

# Fania Records: Classics Reissued



From humble beginnings—co-founder Johnny Pacheco used to sell records out of the trunk of his car—to 44,000 fans mobbing Yankee Stadium for the historic 1973 Fania All-Stars concert, [Fania Records](#) is arguably the single most important record label in the history of Salsa. With an extensive catalog of 1,300 plus titles recorded between 1962 and 1979, the NYC-based label's discography is a chronicle of the rise to popularity of the genre itself; their roster of artists is a who's who of golden-era Salsa greats. Ray Barreto, Celia Cruz, Willie Colón, Ruben Blades, Mongo Santamaria, Tito Puente, Eddie Palmieri and many more.

Recently the entire catalog was acquired by Virgin's [V2](#) imprint, which has re-released the first batch of 30 digitally remastered classic titles with more are scheduled to come throughout the year.

Some notable reissues so far are Hector Lavoe's [La Voz](#), the 1975 solo debut from the former Willie Colón lead-singer, and [Acid](#), the recently deceased Ray Barreto's first release on Fania from 1967, and a staple of the boogaloo/latin soul explosion of the time.

Each release features the classic original album artwork and complete liner notes, plus archival photos and additional editorial material. Also available for download from [Dancetracks Digital](#).

by [DJ Scribe](#)