

Characters who appear in both time periods are portrayed by two different actors.

1958



1996



Omara Portuondo, an iconic Cuban singer



Ibrahim Ferrer, a Cuban singer who forms a close relationship with Omara



Rubén González, a Cuban pianist whose skill inspires other musicians



Compay Segundo, a Cuban guitarist and singer



Eliades Ochoa, a Cuban guitarist and leader of the band at the Buena Vista Social Club



Juan de Marcos González, a music producer who wants to record an album celebrating classic Cuban music



Haydée Portuondo, Omara's older sister. As young women, they sing together at the Tropicana.

Characters may be played by other performers and would then look different from the actors featured in this guide.

SYNOPSIS

In 1950s Cuba, singer Omara Portuondo meets musicians Compay Segundo and Rubén González, who invite her to perform with them at the Buena Vista Social Club. Omara becomes a regular performer there until rebels seize control of the Cuban government and close the nightclub. Forty years later, music producer Juan de Marcos invites these musicians to reunite to record an album preserving the legacy of the Cuban music they innovated. This show is based on a true story that also inspired a band, an album, and a documentary, all named *Buena Vista Social Club*. The story is told in a nonlinear fashion and goes back and forth in time. All the dialogue is in English but most of the songs are performed in Spanish with no subtitles.

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