



**Cándido Camero Has Been Named an
NEA JAZZ MASTER,
the Highest Honor for This Uniquely
North American Art Form**

Iván Acosta, president of Latin Jazz USA, is delighted to share this great news. The legendary Cuban American percussionist, Cándido Camero, has been named an National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master, the nation's highest honor for this uniquely American art form. This prestigious award will be presented in New York City during the first week in October 2007.

Cándido Camero, who appears in Ivan Acosta's documentary, *Cándido Hands of Fire*, was born in Havana, Cuba in 1921. Cándido is hailed as one of the world's greatest jazz percussionists. In 1953, he formed part of Billy Taylor's quartet, and he went on to perform and record with the who's who of jazz and Afro-Cuban jazz, including Dizzie Gillespie, Stan Kenton, Charlie Parker, Duke Ellington, Art Blakey, Miles Davis, Buddy Rich, Stan Getz, Randy Weston, Count Basie, Wes Montgomery, Lionel Hampton, Tito Puente, Mongo Santamaría, La Lupe, Celia Cruz, Marco Rizo, Bobby Sanabria, Paquito D'Rivera, Ray Santos, Antonio Carlos Jobim, Machito, Eddy Martínez, Mario Bauzá, Eddie Palmieri, Tony Bennett, and Chico O'Farrill, amongst several legendary jazz musicians. After 65 years of making music, Cándido is a living legend of Afro-Cuban jazz and the great North American jazz.

Cándido's latest live recording, which is in its final mixing stage, (at Razor Head Recording Studios) will be presented to the public by Latin Jazz USA Records by the end of this summer.



Candido and filmmaker Ivan Acosta

Camero will appear in fellow NEA Jazz Master Ramsey Lewis for a special Legends of Jazz tribute to 2008 NEA Masters airing on Public Television.

The National Endowment for the Arts is the highest recognition presented only to a

very select, outstanding group of legendary jazz musicians in the United States of America.

Iván Acosta, founder president of Latin Jazz USA is honored to be associated with this important artist's concerts, documentary and recordings. *Photos by Yaritza Acosta* ■