

AMSTERDAM - NETHERLANDS  
ELECTRONIC PRESS KIT - 2026

# VANILLA CALIENTE

*Built for the room.*

AFRO-CARIBBEAN RHYTHM  
COLLECTIVE  
QUINTET - TWELVE-PIECE

FEATURED AT RED LIGHT JAZZ 2026



AFRO-CARIBBEAN RHYTHM  
COLLECTIVE

QUINTET - TWELVE-PIECE

AMSTERDAM BASED

**Vanilla Caliente** brings contredanse, meringue, konpa, calypso, and tumba into a modern live ensemble sound - built for festivals, clubs, and rooms that want to move.

VANILLACALIENTE.COM

# Who We *Are*

**Vanilla Caliente** is an Afro-Caribbean rhythm collective based in Amsterdam. Contredanse, meringue, konpa, calypso, tumba - studied deeply, played live, brought into a modern ensemble sound from quintet to twelve-piece.

What they make is atmosphere. Rhythm so dense and precise that the body moves before the mind decides to. A room that enters the night as one thing and leaves as another.

FIRST SEASON

FIRST SHOWS

NOW BOOKING

## Two Sides: *Vanilla & Caliente*

Founded by bassist Gabriel Timar, the project explores the golden era of Haitian music from the 1950s and 60s - and splits into two distinct registers depending on the room.

### VANILLA

#### Soft & Introspective

Warm, soulful melodies that draw a room into a hush. For seated venues, listening rooms, and intimate stages.

### CALIENTE

#### Horn-Driven Heat

Vibrant, percussive, and built for the floor. For festivals, club stages, and rooms that want to move.



LISTEN + WATCH

# The Sound.

Live performance is the deepest expression.  
These are the closest record of it.



## SOUNDCLOUD

Recordings, sessions, in-progress work.

[SOUNDCLOUD.COM/VANILLA-CALIENTE](https://soundcloud.com/vanillacaliente)

## YOUTUBE

Live footage and performance documentation.

[YOUTUBE.COM/@VANILLACALIENTE](https://youtube.com/vanillacaliente)

UPCOMING LIVE

# First Season.

05

JUN

## Red Light Jazz - Skek

Friday - 16:00

Zeedijk 4-8, Amsterdam - Free Admission

CONFIRMED

07

JUN

## Zwet Festival

Sunday

Amsterdam, Netherlands

CONFIRMED

## Booking Open - 2026

Now scheduling 2026 dates across NL, BE, and DE. Available from quintet to full ensemble.

GET IN TOUCH

# Book the Room.

Vanilla Caliente is not a band looking for gigs. It is an organism built to fill rooms - to bring Afro-Caribbean rhythmic traditions into contemporary large-ensemble performance.

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BOOKING [vanillacaliente@gmail.com](mailto:vanillacaliente@gmail.com)

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WEBSITE [vanillacaliente.com](http://vanillacaliente.com)

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SOUNDCLOUD [soundcloud.com/vanilla-caliente](https://soundcloud.com/vanilla-caliente)

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YOUTUBE [@VanillaCaliente](https://www.youtube.com/@VanillaCaliente)