Cumbia - The Musical Backbone of Latin America:
An Evening with Gregorio Uribe

Wednesday November 8th
6pm
Music Room, Rochambeau House (84 Prospect Street)

Colombian singer-songwriter and accordionist Gregorio Uribe currently resides in New York. He graduated from Berklee and went on to blend cumbia with big band. His release of "Cumbia Universal" featuring 8-time GRAMMY-winner Rubén Blades hit the Billboard charts and received critical acclaim with sold-out shows at Lincoln Center. He performed at Madison Square Garden next to GRAMMY-winner Carlos Vives and was named "100 most successful Colombians abroad".

Cumbia has been called "The Musical Backbone of Latin America" by NPR. However, is it a rhythm, a genre or a style? At the very least it is an ever-changing chameleon that originated in the Caribbean coast of Colombia and was later adopted in almost all corners of the Americas. Can the stadium-filling Cumbia Villera from the slums of Buenos Aires, the indigenous gaita-flute music of the town of San Jacinto in Colombia, or Jazz Legend Charles Mingus' "Cumbia & Jazz Fusion" all fall under cumbia? We'll follow the evolution of this music with more questions than answers in order to learn how we perceive identity and its relation to folk, popular and experimental music.

This event will be in Spanish.