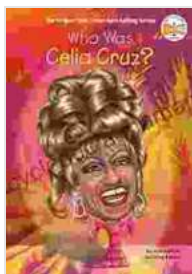


Celia Cruz: The Queen of Salsa



Who Was Celia Cruz? (Who Was?) by Meg Belviso

★★★★☆ 4.8 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 107043 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 111 pages

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Celia Cruz was a Cuban-American singer and one of the most popular salsa artists of all time. She was known for her powerful voice, energetic stage presence, and signature style of dress. Cruz won numerous awards, including 23 Grammy Awards, and was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame.

Early life

Celia Cruz was born Úrsula Hilaria Celia de la Caridad Cruz Alfonso on October 21, 1925, in Havana, Cuba. She was the daughter of Simon Cruz, a railroad worker, and Catalina Alfonso, a housewife. Cruz had a difficult childhood. Her father died when she was only two years old, and her mother struggled to support the family. Cruz often had to go hungry, and she was forced to drop out of school at a young age to help her mother with the housework.

Despite her difficult circumstances, Cruz had a passion for music. She began singing at a young age, and she quickly developed a powerful voice. In 1947, Cruz joined the chorus of the Sonora Matancera, one of the most popular Cuban bands of the time. Cruz quickly became a star with the band, and she helped to popularize salsa music around the world.

International success

In the 1950s, Cruz began to tour internationally. She performed in the United States, Europe, and Latin America, and she quickly became one of the most popular salsa artists in the world. Cruz was known for her energetic stage presence and her signature style of dress. She often wore elaborate costumes and headdresses, and she was always full of energy on stage.

In the 1960s, Cruz moved to the United States. She continued to tour and record, and she became one of the most successful Latin artists in the world. Cruz won numerous awards, including 23 Grammy Awards, and she was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame.

Later life

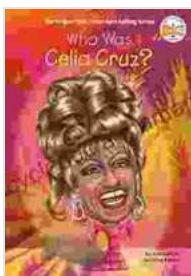
Cruz continued to perform and record into her later years. She released her final album, "Regalo del Alma", in 2003. Cruz died of cancer on July 16, 2003, at the age of 77.

Legacy

Celia Cruz was one of the most popular salsa artists of all time. She was known for her powerful voice, energetic stage presence, and signature style of dress. Cruz won numerous awards, including 23 Grammy Awards, and she was inducted into the International Latin Music Hall of Fame. Cruz's music continues to be enjoyed by millions of people around the world.

Suggested listening

* "Guantanamera" * "La Vida es un Carnaval" * "Quimbara" * "El Yerberero Moderno" * "La Negra Tiene Tumbao"



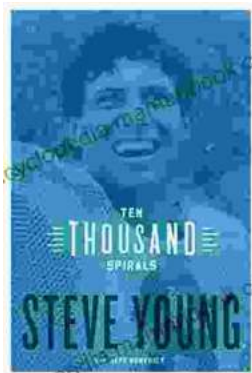
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