INTRODUCTION
Aruba is small, arid, and flat with limited agricultural potential and few natural resources (Razak, 2005). Despite this, the island’s natural, deep harbor and strategic location in the southern Caribbean made it an attractive colonial possession (Razak, 2005). In the 20th century, its close proximity to the oil fields of Venezuela, its nearest neighbor, and to the Panama Canal gave it decades of economic success (Sharpe, 2008). The oil industry suffered a huge downturn in the 1980s and the Aruban economy shifted its focus to the tourist industry, which remains its major industry today (Sharpe, 2008).

The Dutch controlled Aruba as part of its West Indian empire beginning in 1636 when they seized the island from the Spanish (Salverda & Dh’aen, 2008). Until 1986, Aruba was part of the former Netherlands Antilles. Today, Aruba is one of the “constituent countries that make up the modern-day Kingdom of the Netherlands” (“Netherlands,” 2013). The official languages of Aruba are Dutch and Papiamento. Owing to the large number of people who migrated to Aruba over the centuries (many from the English-speaking Caribbean and from its Latin-American neighbors), English and Spanish are both widely spoken. Most Aruban cultural traditions are the result of the intermingling of the diverse heritages of its inhabitants (Razak, 2005).

Musical influences in Aruba are likewise varied, though the most major influences are “African rhythms and European melodies” (Razak, 2005, para. 3). European-influenced dance music exists in the forms of the “Aruban waltz, the danza, the mazurka and the tumba” (Razak, 2005, para. 4). One uniquely Aruban musical tradition is the dande. Dande is a part of Aruban New Year's celebrations, during which groups of musicians visit the homes of friends, family and other members of their community to present holiday greetings in song and music (Razak, 2005). “Aruban dande has a single monotonous melody and a slow rolling beat” (Razak, 2005, para. 11).

Juan Chabaya “Padu” Lampe (aka, Padu del
Caribe,) is the island's most important musician and composer (Razak, 2005). Called “the father of Aruban culture,” Lampe is the co-composer (along with Rufo Wever) of the Aruban national anthem (Razak, 2005, para. 6). As a composer, singer and pianist, Lampe “has influenced the island's musical development for over 50 years” (Razak, 2005, para. 6).

The Arubaanse Muziekschool [AMS] was renamed the Scol di Musica Rufo Wever [SMRW] in 1998 to honour another of Aruba's influential musicians and composers. The school provides private and group instruction on a variety of instruments, vocal training, and general music education (“SMRW/AMS,” n.d.) The annual Aruba International Piano Festival, founded in 2006, presents a chamber concert series and other events focusing on music and education (“Aruba International,” 2013).

REFERENCES


COMPOSERS
Juan Chabaya Lampe (aka, Padu Lampe, aka Padu del Caribe, 1925-)
Eduard Toppenberg
Rufo Inocencio Wever (1917-1977)

COMPOSITIONS, by composer

Lampe
Abo so (waltz)
Aura waltz
Bula waya (tumba)
Despedida
Fiesta den cura (tumba, with Rufo Wever)
Fo‘i dia mi a mirabo
He patu
La metralla
Nami un chens
Piu piu piu
Soledad

Toppenberg
Balia di sehu [Let’s dance the sehu]

Wever
Algun dia sere feliz (bolero)
Alegria (mazurka)
Annette (waltz)
Antillenhuis (waltz)
Aruba (waltz)
Aruba dushi tera [Aruba, dear country]
(1952, waltz, national song of Aruba, lyrics by Padu Lampe)
Aruba tiera bunita (tumba)
Arubanita (waltz)
Awa blauw (tumba)
Bam zoya (tumba)
Bandolero (waltz)
Belinda (waltz)
Biba pascu (waltz)
Bitter bai (tumba)
Bonita (waltz)
Boom, boom, boom (zamba)
Calientito (tumba)
Carnaval (with Padu Lampe, calypso)
Chanita (tumba)
Chuchubi (waltz)
Coba poz (tumba)
Compa Nanzi (tumba)
Curaçao (1950, mazurka)
Dalia (tumba)
Dande (tumba)
Danza alegre (danza)
Den steef (tumba)
Dulce (waltz)
Emelina (waltz)
En la tienda
Encantadora (waltz)
Fiesta (polka)
Fiesta den cura (tumba, with Padu Lampe)
Flamingo room (waltz)
Galiña (merengue)
Gasta dek (polka)
Giambo bieuw (tumba)
Glenda y Herbert (waltz)
Gozando (polka)
Gracias amigo (bolero)
El libertado (waltz)
Llorando (waltz)
Mambo de Aruba (mambo)
Marinero (porro)
Mazurka 1968
Me gusta mas (merengue)
Merengue popular (merengue)
Mes ora (tumba)
Mi Aruba stima (waltz)
Mi oloshi (tumba)
Mis penas (waltz)
Nenita bonita (merengue)
Padu del Caribe (waltz)
Palomita (waltz)
Pan cayente (tumba)
Paranderos (tumba)
Pensamiento (waltz)
Pensando en ti (waltz)
Pimienta (calypso)
Pikitin pikitin (tumba)
Preciosa (waltz)
Pura candela (merengue)
Revuelta (mazurka)
Ring ring (tumba)
Sabrosita (tumba)
Suavidad (waltz)
Sucu dushi (tumba)
Solo solo (waltz)
Sonando (waltz, for piano)
Ta m’a bula e waya (tumba)
Te mainta
Te quiero (bolero)
Tienda nobo (tumba)
Trupial (waltz)
Tumba moderna (tumba)
Tumba pa gozar (tumba)
Violeta (waltz)
Wega bala (merengue)

**RECORDINGS**

**Lampe**
Track 1. Nami un chens (2:21)
Track 11. Fo’i dia mi a mirabo (3:33)
Track 14. Abo so (3:13)
Track 18. He patu (1:50)

Track 201. Bula waya (2:42)
Track 203. Aura waltz (3:10)


**Con Alma II [CD].** (2000). Ivan Jansen, guitar.

Track 1. Soledad (2:49)
Track 9. Fiesta den cura (3:09)
Track 19. Piu piu piu (2:19)
Track 27. Despedida (2:59)

**Toppenberg**
Track 17. Balia di sehu (2:31)

**Wever**
Track 15. Mi Aruba stima (1:27)
Track 7. *En la tienda* (2:26)
Track 11. *La encantadora* (2:28)

Catalogue no. 8.225319
Track 21. *Aruba deshi tera* (Aruba precious country, 0:53)

**SCORES**

**Toppenberg**


**Wever**


**SOUND FILES**

**Wever**

Wever, R. (n.d.). *Aruba dushi tera* [MP3 file].
http://www.nationalanthems.info/aw.mp3

**BOOKS, ARTICLES & THESES**

[Chapter 8: Music and dance]