

TONY EVORA

CURRICULUM VITAE

Born December 18 1937, Havana, Cuba
Full name Antonio César Évora
Nationality British
Professions Painter and musicologist

Professional visual studies

1951-54 Vocational Evening School No.78, Havana - Graphic Design
1954-58 Academy of Fine Arts, Havana - Diploma in Drawing / Painting
1962-65 Superior School of Applied Arts, Prague – BA in Typography / Prints
1976-77 Chelsea School of Art, London - MA in Printmaking

Professional jobs

1958-60 McCann Erickson Advertising, Havana.
I started as assistant to the creative director but six months later I was working independently.

1960-62 Designer of weekly cultural magazine *Lunes* to newspaper *Revolución*.
Literally and visually it was the most advanced publication in the first few years after the outcome of the Revolution.

1965-68 Art director, Cuban Book Institute.
I was in charge of 26 illustrators, designers and photographers, producing hundreds of new titles every year.

1969-73 Chief designer, university level books, Longman Group, England.
My first full-time post since my arrival in Britain in 1968: I designed over 120 new titles each year as well as fresh covers for some 40 reprints.

1973-75 Editor/designer of Cuban Encyclopaedia in nine volumes, Madrid.
A cultural endeavour intended for the exiled Cuban community.
Each book has over 500 pages; I also coordinated the whole production.

Teaching experience

- 1966-68 Superior School of Art, Cubanacán, Havana - Professor of applied design
- 1970-72 Harlow Technical College, Essex, England - Visiting lecturer.
- 1975-77 North East London Polytechnic – Part-time lecturer in graphics.
- 1977-79 Exeter College of Art & Design – Part-time lecturer in illustration.
- 1980-83 Newcastle Polytechnic – Full-time Senior lecturer of graphic design, in charge of 2nd and 3rd year studies.
- 1983-85 Maidstone College of Art - Head of the Graphic Design Dept.
- 1985-92 Oxford Brookes University (formerly Oxford Polytechnic) - Head of the Department of Visual Arts, Music & Publishing.
- 1993-2000 Part-time lecturer at TRACOR Madrid, a professional private school (graphic design through computers), where I taught the basic elements of design and typography.

Solo shows (summary)

- 1974 Galería Punto, Valencia, Spain
- 1977 Galerie Blanco, Geneva, Switzerland
- 1979 Carnegie Library, San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 1979 Exeter University, England
- 1981 Gulbenkian Gallery, Newcastle, England
- 1982 Centro Cultural Sao Lourenço, Algarve, Portugal
- 1986 Oxford Polytechnic, England
- 1988 Old Fire Station, Oxford, England
- 1997 Atab Gallery, Antwerpen, Belgium
- 2000 Suristán Gallery, Madrid
- 2002 Radisson Hotel, Miami

I have participated in many collective shows in Britain and other countries. Some of my posters and prints have won national and international prizes. Several works hang in private and public collections.

Freelance work and awards

Over the years I have produced several corporate identities for a number of trade and manufacturing companies. Likewise, I have illustrated various books, two of which won British national awards: *Anne Hughes, her boke* (Folio Society) and *The stories of vanishing peoples* by the late John Mercer (Alison & Busby). I also designed many posters for the City of Oxford Orchestra and a fair number of brochures and booklets.

In 1979-80 I was awarded a Cintas Fellowship from the Institute of International Education, New York.

Publications

- 1985 Central Television of Birmingham, England produced *Freedom on paper*, a 25-minutes programme about my life and work. Directed by Terry Bryan.
- 1995 A large booklet on *Ernesto Lecuona*, the most prolific Cuban composer, as a celebration on the first centenary of his birth, published by Casa de América, Madrid.
- 1997 *Orígenes de la música cubana*, a 368 pp illustrated essay published by Alianza Editorial, Madrid.
- 2001 *El libro del Bolero*, a 454 pp illustrated book with a CD published by Alianza Editorial, Madrid.
- 2003 *Música cubana: los últimos 50 años*, a 400 pp illustrated book with a CD also published by Alianza Editorial.

La Santería y otras creencias afrocubanas is the provisional title for the book I am currently working on to appear later this year.

Musical activities

I learned music while a student at a private secondary school in Havana. Although I tried several wind instruments I finally concentrated on percussion. As a young man I played with several Cuban orchestras. Between 1986-92 –while living in Oxford– I conducted a salsa group and organized several festivals of Latin American music.

In 1983 I obtained a Degree in Musicology at London University.

In the last few years I have participated in several important conferences and music festivals in Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico and Spain. In 1995 I organized a three-day piano recital followed by a seminar on the work of Ernesto Lecuona, probably the most important Cuban composer, on the first centenary of his birth at Casa de América, Madrid.

Throughout Summer 1993 I wrote weekly articles on the music of the Caribbean and Brazil for magazine *Cambio 16*. I contribute regularly with articles on contemporary music for cultural supplement *Babelia* to *El País* newspaper. I have also published several articles in a number of overseas magazines. From January 1994 to 1996 I wrote scripts and presented brief television programs for Televisión Educativa Iberoamericana in Madrid; these programs are broadcasted to the whole of Latin America via a Spanish satellite.

From May 2001 to May 2003 I presented public concerts of life Latin American music combined with videos and records at Casa de América, Madrid. In November 2001 I was invited to Veracruz for a week dedicated to discussing Agustín Lara's work, Mexico's most prolific bolero music composer.

During Summer 2003 I delivered a course on Spanish and Latin American music for students from New York University in Madrid.