

Tribute to the Beatles in Havana's John Lennon Park



Havana, September 26 (RHC) -- A tribute concert will celebrate the 50 years of The Beatles' Abbey Road album in Cuba today. The cultural event will take place this afternoon at the famous John Lennon Park, located on 17th Street in the Cuban capital's Vedado neighborhood, to pay tribute to the multi-faceted musician and singer-songwriter.

The gathering that will recall songs from the musical group's eleventh album will include performers and writers, including Francisco López Sacha, the Cuban National Choir, the band Gens and the Shandra Duo. In addition to the concert, the nearby El Submarino Amarillo (Yellow Submarine) cultural center will be the venue of the unveiling of a painting dedicated to one of the composers of the song Imagine written with Japanese artist Yoko Ono in early 1971. The documentaries Barefoot with Abbey Road and the story of the recording told by The Beatles will also be screened.

For the occasion a performance will be conducted on a pedestrian crossing between the corners of the Lennon Park and the Yellow Submarine club to recall the

iconic photo by famous Scot Iain Macmillan. The picture, which became the phonogram's cover, was taken on August 8, 1969, and shows Lennon, Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr and George Harrison one behind the other walking along a zebra crossing. Abbey Road, which went on sale precisely on September 26, 1969, marked the end of the group as it turned out to be the last album recorded by the four Liverpool musicians.

On one of the park's benches, near the corner of 17th and 6th Streets, there is a sculpture of John Lennon, made by Cuban artist José Villa Soberón, seated on the bench's right end. On a pink marble tile at the foot of the bench an inscription reads: "Dirás que soy un soñador pero no soy el único" (You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one) from the song Imagine. The statue was unveiled on 8 December 2000 to mark the 20th anniversary of Lennon's murder.

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