

Rolling Stones Bring Rock and Roll to Packed Havana Crowd



By Juan Jacomino

HAVANA (RHC) — The Rolling Stones seemed to have left no stone unturned to ensure that for the first time the Cuban capital came to feel the tremors that a world-class live rock concert can generate.

The celebrated British band delighted Havana residents and visitors with two hours of thundering rock and roll on Friday night, in what international news organizations are already calling a historic concert.

The Stones romped through 18 of their classics, picking up force as the crowd in the open-air Ciudad Deportiva, or Sports City, jumped and joined in the singing, many displaying on their faces the iconic tongue symbol that has come to represent the band.

Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Ronnie Wood and Charlie Watts fired “Jumpin’ Jack Flash,” “Sympathy for the Devil” and “Satisfaction” into a jubilant crowd, from 3-story-tall high-definition television screens and thumping towers of speakers.

Former supermodel Naomi Campbell, actor Richard Gere and singer Jimmy Buffet partied in the VIP section of the concert.

Rivers of spectators flowed from the concert site after the show, which is considered to have attracted well over half a million people.

The week, which opened up with the arrival of U.S. President Barack Obama on Sunday, a Major League Baseball exhibition game on Tuesday, attended by presidents Obama and Raul Castro, and then the Rolling Stones concert on Friday, is seen by many as one of the most momentous weeks in modern Cuban history.

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