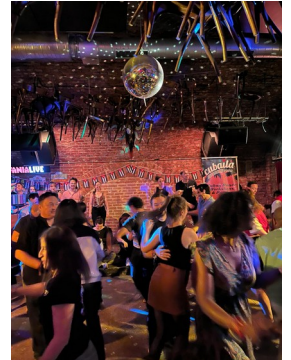


Experience at ¡Menéate! Viena, the AfroCuban Dance Festival in Vienna

- Henriina Manninen and Meghdoot Mozumder



The festival was held from 21.-24.03.2024 at Vienna, Austria, in two locations: Ares tower and FaniaLive bar. The festival included dance and theory workshops during the day and dance parties during the evening. The dance workshops were a great opportunity to learn and interact with top professional dance teachers. The workshops focused on different aspects of Cuban salsa, for example, they taught solo dances that are danced in the salsa communities, which originate from traditional dances in Cuba. There were also several couple dance workshops focused towards improving dance styling, musicality and technique. We also attended theory workshops, which taught us more about the salsa music, its history and details in the composition of songs.

The festival organizers and participants were friendly and welcoming to us. They informed us about other similar dance festivals, and we had a nice time discussing and comparing the dancing culture in Austria and Finland with them. It was nice to return to Finland with good memories of the festival, that included making new friends and learning new dance moves.