

ALAJE  
(MUEN-329, MUEN-529)

Instructor: Aarón Serfaty

Email: [serfaty@usc.edu](mailto:serfaty@usc.edu)

Office hours: by Appointment

Day and Time: Tuesday and Thursday, 3-4:50PM

Room: CTV G128

1 Unit

The Afro Latin American Jazz Ensemble is a teaching ensemble. We learn music from Latin America, specifically Cuba and Puerto Rico. The students are expected to listen to the music and are assigned transcriptions for our two performances every semester. In addition to those, ALAJE plays concerts/assemblies for the USC neighborhood schools (Spring semester) as part of the Jazz Outreach Program. As the rest of our ensembles, ALAJE is a one-year commitment. Students are welcome to retake it for credit.

Performances:

At least two per semester, on campus.

Suggested Listening:

Artists from Cuba and Puerto Rico.

Celia Cruz, Benny Moré, Tito Rodriguez, Tito Puente, Machito and His Afro Cubans, Gilberto Santa Rosa, Ruben Blades, Héctor Lavoe, Willie Colón, Albita.

Suggested textbooks:

The Salsa Guidebook by Rebecca Mauleón, published by Sher Music.

101 Montunos by Rebecca Mauleón, published by Sher Music.

Afro Cuban Rhythms for Drumset by Frankie Malabé and Rob Weiner, published by Warner Bros.

Additional learning tools:

Afro-Cuban Essentials play-along (for iOS) by Peter Erskine and Aarón Serfaty