

Heriberto "Tito" Gonzalez, "El Trecero mayor", arrived in the San Francisco Bay area in the summer of 2000. His music is typical and primarily "El Son", the music you know from the Buena Vista Social Club.

"Tito" plays a Cuban instrument similar to the guitar, called the "Tres". He studied with Tres master Papi Oviedo of the Buena Vista Social Club and then with the greatest guitarist in Cuba, Octavio Sanchez Cotán. He has played with such famous Cuban groups as Conjunto Estrellas de Chocolate, Aribu Quartet and Chapotin y sus estrellas, all from Havana, Cuba.

Before leaving Havana, "Tito" founded and played with the Nuevo Conjunto de Arsenio Rodriguez, a group carefully structured to represent the music of the famous Cuban tresero Arsenio Rodriguez. This group was assembled by Arsenio's daughter, Regla Rodriguez Travieso. She thought long and hard as to who should represent and play her father's music. She chose Heriberto "Tito" Gonzalez, a great honor.

"Tito" is teaching, playing and jamming in the Bay Area "Cuban Son" scene. Since his arrival here in the USA he has had the honor of playing with such greats as Oscar De Leon, Larry Harlow and Orestes Vilato to name a few. Tito has played his authentic high energy Cuban music on such great stages as the world renowned Yoshi's in San Francisco and Oakland, Ca. Tito also plays internationally, he was recently requested to play for the Kings Coronation on the Island of Tonga!

"Tito" also teaches students privately how to play the incredible Cuban Tres!