



Patricia Zarate Perez Bios

Performance:

Patricia started playing the guitar and singing Chilean songs at age 10 in Santiago and Santa Cruz, Chile. She picked up the saxophone at age 13 and studied in Chile with renowned Chilean saxophone players. She moved to the US at age 20 and became the first female Chilean student to graduate from Berklee College of Music. Later, she pursued her master degree in Jazz Studies at New York University with a full scholarship. Her saxophone teachers in the USA included Jerry Bergonzi, Jackie McLean, George Garzone, among others. Zarate has performed in North, Central and South America with a variety of bands and in diverse settings. She has performed at Lincoln Center, Chicago's Jazz Showcase, Detroit Jazz Festival, Conservatory of Paris, Havana Jazz Festival, among many other sites; and in countries like Korea, Puerto Rico, Panama, Chile, USA, Gabon, Cameroon, Spain, among others. She regularly participates in her husband's (Panamanian pianist Danilo Perez) educational and diplomatic projects, and her life has been immensely influenced by the musical and non-musical lessons of saxophonist Wayne Shorter.



Music Therapy:

Zarate Perez graduated with the first generation of students from the music therapy department at Berklee College of Music in 1999. She worked as a music therapy intern at the Psychiatric Unit of the New Hampshire State Hospital, where she provided music therapy services to acute psychiatric patients. She later worked at the Boston Institute For Arts Therapies and Arts in Progress where she worked with children with behavioral difficulties, autism and Down Syndrome. While pursuing her Master's Degree in Jazz Studies at New York University, Patricia met Clive Robbins and volunteered at the Nordoff & Robbins Center for Music Therapy. Zarate Perez has published in the Journal of Medicine and Pediatrics in Chile, and Panama.

In 2013 she founded the Latin American Music Therapy Symposium in Panama City, Panama. In 2014 she founded the Latin American Music Therapy Network in Boston, USA and in 2015 founded the Music Therapy Center of Panama. In 2017, she opened the diploma program in Music Therapy with the University of the Americas (UDELAS) in Panama City, Panama and in 2018 she founded the Boston Center for Multicultural Music Therapy in Boston, MA and the RED MUSA, the Chilean network that expands music therapy services to the neurology department of the University of Chile.

**Activism:**

In 2005 Patricia started working as Director of Education of the Danilo Perez Foundation and the Panama Jazz Festival in Panama City, Panama. Her work with communities suffering from extreme poverty started to take shape when she toured those communities with husband Danilo Perez (former Goodwill Ambassador to UNICEF) in 2005. Patricia created over 20 education and scholarship programs as part of the Educational and Scholarship department of the Danilo Perez Foundation. She helped raised over one million dollars in scholarships and created a library of music with over 3,000 books she collected herself in a period of 3 years. She later created the educational component of the Panama Jazz Festival. Today, the Panama Jazz Festival is a Latin American center for auditions and scholarships of some of the most prominent music schools in the world. The educational component of the festival brings over \$80,000 USD annually in music education to youth from all over Panama and Latin America. The festival awards over 4,000 national scholarships annually. Patricia has trained youth from all over the world to use music as a tool for social change. In Chile, her work is being expanded by the Chile Jazz Por La Paz festival where every year the Patricia Zarate Scholarship is announced and awarded to one Chilean student who wants to use music to make a positive impact in the world. Currently, Patricia is a graduate student in the PhD program of Global Inclusion and Social Development at the University of Massachusetts.

**Education:**

Zarate Perez has been teaching workshops on music therapy, music and social change, activism and women's issues since 1996. In the USA, She has taught in summer camps, after school programs, universities, and other settings. In the world she has taught master classes in a variety of subjects and settings including master classes at the University of Panama, Universidad Experimental de las Americas, University of Chile, Quisqueya University in Haiti, Escuela Moderna de Music in Chile, among many others. She has done numerous workshops for diverse populations in countries like Egypt, Cameroon, and the Dominican Republic. Her presentations on the historical relationship between Panama and the USA has been presented at numerous academic conferences and other events at Harvard University, Princeton University, Catholic University of Peru, among others. In 2016 she developed the *1st Symposium for Interconnected Arts & Music Performance* at Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Currently, Patricia serves as an Associate Professor of Music & Social Activism at the Berklee Global Jazz Institute at Berklee College of Music Master Degree program. She has also homeschooled her three children for the past 15 years.