

# TRINIDAD ALL STARS AT EXPO ZARAGOZA 2008



Expo Zaragoza 2008 held in Spain is an International Exposition consisting of over 100 participating countries of which 14 are from the Caribbean Community and the Trinidad All Stars Steel Orchestra was contracted to provide steelband music daily (approximately 440 performances) at the Caribbean Pavilion from June 9 to September 14, 2008. One local

newspaper reported that at one of their forty five minutes performances, the fourteen pan musicians of the Trinidad All Stars steel orchestra had over 800 patrons who were not familiar with its sounds swaying their hips and tapping their feet to the infectious music. The orchestra received a standing ovation and continued playing after receiving numerous encores. Their music and the trimmings in the Caribbean Pavilion certainly transformed it into a Caribbean



atmosphere enjoyed by all in attendance.

The Expo's theme is **Experience the Biggest Water Festival on Earth**. The Water Tribune is the school of thought which has been created, parallel to the visual, cultural and leisure elements of the Expo in response to the requirements of an International Exposition which stems from the will to stimulate reflection, debate and a search for solutions in relation to water and sustainability.

The Expo Zaragoza 2008 site is set to become a Business Park after

the International Exhibition. Once the International Exhibition closes its doors on 14 September, the post-Expo phase will begin and the pavilions of the Expo site will be converted into a 160,000 square metre Business Park. Estudio Lamela and the Master de Ingeniería y Arquitectura studio have been commissioned with the restructuring project, while the commercialisation of the interior spaces is to be managed by the international consultants Jones Lang and King Sturge.

Owing to its unique sound and being the only new acoustic musical instrument invented in the last century, the steelpan, which can play all types of

music, continues to fascinate patrons who have neither seen nor heard this instrument before. The dexterity of its players and the versatility of the instrument are main contributors to its success.

On entering the Caribbean Pavilion, one is greeted with sun, rain, lightning and thunder effects, while viewing beautifully painted scenes of Caribbean landscapes and houses on the walls. Then comes the booths (all 14 islands) on the perimeter of the Pavilion displaying what they are all uniquely famous for. Centrally located is an eight-sided elevated music stand where the cultural activities

take place daily. From the Bahamas - Dicey Doh, from Barbados - folk dancers, drummers, limbo and moko jumbie, from Antigua & Barbuda - 3 Jylinders, from St Lucia - The String Band, from Trinidad and Tobago - Indian dancers and the Trinidad All Stars. The Caribbean Pavilion continues to attract thousands of visitors daily and is rated in the first 5 of all the pavilions at the Expo and has been earmarked as the venue for the closing Party hosted by the Commissioner of the Exposition. Congratulations to the Caribbean community.

For more information visit: [www.expozaragoza2008.es](http://www.expozaragoza2008.es)