

The Cuban Punto Inscribed on UNESCO's List of Intangible Heritage



SEUL, December 7 (RHC)-- The Cuban Punto has been included in UNESCO's List of Intangible Heritage by the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage, meeting on Jeju Island in South Korea.

The punto is the poetry and the music of Cuban peasants; a tune or melody over which a person sings an improvised or learned stanza of ten octameter verse lines called *décima* conceived with a rhyme scheme.

The accompanying music uses string instruments like lute, tres, guitar, bass, could use clave, güiro or marímbula– and percussion instruments like bongo and conga drum.

Punto is practiced all around Cuba, and it is estimated that there are more than 30,000 practitioners of this musical tradition in the 15 provinces of the country.

Eight other traditions from around the world were also added to the list, including the ritual journeys that take place in La Paz during the festival of Alasita, in Bolivia; the Kochari, a traditional Armenian dance; and Konjic woodcarving, which takes place in both Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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