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Bardavon Presents
The DIVA of Buena Vista Social Club:
Omara Portuondo & her Band –
Last Kiss / Ultimo Beso

Sunday, April 28th at 7pm

LEGENDARY CUBAN SINGER RETURNS
For HER LAST-EVER WORLD TOUR!

(Poughkeepsie, NY) The Bardavon is pleased to present **The Buena Vista Social Club's diva: Omara Portuondo and her Band – *Last Kiss/Ultimo Beso* on Sunday, April 28th at 7pm.**

The diva of the Buena Vista Social Club, **Omara Portuondo** is a legendary singer whose voice reflects a long, creative life of passion and music. While other much-loved Buena Vista stars like Ruben Gonzalez and Ibrahim Ferrer were lured out of retirement, Omara has been continually performing since age 15 – an incredible 70 years – and while revolutions and wars shook the globe, she has carried on, with indomitable elegance. In 1997, just when Omara had hit normal retirement age and might be expecting to slow down, the Buena Vista Social Club project boosted her profile throughout the world. Omara is a diva in the best sense, an ambassador of Cuba to the world. Now in her mid-eighties, there is a sense in which the curtains of an era are slowly, elegantly coming down. But she will forever, as the old show business adage has it, “Always leave them wanting more.”

On the road, Portuondo will be joined by a traditional piano/bass/drums/percussion lineup consisting of acclaimed GRAMMY Award nominated pianist **Roberto Fonseca**, **Andres Coayo** on percussion, **Ruly Herrera** on drums and bassist **Yandy Martinez**.

Portuondo's last-ever worldwide tour comes on the heels of her most recent album, last year's *Omara Siempre*, and a series of high-profile performances with the Los Angeles Philharmonic, at the Kennedy Center and more. “Her voice remains lithe and powerful,” notes the *Los Angeles Times*, adding that “the audience erupted in an ovation equal parts appreciation and astonishment.” NPR's “Alt.Latino” adds that Portuondo “brought gasps of delight, then rapturous applause, just by walking out on the stage.”

Portuondo began her career by joining her sister Haydee as a dancer at Havana's famed Tropicana Club in 1950. In 1953 the pair changed their focus to their singing

careers, finding success with Cuban vocal group Cuarteto d'Aida. In 1996 Portuondo was featured on Ry Cooder's critically acclaimed album *Buena Vista Social Club*, as well as in the accompanying Wim Wenders film of the same name, and remains the only original Buena Vista Social Club vocalist still performing with the group. In 2004 she became the first Cuban artist to be named an International Ambassador by the International Red Cross.

Tickets: \$44, \$59. Members get \$5 off.

Purchase your tickets in person at the Bardavon Box Office, 35 Market Street, Poughkeepsie, 845.473.2072 or the UPAC Box Office, 601 Broadway Kingston, 845.339.6088. Online at [Ticketmaster](#) : 800.745.3000. Please note that Bardavon Member benefits and special discounts are not available through Ticketmaster. Ticketmaster fees will apply.

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