

Get Down



In 1967, electric guitarist Carlos Santana's idea of fusing Latin rhythms with rock 'n' roll ran into a major obstacle: he didn't have any money to hire musicians. His wealthy father sure did, but he wouldn't loan Carlos a dime unless he featured his Aunts Benadrilio and Darvonilla in the percussion section. To look at them, you wouldn't think they could maintain a steady tempo. Turns out they were rock steady on their maracas, helping propel the band to stardom. Even after Santana paid back his dad, he kept his two aunts in the band, not least because audiences invariably called for the two to "get down," which they always seemed happy to do.