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SalsaMania!

By Ren Hill

If the air feels a little more sultry this weekend you can tie it down to an influx of Latin heat as Mambo Nights sweep across the Island.

Organiser Marshall Weller said the third in the SalsaMania series offers an all-star cast of entertainers and four nights of hip-shaking fun.

First up will be a pre-party tonight at the home of SalsaMania, Ozone nightclub, where international performances should thrill the regulars.

So come dance with all of our local and guest instructors/performers as we kick-off our exciting Mambo Nights weekend, said Mr. Weller.

Tickets are \$20 at the door after 10.30 p.m.

Tomorrow night will bring the hotly anticipated Latin Showcase in the Fairmont Southampton's Mid Ocean Amphitheatre.

It will feature one of the best Latin dance couples in the world, Ortos (Tito Ortos) Gutiérrez Ortiz and Tamara Livolsi, of Puerto Rico, Mr. Weller said. Their inspiring routines blend many different Latin dance styles with a classic feel that you will never forget.

Live flamenco musicians will also be on hand for the first time.

Enjoy the sounds of flamenco guitarist Nicolas Hernandez and precisionist Ravi Naimpally, accompanied by one of the world's best flamenco dancers, Ilse Gudiño, Mr. Weller advised.

But other Latin styles will not go unrepresented.

Also featured at the Fairmont Mid Ocean Amphitheatre will be an all-star cast of salsa, cha cha, flamenco and tango dancers that will end the year in style, he added.

After the show, patrons are invited to dance until 3 a.m. to the best Latin beats on the scene.

Tickets for the Latin Showcase are \$45 in advance and \$55 at the door and can be purchased at Lemon Tree, Music World, Portofino's and the Sabor Dance School at Bermuda College. Doors open at 8 p.m. and showtime is 8.30 p.m.

The party continues on Saturday night a Latin Dance Social at Champions. □ Enjoy social dancing with the stars to hot Latin sounds, □ said Mr. Weller.

Dancing will begins at 9.30 p.m. and tickets, which can be purchased on the door, are \$10.

If all this Latin flair is making you feel insecure about your moves, however, you can always brush them up at Sabor Dance School in classes that will be offered Saturday and Sunday between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

□ There will be Salsa, Cha Cha, Tango and Flamenco workshops for all levels taught by international instructors, □ Mr. Weller said.

There is a cost of \$20 per class.

Finally, Latin enthusiasts can cool their heels at a Beach and Pool Party at the Coco Reef Resort on Sunday, □ where salseros may unwind after an action packed weekend with light refreshments and social dancing with good friends, □ Mr. Weller said.

The free pool party begins at 5 p.m. and will run until 10 p.m.

For information about Full Mambo Nights Passes or more information on dancers and instructors visit www.bermudasalsa.com.
