



*"Supernatural Santana, A Trip Through the Hits"*

# Spectacular Sounds of Carlos Santana

By Sandy Zimmerman  
Tribune Media Group  
Photos shot by  
Sandy Zimmerman during  
Santana's live show.

Supernatural Santana, a Trip Through the Hits," was one of the best I have seen in my 29 years as an entertainment reviewer! I chose this show as "The Best in Las Vegas" for September. Carlos Santana brought his passionate music to the Hard Rock Hotel. The audience was enthralled, sometimes mesmerized by Carlos' rich orchestrations. More than just seeing Carlos on television, experiencing his live concert makes you realize the real effect of his music. The music seems to build and build to a crescendo which lights a fire in the audience; they had to dance even if it was just in the aisles and at their seats.

A video showed the emotion in African music. The drums beat as the music grew louder and



*Backstage after the show in the Meet and Greet Lounge, Sandy and Mike with Bill Ortiz, Trumpeter.*

louder while we watched the dancers dance faster and faster. The emotion was unbelievable! And every switch from one mu-

sical style to another was just as exciting. Carlos added his touch to Latin fusion music with a wonderful blend of favorites. The entire band gave stellar performances. Each of Carlos' musicians was well known in his field and worked with some of the top names in show biz. We had a chance to speak to Bill Ortiz whose stand-out trumpet solos were impressive interpretations of the music. His new CD "From Where I Stand" makes Bill the man to watch!

I enjoyed seeing the videos of Carlos Santana's early life, the times when he appeared at Woodstock, in 1969, and rose to fame over 40 years. He is a great performer in any style of music

but it is so much better when he presents a fusion of music that pleases everyone.

With extensive experience in San Francisco during the early years, Carlos' background in Afro, Latin, blues, and rock fusion has brought him to the heights he has reached. I feel it is the combination of styles which has built his universal appeal. Carlos wished the audience joy, peace of mind and good health as he left the stage. After the show, we were invited backstage to the "Meet and Greet" room in the VIP Lounge. This was a chance to meet members of the show.

Carlos can be proud of his accomplishments. He has won 10



*Bill Ortiz, Trumpeter, during his solo.*

GRAMMY Awards, two Latin GRAMMY's, the Billboard Latin Music Awards' 2009 Lifetime Achievement Honor and Billboard's Century award in 1990. His 1999's Supernatural sold more than 26 million copies including GRAMMY's for album of the year and record of the year for "Smooth" in 1998. Carlos sold more than 90 million records and reached over 100 million fans at concerts around the world. Multi-Dimensional Warrior (Columbia/Arista/Legacy, 2008) is a career-spanning 2-CD anthology presenting 28 selections hand-picked by Carlos, who calls the project, "a love letter to the fans." Divided between tracks with vocals and

instrumental compositions, it emphasizes album cuts and personal favorites that evoke the band's hypnotic musical power and give deeper insight into its complex creative journey. The set follows up 2007's Ultimate Santana, the only single-disc collection uniting hits from the group's recent albums for Arista and classics from their Columbia years.

For information, call 693-5000. "Supernatural Santana, a Trip Through the Hits," appears September 4-5-6-9-11-12-15, and November 11-13-14-15-18-20-21-22, in the \$60 million new concert venue The Joint, inside the Hard Rock Hotel, 4455 Paradise Road.



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