

**FROM:** THE HIGH LINE  
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**THURSDAY: MORE THAN 1,300 SALSA DANCERS CELEBRATE THE HIGH LINE'S  
15<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY WITH ¡ARRIBA!**



*Photo by Rowa Lee, Courtesy of the High Line*

NEW YORK, NY – The High Line is celebrating its 15<sup>th</sup> Birthday with *¡Arriba!*, the park's longest-running public program, on June 13. The sounds of salsa will fill the High Line's Chelsea Market Passage when hundreds of dancers descend on the High Line for a night of dancing and music. *¡Arriba!* is free and open to the public and has become the High Line's most beloved and anticipated community program. The event brings out professional dancers, as well as beginners and first-timers from across the city to share free salsa lessons, DJ sets and live music.

Photos and video will be available immediately following the event, upon request.

**WHEN:** June 13, 2024 | 6 – 9pm  
(Media are recommended to come 6:30– 8pm)

**WHERE:** On the High Line Between at West 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> Streets, Manhattan

**WHAT:** A night of live salsa music, DJ sets, free dance lessons, dance performances and hundreds of amateur salsa dancers taking over the High Line's Chelsea Market Passage

**WHO:** DJ Mickey Pérez, Las Mariquitas, Fuákata, hundreds of dancers, Friends of the High Line

This year's *¡Arriba!* is once-again curated by legendary New York DJ Mickey Pérez, who has brought together a program featuring live music by New York's Queer and Trans Salsa band Las Mariquitas, as well as salsa lessons and performances by Fuákata.

“*¡Arriba!* is the High Line's most beloved public program, and we can't wait to celebrate the park's 15<sup>th</sup> birthday with everyone this Thursday,” said **Alan van Capelle, Executive Director of Friends of the High Line**. “Show up and dress up- and don't be afraid to get sweaty and learn something new!”

*The full schedule includes:*

6 – 6:15pm | Salsa music set by DJ Mickey Pérez

6:15 – 6:45pm | Salsa lessons by Fuákata

7 – 7:15pm | Salsa music set by DJ Mickey Pérez

7:15 – 8:15pm | Live salsa performance by Las Mariquitas

8:15 – 9pm | International dance music set by DJ Mickey Pérez

*¡Arriba!* will return for a second night this summer on August 15. Learn more and RSVP at [thehighline.org/arriba](https://thehighline.org/arriba).

### ***¡Arriba!* June Performers**

**DJ Mickey Pérez:** Chicago born & Miami raised, Mickey Pérez is a first generation American of Cuban & Ecuadorian descent who's been putting down the funkier rhythms to New York City dance floors since 2008. A Brooklyn resident since 2002, Mickey represents & presents a non-commercial, diasporic sound irrespective of national borders spanning many different styles of dance music across Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America, Brasil & Black America. Mickey currently has a regular monthly show on NYC's The Lot Radio titled Radio BeBop Porú which runs concurrently as a monthly to bi-monthly dance party in Brooklyn & Miami. In 2022, he launched a community based summer music series for all ages with Toribio (Conclave/BDA) called Public Service that runs monthly across neighborhood parks in Bed-Stuy & Bushwick in Brooklyn.

**Las Mariquitas:** Las Mariquitas is New York's Queer and Trans Salsa band, a political liberation project. Las Mariquitas celebrates the community of LGBTQIA+ salseros by creating an affirming, safe space. Las Mariquitas shares the stage with queer and trans dance leaders, embracing a culture of consent on the dance floor. Las Mariquitas works to honor the legacy of salsa as liberation music by writing new queer and transfeminist songs for the canon.

Las Mariquitas es el grupo de salsa Queer y Trans de Nueva York, un proyecto de liberación política. Las Mariquitas sigue celebrando a la comunidad de salseros LGBTQIA+, creando un espacio seguro. Las Mariquitas comparte la escena con bailarines queer y trans, aprovechando una cultura de consentimiento en el piso de baile. Las Mariquitas honran la historia de la salsa como música de liberación, escribiendo nuevas canciones queer y transfeministas para el canon.

**Fuákata:** Christopher Rogicki was born in New Jersey and it was during college that he was first exposed to Cuban Salsa, Son, Rueda de Casino, and Timba. He has studied at prominent Casino/Cuban Dance schools and with teachers throughout the US, Miami, Havana, Santiago de Cuba, México, Spain, Germany, and Switzerland. Chris is the former director of MEZCLA, the Latino Performing Arts group at Brown University, where he taught and performed at various expos and televised events throughout New England. Upon returning to NYC, Chris implemented a progressive Son Cubano, Casino and Rueda curriculum and founded Fuákata. Fuákata strives to showcase the beauty of Cuban Salsa, its evolution, and the diversity of styles it embodies through weekly classes, social events, and organized group excursions to Cuba. Co-directed by Evelyn Ramirez, the group is comprised of both a student and pro Casino and Rueda team, with notable performances including the San Francisco Salsa Rueda Festival, Latino Heritage month events at Columbia University and NYU, Lincoln Center, PBS, NBC4 in Providence, RI, and SALSAtlanta, to name a few. Fuákata currently offers 15 progressive levels of classes in Rueda de Casino, Casino, Son, and Salsa Suelta on a weekly basis in midtown Manhattan for the past 24 years.

**Support for ¡Arriba!**

Guardian is the Lead Wellness Sponsor of the High Line.

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