

Salsa Congress

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Salsa Viva Dance Club
Sierra Maestra salsa & swing dance studio
Tequila Dance Club
present

The Fifth International Salsa Congress in Russia

St. Petersburg, Russia
July 01–03, 2005

- ▶ The 5th International Salsa Congress will take place on 1–3 July, in St. Petersburg, Russia. Five years is not a great period of time, but for relatively young Russian salsa it is a very important stage, that is why the 5th International Salsa Congress in St. Petersburg is considered to be the anniversary one. Without any doubts this congress is going to be the best of all Salsa Congresses, which already took place in this city.
- ▶ As usually a lot of guests are expected. We hope that among dancers from Moscow, Rostov-on-Don, Kiev, Minsk, Irkutsk, Gelendzhik, Helsinki, Turku and Tallinn, who have already experienced the former Congresses, we are going to see salseros from Riga, Novosibirsk and other cities. We highly recommend you not to put off till summer what you can do right now, please, book your tickets and hotels in advance. And our guests from foreign countries we would strongly advise to prepare the necessary documents for visiting the Russian Federation beforehand.
- ▶ To book tickets, hotels and get a visa, please, contact Congress' [Official Partner](#) in your country. If have not found your country (city) in the list of the Congress' Official Partners contact *Carlos Torres* [Spanish, English and Russian: salsaviva@mail.ru], President of the Organizing Committee, (he will help you book the tickets for the Congress) or our agent *Tatiana Kverevkina* [English and Russian: tourism@spb-booking.ru] (she will help you book a hotel room and get the

visa). To become an Official Partner of the 5th International Salsa Congress, please, contact *Victor Radziun* [English, Polish and Russian: dutchman@yandex.ru], Coordinator of the Program on Regional Partnership.

Preliminary Program of the Congress

- Master classes and seminars;
- All-night parties;
- Salsa shows;
- Open-air Salsa;
- Live music performances;
- River boat trip.

Instructors

- [Frankie Martínez](#) (New York, USA);
- [Luis Vásquez](#) (Los Angeles, USA);
- [Melissa Fernández](#) (Los Angeles, USA);
- [Thomas Guerrero](#) (New York, USA);
- [Ahtoy Wonpat-Borja](#) (New York, USA);
- [Félix Torres](#) (Cuba);
- [Miguel Verdecia](#) (Helsinki, Finland);
- [Carlos Correa](#) (Helsinki, Finland);
- [Hanna Tuulia Piippola](#) (Oulu, Finland).

Special Guest

- [DJ Henry Knowles](#) (New York, USA).

Gala Show Performers

- **Abakuá Dance Company** (New York, USA);
- **Mas Salsa Brava** (Los Angeles, USA);
- **Santo Rico Dance Company** (New York, USA);
- **Félix Torres** (Cuba);
- **Salsa Pasión** (Tampere, Finland);
- **Baila Baila** (Helsinki, Finland);
- **Arriba Dos** (Moscow, Russia);
- **Studio Caribe** (Moscow, Russia);
- **Salsa Viva** (St. Petersburg, Russia);
- **Sierra Maestra** (St. Petersburg — Moscow, Russia);

- **Tequila Dance** (St. Petersburg, Russia);
- **Baila Conmigo** (St. Petersburg, Russia);
- **Solero** (St. Petersburg, Russia);
- **Salsa Rita** (St. Petersburg, Russia);
- **Ritmo Dance Studio** (St. Petersburg, Russia).

▶ Please, send your applications for Salsa show as well as any suggestions and requests to: salsaviva@mail.ru. You can also get in touch with us right from the site by filling in the [Congress Participant Questionnaire](#).

President of the organizational committee

Carlos Torres

salsaviva@mail.ru

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Participants

Frankie Martínez (USA)



Frankie Martínez is nowadays the most invited salsa instructor in the world. His manager told us: «Frankie is tired of trips, but he would like to visit St. Petersburg... Well, maybe also Israel...». Anyway, Frankie Martínez is an exclusive, special guest of the 5th International Salsa Congress in St. Petersburg. So, don't lose the chance to see this outstanding performer with your own eyes!

www.abakuadancers.com

Luis Vásquez (USA)



It is at least strange to introduce Luis Vásquez to salsa-lovers. He is a real star without reservation: leader of the dance company *Mas Salsa Brava*, the eldest of 3 outstanding brothers Vásquez, creator of modern LA style, professional teacher, dancer and choreographer. In short, Luis Vásquez is Luis Vásquez. His presence at the 4th International Salsa Congress in St. Petersburg last year was the greatest sensation. And soon he is coming to St. Petersburg again!

www.massalsabrava.com

Melissa Fernández (USA)



Teacher, dancer and choreographer in the dance company *Mas Salsa Brava*. It is well known that only the best dancers can be admitted to *Mas Salsa Brava* and Melissa is not an exception. She is a participant of many salsa congresses: in Puerto-Rico, Curacao, the USA, Guadeloupe, Great Britain, Germany; the first place holder of such contests as *Sportsmen Lodge Salsa Contest* (California, 2002), *Newport Rhythm and Soul Dance Contest* (Florida, 2002).

www.massalsabrava.com

Thomas Guerrero (USA)



Thomas Guerrero started dancing socially in 1994. He was recruited from the social scene by Wilton Beltre in 1995 and became one of the original members of *Santo Rico Dance Co.* Upon being recruited Thomas had no prior dance training. Most of his training came through learning choreography and eventually performing with *Santo Rico Dance Co.*

As a professional dancer Thomas, now Director and President of *Santo Rico*, has only danced for said company, from their first local performance at «*Gozamba*», a Dominican Festival in Washington Heights, NY, to teaching and performing at venues across the country, spanning 3 continents and over 11 countries. Thomas' achievements involve becoming one of the leading stars of the world famous off-Broadway Comedy Dancical, «*Latin Madness*», and also performed alongside several Salsa superstars, like Tito Puente, Marc Anthony, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Víctor Manuelle, Raulín Rosendo, José Alberto «El Canario», Johnny Pacheco, Norman Headman, and performing and choreographing for Hip Hop Superstar Eve's video of her hit single, «*What Y'all Want*» 2000. Thomas is also the pioneer of the world-famous «*Santo Rico*» spinning technique. Thomas and *Santo Rico Dance Co.* recently returned from their most recent Asia tour in Tokyo, Japan, Hong Kong and Korea, and are preparing to embark on other prestigious world tours for 2005.

www.santorico.com

Ahtoy Wonpat-Borja (USA)



Ahtoy was raised for a career in dance since childhood as she studied Ballet, Jazz, and Modern dance in Guam and intermittently with the Houston and San Francisco Ballet companies. She was also a competitive Latin and Ballroom dancer in the collegiate circuit. Ahtoy's performance experience extends from dance to musical theater where she has held key roles in Guam and in New York. Ahtoy's Mambo training, however, has come from *Santo Rico Dance School*. Upon joining *Santo Rico* Ahtoy emerged as one of its top

students and was invited to train with the school's semi-pro team, «*Xibicion*» *Santo Rico* where she eventually also became co-captain of the team and the girl's coach of their styling and spinning technique, and performed at some of New York City's top events as a part of *Xibicion*.

She is currently dancing with *Santo Rico*'s professional dance team, but is still coaching the semi-pro team's girls.

www.santorico.com

Félix Torres (Cuba)

Félix graduated from the *Narcizo Medina Dance School* as a professional dancer. Now he is dancing, also as a soloist, in the very well known *Conjunto Folklórico Nacional de Cuba* that is specialized in Cuban folkloristic dances. *Conjunto Folklórico Nacional de Cuba* also does everything from salsa to rumba. Félix is studying in *ISA* (Instituto Superior de Arte), The Superior Institute of Arts. He is graduating as a professional dance teacher.

Miguel Verdecia (Cuba — Finland)



Professional dancer, teacher and choreographer. In December of 1993 he established first salsa school in Finland — *Baila Baila* (Helsinki) where he teaches salsa, merengue, cha-cha-chá, mambo, conga, son and rueda de casino. In 1993 Miguel was named *The best dancer of the year* by *City* magazine. He performed on TV making salsa popular in Finland. Miguel is the winner of «*Nordic salsa championship*» in 2001 and 2004. He also teaches and performs abroad, for example, he is a constant participant of salsa congresses in

St. Petersburg.

www.bailabaila.fi

Carlos Correa (Cuba — Finland)



Carlos Correa was born in Havana (Cuba). The sounds of claves and timbales were never far from him so it was just a matter of time that he would learn how to dance salsa music. He took his first dancing steps at a very young stage of his life and as he grew up got a taste of the real feeling on the streets of Havana.

Carlos moved to Europe over 15 years ago where he developed the already existing dancing skills. At the moment he lives in Helsinki (Finland) and works as a salsa teacher in the biggest and most prestigious salsa dancing school in the country (*Baila Baila*) for the last 10 years now. Carlos is one of the responsible for the development of salsa dance not only in Finland but also in other neighboring countries; he has taken part in numerous salsa Congresses as a performer, instructor and jury. His passion is Rueda de Casino and Carlos has taken it to a new dimension creating a variety of movement and figures of his own which has made him a very popular Rueda instructor.

www.bailabaila.fi

Hanna Tuulia Piippola (Oulu, Finland)

«I have own dance school, *Escuela de Baile*, in Oulu (Finland). I work as a dance instructor in my own dance school and I have also worked as *Bailatino* instructor for several years.

I have danced Latin dances for 12 years and I was ranked one of the best Latin dancers in Finland. During the years I became a professional dance instructor, which is both my work and hobby at the moment.

I improve my dancing skills continuously, for instance, by practising in Cuba at least once a year.»

Disk Jockey

Henry Knowles (USA)



Henry Knowles is one of the best salsa DJs in the world (we can even say, he's No. 1 salsa DJ in the world). He performed at the world greatest salsa congresses in different countries. Henry permanently cooperates with Frankie Martínez, so you will have a pleasure to see The Best World's Salsa DJ together with The Best World's Salsa Dancer at 5th International Salsa Congress.

www.worldsalsadj.com

Workshops*

* Note:

1. The schedule may be changed by congress' organizational committee.
2. Workshops' address: University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station.

Level of complexity

advanced

intermediate

all levels

July, 1. Friday

Time	Room #1	Room #2	Room #3
19:00 20:00	Frankie Martínez Footwork «on 2»	Athoy Wonpat Lady's styling «on 2»	Félix Torres & Hanna Piippola Rumba
20:10 21:10	Thomas Guerrero & Athoy Wonpat Partnerwork «on 2»	Luis Vásquez & Melissa Fernández Partnerwork «on 1»	Miguel Verdecia Rueda de casino

July, 2. Saturday

13:00 14:00	Thomas Guerrero Spins	Frankie Martínez Cha-cha-chá	Carlos Correa Rueda de casino
14:10 15:10	Thomas Guerrero & Athoy Wonpat Cha-cha-chá	Frankie Martínez Partnerwork «on 2»	Miguel Verdecia Cuban salsa
15:10 16:20	Lunch break		
16:20 17:20	Thomas Guerrero & Athoy Wonpat Partnerwork «on 2»	Luis Vásquez & Melissa Fernández Partnerwork «on 1»	Carlos Correa Bachata

17:30 18:30	Luis Vásquez Man's styling «on 1»	Melissa Fernández Lady's styling «on 1»	Félix Torres & Hanna Piippola Rumba
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July, 3. Sunday

13:00 14:00	Thomas Guerrero & Athoy Wonpat Partnerwork «on 2»	Luis Vásquez & Melissa Fernández Partnerwork «on 1»	Félix Torres & Hanna Piippola Despelote
14:10 15:10	Frankie Martínez Partnerwork «on 2»	Luis Vásquez & Melissa Fernández Partnerwork «on 1»	Félix Torres Son
15:10 16:20	Lunch break		
16:20 17:20	Thomas Guerrero & Athoy Wonpat Partnerwork «on 2»	Frankie Martínez Cha-cha-chá	Carlos Correa Cuban salsa
17:30 18:30	Athoy Wonpat Lady's styling «on 2»	Frankie Martínez Body movements & isolation	Miguel Verdecia Rueda de casino

Events & Prices*

Congress' Events

* Note:

- For booking congress' tickets please contact President of the Organizational Committee [Carlos Torres](#) or our [Official Partner](#) in your country.

29 June 2005, Wednesday

21:00–06:00	Salsa Party
	<i>«Havana Club», Moskovsky avenue 21, «Tekhnologichesky Institute» metro station</i>

30 June 2005, Thursday

21:00–06:00	Salsa Party
	<i>«Havana Club», Moskovsky avenue 21, «Tekhnologichesky Institute» metro station</i>

01 July 2005, Friday

12:30–15:00	Guided tour
	<i>Departure at 13:00: St. Isaac Cathedral, Isaakiyevskaya Square, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station Arrival: crossing of Italiyanskaya and Sadovaya Streets, near café «El Barrio», «Gostiny Dvor» metro station</i>
18:00–19:00	Check-in
	<i>University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station</i>
19:00–21:10	Workshops

University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station
 See also [Time-Table of the workshops](#)

23:00–06:00	Salsa Party & Show
	<i>«Port» Club, Antonenko Lane 2</i>

02 July 2005, Saturday

12:00–13:00	Check-in
	<i>University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station</i>
13:00–18:30	Workshops
	<i>University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station</i> See also Time-Table of the workshops
20:30–22:30	River Boat Trip
	<i>Departure: Robespierre embankment, crossing with Chernyshevskogo street, «Chernyshevskaya» metro station</i> <i>Arrival: Angliyskaya embankment, near the Peter the Great monument</i>
22:00–06:00	Salsa Party & Show
	<i>«Port» Club, Antonenko Lane 2 (not far from the place of the boat arrival)</i>

03 July 2005, Sunday

12:00–13:00	Check-in
	<i>University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station</i>
13:00–18:30	Workshops
	<i>University of Technology and Design, Bolshaya Morskaya street 18, «Nevsky Prospekt» metro station</i> See also Time-Table of the workshops

19:30–02:00

Salsa Party & Show*«Revolution» Club, Sadovaya street 28, «Sennaya Ploshchad» metro station***Prices**

Unit	Price	
	up to June, 30	in July
«Full Pass»: 10 workshops + 3 parties	130 euros	150 euros
4 workshops	60 euros	70 euros
2 workshops	40 euros	50 euros
2 parties: Wed, Thu	Club's prices	
3 parties: Fri, Sat, Sun	20 euros	30 euros
1 party: in the club	~14 euros	
River boat trip	10 euros	15 euros
Guided tour	300 rubles (~8.7 euros)	



Partnership

Our Partners

► Here is the list of the 5th International Salsa Congress' Official Partners. You can ask our Official Partner in your city or country any questions concerning the Congress. They should help you book tickets, hotels and get visas etc. If you have not found your country in the list, please, contact *Carlos Torres* [Spanish, English, Russian: salsaviva@mail.ru], President of the Organizing Committee,

(he will help you book tickets for the Congress) or our agent *Tatiana Kverevkina* [English, Russian: tourism@spb-booking.ru] (she will help you book hotels and get visas). To become an Official Partner of the 5th International Salsa Congress, please, contact *Victor Radziun* [English, Polish, Russian: dutchman@yandex.ru], Coordinator of the Program on Regional Partnership.



5th International Salsa Congress' Official Partners

Area	Contact person	School	Contact info
Byelorussia Minsk	Yulia Shostak	« Salsa Community »	shostik@tut.by +375 (29) 624-9606
Estonia Tallinn	Jelena Matojan	Pirje Laagus School	elena@matoyan.com +372 (5) 698-4822
Finland Helsinki	Miguel Verdecia	« Baila Baila »	baila.baila@bailabaila.fi +358 (40) 544-1176
Finland Tampere	Oliver Paredes	« Salsa Pasión »	salsapas@salsapasion.net +358 (050) 534-3943
Russia Moscow	Alexey Kramskoy	« Academy of Dance »	alex@academydance.ru +7 (095) 200-1081 +7 (095) 200-6929
Russia Moscow	Yekaterina Fomenkova	«Arriba Dos»	+7 (916) 435-7372

Russia Moscow	Denis Ivchenkov	« ¡Vamos! »	denis@salsastudio.ru +7 (926) 521-4828
Russia Moscow	Ludmila Velichuk	« Sierra Maestra »	milasalsa@sierramaestra.ru +7 (901) 782-3652
Russia Moscow	Denis Cardona Yulia Lisitzkaya	« Studio Caribe »	info@bailando.ru bailando@mail.ru +7 (095) 177-3216 +7 (916) 351-5073
Russia Novosibirsk	Alexander Ovdin	«DLS»	vdohnovenie@front.ru +7 (903) 903-5594
Russia Volgograd	Yulia Sterkhova		styuliya@yandex.ru +7 (902) 387-1994
Russia Yekaterinburg	Yekaterina Ilchenko	« Clavellina »	clavellina@narod.ru +7 (912) 612-6331
Ukraine Kiev	Yulia Gannochko Reinaldo Powell	« Salsa Club »	salsaclub@mail.ru +38 (050) 352-1414 +38 (067) 507-0079