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Grupo Fantasma Gets Austin "On its Feet" to Help House the Homeless

Austin, TX– *Grupo Fantasma* headlines the first annual *On Your Feet!*, an international music and dance extravaganza at the Monarch Events Center on Thursday, April 17, 2008. **Michael Crockett from KUT's "Horizontes"** and **KXAN's Anchor Jenny Hoff** share the evening's co-hosting duties. The night's other award-winning local and international music and dance performers include, *Atash*, *Lannaya*, *Buscando el Monte*, *Ritmos Tres*, the *Sabaya Belly Dance Collective* and salsa champions, the *Jazzy Dance Company*. All profits benefit Casa Marianella, an Austin non-profit who offers transitional housing and other services to refugees and immigrants since 1986. Tickets cost \$15 in advance and \$20 at the door. Doors open at 7:00 pm. To purchase tickets, go to www.onyourfeetworld.org/ or Waterloo Records. To learn more or to donate directly to Casa Marianella, please go to www.casamarianella.org/.

About the Heart-pounding, Pulse-racing artists, in order of their appearance:

7:00 pm - [Buscando El Monte](#), with their intensely hypnotic three-piece horn section, will meld jazz and Cuban music with Yoruba spiritual songs

8:00 pm - [Lannaya Drum and Dance Ensemble](#) will perform exhilarating dances, songs and rhythms from Guinea and the Ivory Coast with a fierce and beautiful energy

8:45pm - [Ritmo Tres](#), an exquisite ensemble of Salsa musicians will delight the crowd with feet moving traditional and modern salsa rhythms

9:45 pm- [Atash](#), with their intoxicating indian-middle eastern melodies & addictive percussive rhythms, was recently voted "best world music band" in Austin by *The Austin Chronicle*(2007)

10:20 pm - [Sabaya](#), a belly dance collective of beautiful and extraordinary dancers who have performed across Brazilian, Egyptian, US, and European stages, will perform exotic belly dances to Atash's music

10:50 pm - The [Jazzy Dance Company](#), known for its sensual and intricate dance steps, won the Texas Salsa Championship two years in a row and placed in the World Salsa Championship in Las Vegas in 2006

11:00 pm - and finally, the Prince lovin' and Texas grown [Grupo Fantasma](#), the finest and funkier Latin orchestra to come out of the United States in the last decade, continuing their expansion of their musical horizons through earth-shattering live shows

DJs Michael Crockett from KUT's "Horizontes" and Bill Meyer will spin tunes from around the world throughout the evening

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About Casa Marianella

Casa Marianella, the shelter, opened its doors on January 6, 1986. The Austin Interfaith Task Force for Central America initiated the project in response to the arrival of refugees fleeing from Central America. Marianella Garcia Villas, for whom the house is named, was a human rights lawyer in El Salvador who was slain by death squads in 1983. Casa Marianella has served guests from Mexico, Somalia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Peru, Guatemala, Sudan, Eritrea, Tunisia, Cuba, Albania, El Salvador, Ghana, The Ivory Coast, Colombia, Nepal, Romania, Costa Rica, Brazil, Cameroon and Bosnia.

In 2003, Casa Marianella opened a new facility, Posada Esperanza, to provide emergency shelter and support specifically for homeless immigrant women and their children. The average stay for a family with Posada Esperanza is three to five months. The families work diligently with the staff to meet their individual goals and get back on their feet. There is a perpetual need for sustainable funding. Therefore, the profits generated from this event will directly benefit Casa Marianella/Posada Esperanza.

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