

# *Timbalaye International Forum promotes Cuban culture in Italy*

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## **Cuban intellectual Miguel Barnet invited to VI International Timbalaye Forum**

Rome, May 19 (RHC)-- The 6th Timbalaye International Forum taking place today in Italy "is a hymn to culture," said prominent Cuban intellectual Miguel Barnet, who is here as guest of honor at the event.

Barnet, poet, narrator, essayist and ethnologist, president of the Fernando Ortiz Foundation of the Antillean nation, said the day before during the inauguration of the cycle of activities, which will last until May 25, that Timbalaye is a very noble and healthy project, "that elevates the spirituality so necessary".

The presentation of this new edition of the forum was chaired by the ambassador of the Caribbean country in Italy, Mirta Granda, and also took part in it Marco Papacci, president of the National Association of Italy-Cuba Friendship (Anaic), as well as Ulises Mora and Irma Castillo, managers and promoters of

Timbalaye.

Granda thanked Barnet for his presence, which he described as a privilege, and highlighted the work of Mora and Castillo, with this project aimed at rescuing Cuban traditions in the world, as members of the community of compatriots living in Italy "who endorse their support to the revolutionary process in their country".

At the event, held at the Anaic headquarters in Rome, the diplomat thanked that solidarity organization for "its permanent accompaniment", for its support in particular to this initiative, and highlighted the cultural work of the Cuban Revolution and the contribution of Italian artists to it, "which eternally unites both countries".

Papacci also welcomed the presence of Barnet, honorary president of the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba, and emphasized that the VI Timbalaye Forum reflects the values of the Cultural Revolution that began in the island in 1959, which "opened new paths".

The president of Anaic took the opportunity to express, on behalf of the members of that association, a condemnation of the recent actions of harassment and pressure against the Cuban musical group Buena Fe in Spain by enemies of the Cuban Revolution, in cities such as Salamanca and Zamora, to force the cancellation of their concerts.

Regarding the development of the forum, Mora and Castillo exposed that it will be extended for a week in the cities of Tarquinia, Genoa, and Rome, in collaboration with Anaic and under the auspices of the Cuban Embassy in Italy, in line with the African Legacy Heritage Objective, adopted by Timbalaye in January 2019.

It has as its theme History, sounds and identity, along the path of recognition of the historical and cultural legacy of the African presence in Cuba, the Caribbean and Latin America.

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