technological and information resources (e.g., libraries, databases, computer networks, video) to gather and synthesize information and to create and communicate knowledge.

National Music Standards

CONTENT STANDARD 8

Understanding relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts.

Students identify similarities and differences in the meanings of common terms (e.g., form, line, contrast) used in the various arts.

Students identify ways in which the principles and subject matter of other disciplines taught in the school are interrelated with those of music (e.g., foreign languages: singing songs in various languages; language arts: using the expressive elements of music in interpretive readings; mathematics: mathematical basis of values of notes, rests, and time signatures; science: vibration of strings, drum heads, or air columns generating sounds used in music; geography: songs associated with various countries or regions)

National Social Studies Standards

NSS-G.K-12.2 PLACES AND REGIONS

Students should understand how culture and experience influence people’s perceptions of places and regions.

National Art Education Standards

NA-VA.4 UNDERSTAND THE VISUAL ARTS IN RELATION TO HISTORY AND CULTURES

Grades K-4

Students know that the visual arts have both a history and specific relationship to various cultures.

Students identify specific works of art as belonging to particular cultures, times, and places.

Students demonstrate how history, culture, and the visual arts can influence each other in making and studying works of art.

Objectives

Analyze images and objects relating to Celia Cruz. Understand how artifacts such as costumes can help us to understand people in the past.

Explore Cuban and Mexican culture, history, and contemporary society.

Draw upon library resources, multimedia and the Internet to develop research skills.

To introduce to students that musicians may draw upon the influences of other cultures.

Overview

From her early childhood in Havana to her musical achievement and worldwide acclaim, Celia's story is told in a colorful, storybook style with the up-beat rhythms of Monica Brown's beautifully written text and Rafael Lopez' vibrant illustrations.

Over the course of a career that spanned six decades and took her from humble beginnings in Havana, Cuba, to acclaim as a world-renowned artist, Celia Cruz became the undisputed Queen of Latin Music. Combining a piercing and powerful voice with a larger-than-life personality and stage costumes, she was one of the few women to succeed in the male-dominated world of salsa music.

Author Monica Brown's Background

Monica Brown grew up speaking Spanish and English influenced by her Peruvian-born mother and North American father. Her bilingualism opened up the world to her as she worked as a journalist in Mexico, completed her Ph.D. in U.S. Latino/a Literature, and as she traversed the Americas and beyond. She delights in the opportunity to share her admiration of Celia Cruz with children in both languages.

In addition to her children's book, *My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/Me Llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz*, Monica Brown is the author of the scholarly book *Gang Nation: Delinquent Citizens in Puerto Rican, Chicano and Chicana Narratives* (2002) and another children's book, based on the life of Chilean poet and Nobel laureate Gabriela Mistral. *My Name is Gabriela/Me Llamo Gabriela* from Luna Rising. Monica is currently at work on a children's chapter book entitled *Marisol McDonald Doesn't Match*. Monica is an associate professor of English at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, where she

resides with her husband Jeff Berglund and her daughters, Isabella and Juliana.

Illustrator Rafael López's Background

Apple Computers, Good Morning America, The Los Angeles Times, Amnesty International, The Sierra Club, IBM, World Wildlife Fund and scores of others have used Rafael's illustration work.

His trademark bold, vital, colors and vivid Mexican-influenced creations are featured at top international corporations. As a leader of the Urban Art Trail project, his mural work has helped transform 17 city blocks plagued by blight in San Diego's East Village.

Rafael's Mural work can also be found on cities like Seattle, Saint Luis, Missouri and currently is working on a Mural Project for the city of Minneapolis Minnesota.

His distinctive style can be found on publications like Communication Arts, Print Magazine, and How. He has received numerous awards and accolades including a Gold, Silver and Bronze from the Society of Illustrators West in Los Angeles. He has been exhibited at the Haaaaahn Ross Gallery in Santa Fe, New Mexico, The Society of Illustrators in New York, Minna Gallery in San Francisco among others.

He has taught illustration for Art Center College of Design and numerous illustration workshops in San Diego. Rafael continues to speak around the nation to conferences and groups of artist, designers and illustrators about the power of art in building community.



My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/Me Llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz
Illustration Rafael López

Activity

The Looking Exercise #1 will provide an introduction to Celia Cruz and the Smithsonian Internet site on the Cuban born salsa queen.

LOOKING EXERCISE #1:

My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/Me Llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz

Illustration Rafael López Text Page 3



Open your eyes. My costumes are as colorful as my music, with ruffles, beads, sparkles, and feathers...

What is going on in this picture? Describe everything you see. How has the illustrator used Celia Cruz's costumes to show her style and showmanship?



The DVD Celia Cruz *iAzúcar!* is a great start for you to show students images of Celia Cruz. *Celia Cruz: Azucar!* presents a special tribute concert to benefit the Celia Cruz Foundation. Hosted by Gloria Estefan and Marc Anthony, the concert features more than a dozen Latin music performers and includes performances by Victor Manuelle, Paulina Rubio, and José Feliciano. Celia Cruz herself performs "Yo Vivire" and "Quimbara." ~ Andrea LeVasseur.



Celia Cruz Bata Dress

Courtesy of The Celia Cruz Foundation

Celia Cruz adapted the traditional bata cubana to the U.S. stage. This bata, designed by Enrique Arteaga, is polyester satin trimmed with insertion lace and interwoven with orange ribbon. Miles of white scalloped lace edging trim the many layers of ruffles on the sleeves, skirt, and train. Cruz first wore it at Carnegie Hall and later at the Apollo Theater.

Activity

Have students bring photographs of their special clothes. Choose an event that would show clothes that they normally would not wear to school. Have them ask their parents if they have special clothes that they have kept as a memento. Have the students bring their photos to develop a display or bulletin board.

Activity

iAzúcar! The Life and Music of Celia Cruz highlights important moments in Cruz's life and career through photographs, personal documents, costumes, videos, and music.

[Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Behring Center, in Washington, D.C. <http://americanhistory.si.edu/celiacruz/>]

Learn about Celia Cruz by looking at the objects displayed in the Smithsonian exhibition *iAzúcar! The Life and Music of Celia Cruz*. Each object selected to tell the viewer something about her. Museums collect, study, and display objects, documents, and photographs because they can give us information about life in the past. In this lesson, students explore what can

be learned from objects, and how to create an exhibition using personal artifacts.

Activity

Salsa is not easily defined. Who invented salsa? The Cubans, Puerto Ricans? Salsa is a distillation of many Latin and Afro-Caribbean dances. Each played a large part in its evolution. Listen to Salsa music and dance.

Celia Cruz Online

<http://www.celiacruzonline.com/>

A Look at the Origin of Salsa:

<http://www.centralhome.com/ballroomcountry/salsa.htm>

LOOKING EXERCISE #2:

My Name is Celia: The Life of Celia Cruz/Me Llamo Celia: La Vida de Celia Cruz

Illustration Rafael López Text Page 14



I was still a young woman when a revolution began in my country. Like many others, I left my Cuba forever. First I traveled to Mexico.

What architecture in the illustration is an indicator of her interest in Mexican culture?

Activity

This illustration is a great place to start with an introduction to Cuba and Mexico. The following websites are good for elementary students.

Welcome to Cuba: Time for Kids Classroom

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/class/wr/article/0,17585,90053,00.html>

Mexico for Kids

http://www.elbalero.gob.mx/index_kids.html

Ancient Mexico: The Art, Culture and History of Ancient Mesoamerica:

<http://www.ancientmexico.com/>

Resources

Acosta, Leonard. *Cubano Be, Cubano Bop: One Hundred Years of Jazz in Cuba*. Smithsonian Books, 2003.

Austerlitz, Paul, and Robert Farris Thompson. *Merengue: Dominican Music and Dominican Identity*. Temple University Press, 1996. Boggs, Vernon. *Salsiology*. Excelsior Music Books, 1992.

Carpentier, Alejo. *Music in Cuba*. University of Minnesota Press; reprint edition, 2002.

Cruz, Celia, and Ana Cristina Reymundo. *Celia: My Life*. Rayo, 2004.

Daniel, Yvonne. *Rumba: Dance and Social Change in Contemporary Cuba (Blacks in the Diaspora)*. Indiana University Press, 1995.

Díaz Ayala, Cristóbal. *Cuando salí de la Habana, 1898–1997: Cien años de música cubana por el mundo*. Editorial Plaza Mayor, 1998.

Fernández, Raúl. *Latin Jazz: The Perfect Combination / La Combinación Perfecta*. Chronicle Books, 2002.

Flores, Juan. *From Bomba to Hip-Hop*. Columbia University Press, 2000.

Gerard, Charley, and Marty Sheller, with Larry W. Smith, ed. *Salsa: The Rhythm of Latin Music*. White Cliffs Media, 1998.

Gonzalez, Lucia M. *The Bossy Gallito/El Gallo de Bodas: A Traditional Cuban Folktale*. New York: Scholastic, 1999.

Gonzalez, Lucia M. *Senor Cat's Romance and Other Favorite Stories from Latin America*. New York: Scholastic, 2001.

Hagedorn, Katherine. *Divine Utterances: The Performance of Afro-Cuban Santería*. Smithsonian Books, 2003.

Hughes, Susan. *Cuba: The Culture*. New York: Crabtree Publishing Company, 2004.

Loza, Steven. *Tito Puente and the Making of Latin Music (Music in American Life)*. University of Illinois Press, 1999.

Manuel, Peter, ed. *Essays on Cuban Music: North American and Cuban Perspectives*. University Press of America, 1992.

Manuel, Peter, Kenneth M. Bilby, and Michael Largey. *Caribbean Currents: Caribbean Music from Rumba to Reggae*. Temple University Press, 1995.

Márceles, Eduardo. *iAzúcar! La biografía de Celia Cruz*. Reed Press, 2004.

Moreno Vásquez, Juan. *Demistificación de una diva: La verdad sobre La Lupe*. Editorial Norma, 2004.

Otero Garabís, Juan. *Nación y ritmo: Descargas desde el Caribe*. Ediciones Callejón, 2000.

Padura Fuentes, Leonard. *Faces of Salsa: A Spoken History of the Music*. Smithsonian Books, 2003.

Puente, Tito, and Jim Payne. *Tito Puente's Drumming with the Mambo King*. Hudson Music, 2000.

Quintero-Herencia, Juan Carlos. *La máquina de la salsa: Tránsitos del sabor*. Ediciones Vértigo, 2005.

Rivera, Angel Quintero. *Salsa, sabor y control: Sociología de la música "tropical." Siglo XXI*. Editores de Colombia, 1998.

Roberts, John Storm. *Black Music of Two Worlds: African, Caribbean, Latin, and African-American Traditions*. Macmillan General Reference, 1998.

Roberts, John Storm. *The Latin Tinge: The Impact of Latin American Music on the United States*. Oxford University Press; 2nd edition, 1998.

Rodríguez-Duarte, Alexis. *Presenting Celia Cruz*. Clarkson Potter; bilingual edition, 2004.

Internet Websites

Ancient Mexico: The Art, Culture and History of Ancient Mesoamerica:
<http://www.ancientmexico.com/>

Celia Cruz Online
<http://www.celiacruzonline.com/>

Luna Rising
<http://lunarisingbooks.com>

Mexico for Kids
http://www.elbalero.gob.mx/index_kids.html

Rafael López Studio
<http://www.rafaellopez.com/>

Smithsonian National Museum of American History. Behring Center, Washington, D.C.
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/celiacruz/>

Welcome to Cuba: Time for Kids Classroom
<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/class/wr/article/0,17585,90053,00.html>