

## **Mambo (Rhythm)**

The mambo is a Cuban dance, though the word comes from Haiti. To the African slaves there it referred to a voodoo priestess who could converse with the gods. The first music called "mambo" was written in the late 1930s by a Cuban composer, but the mambo craze began in the late 1940s when a musician named Perez Prado came up with a dance to go with it. Prado took mambo from Havana to Mexico, and then to New York, where it became homogenized to suit mainstream American tastes.

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