

SALSA · TIMBA · LATIN JAZZ · SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Christian Pepin y Orquesta Bembé

High-power salsa and timba from San Francisco: a full Latin orchestra with a deep percussion engine, tight horns and singers who keep the dance floor packed until the last note.

ABOUT THE BAND

Christian Pepin y Orquesta Bembé is a San Francisco–based salsa and timba orchestra led by GRAMMY®–winning percussionist Christian Pepin and pianist and arranger extraordinaire Erick Peralta, who founded the band together in 2012. Ten musicians strong, Bembé pairs big-orchestra polish with timba fire, and in 2024 played all three nights of the Monterey Jazz Festival.

Founders: Christian Pepin, 2X GRAMMY® Award winner, percussionist, drummer and educator, who leads from the timbales; and pianist and arranger Erick Peralta.

STYLES

SALSA · TIMBA · LATIN JAZZ · SON · CHA-CHA · BOLERO · A FEW CUMBIAS

THE LINEUP

A 10-piece orchestra (piano, bass, congas, bongó, timbales, horns and voices) that scales down to smaller combos for any room. We can bring our own sound engineer and backline.





> **"[E]very night, Bay area salsero Christian Pepin and Orquesta Bembé held a raucous, trombone-forward dance party."**
>
> DOWNBEAT · 67TH MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL REVIEW (2024)

PAST HIGHLIGHTS

- **MONTEREY JAZZ FESTIVAL** 2024 · all 3 nights, Pacific Jazz Café
- **SAN JOSE JAZZ · ¡WEPA! FEST** 2026
- **CAFE COCOMO** San Francisco
- **CIGAR BAR & GRILL** San Francisco
- **LA PEÑA CULTURAL CENTER** Berkeley · ¡BAILA! nights

BOOKING · NOW BOOKING 2027

Ray Delgado, Booking for Orquesta Bembé · 415-325-2247 · pepinmusic.com
GigSalad: gigsalad.com/orquesta_bemb_san_francisco · Instagram @orquestabembe · YouTube @OrquestaBembe

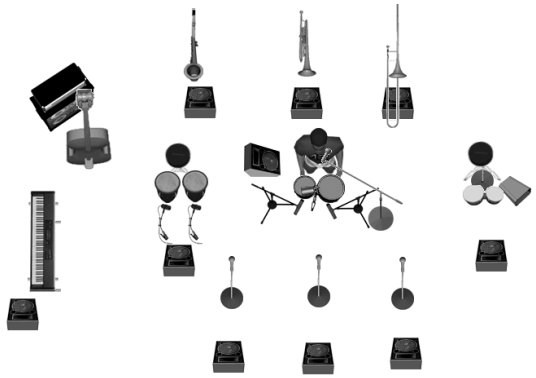
Photos: cover, Christian at the timbales, Monterey Jazz Festival 2024 © Tom Ehrlich Photos; full band, MJF 2024, video still by MsConstantComment; dance floor, MJF 2024 © Tom Ehrlich. Tech sheet on page 2.

Orquesta Bembé · Technical Sheet

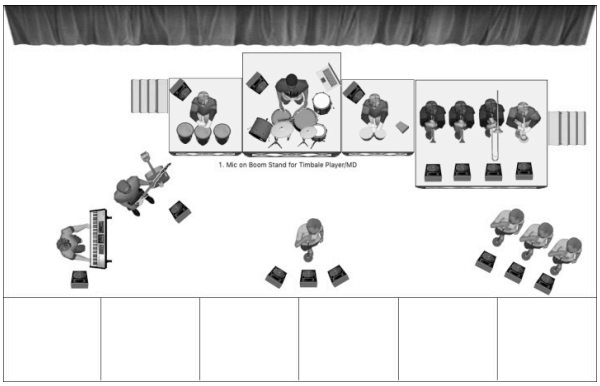
STAGE PLOT · INPUT LIST · TECH RIDER SUMMARY

TECH ADVANCE: CHRISTIAN PEPIN · 213-929-3923
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STAGE PLOTS (TWO SETUPS; ADVANCE WHICH ONE WITH CHRISTIAN)



Setup A, flat stage: timbales/MD center with kick, snare and floor tom, flanked by congas and bongó; sax, trumpet and trombone upstage; piano/keys and bass to the side; three front vocal mics; a wedge at each position.



Setup B, risers: congas, timbales/MD and bongó on rhythm risers upstage center; four horns on their own riser; piano/keys and bass downstage on one side; lead vocal center and three coro singers on the other side. Mic on boom stand for timbale player/MD.

INPUT LIST ("A" RIG)

#	INSTRUMENT	MIC / LINE	STAND
2	Bass	Direct out of amp head	N/A
3–4	Elec keys (piano)	Stereo DI	
5	Roland	DI / power drop	N/A
6–7	Conga 1, 2	SM57	Clamp/boom
8	Conga 3 or guest	SM57	Clamp/boom
9	Kick drum	Sennheiser D-112 (pref.) / Beta 52	
10	Timbale high	SM57 / MD 421	Short boom
11	Timbale low	SM57 / MD 421	Short boom
12	Floor tom	SM57	Clamp/boom
13	Snare	SM57	Clamp/boom
14	Timbale cymbal OH	SM81	Boom
15	Bongó low	SM57	Boom
16	Bongó high (bell)	SM81 or similar	Clamp/boom
17	Trumpet 1	SM57 / Beta 56	Boom
18	Trombone 1	SM57 / Beta 56 / MD 421	Boom
19	Sax 1 tenor	SM57 / Beta 56 / MD 421	Boom
20	Sax 2 bari	SM57 / EV RE-20	Boom
21	Horn soloist	SM57 / Beta 56	Gooseneck/boom
22	Vox timbale	Wireless or SM58	Boom
23	Vox trumpet 1	SM58	Boom
24	Lead vox 1	Wireless HH (or own Sennheiser EW 500-945)	Straight + iPad stand
25	Lead vox / MD	Wireless HH or SM58	Straight + iPad stand

Monitors: 11 mixes (piano, bass, congas, bongó, timbales, trumpets, trombones, sax, 2 male singers, solo mic). IEM with packs preferred for all musicians; otherwise wedges (bass and congas can share a mix).

TECH RIDER SUMMARY

PA: stereo, 20 Hz–18 kHz at 112 dB evenly through the venue (Meyer, L-Acoustics, Adamson, Martin Audio, JBL Vertec class).

FOH: Midas M32 or pro digital desk (Avid Venue, Yamaha M7CL/PM5D, Behringer X32). Any analog desk must be approved by Christian.

Monitors: self-contained monitor desk; 14 bi-amped 2-way wedges (12"+2"). Mix list under the input list.

Snake/split: 32–56 × 12 snake, 40-ch isolated splitter, all stands, cables, DIs and clamps per input list.

Backline (preferred or equivalent):

- Nord Stage 3 or 4 electric piano
- Timbales: LP Marc Quiñones ETE1415MQ; 20"×18" Pearl Masterworks kick, P-2050C pedal; piccolo snare on tall stand; 14" or 16" floor tom; 17" Zildjian crash, cymbal stands
- Congas: LP Galaxy Giovanni quinto 11", conga 11¾", tumba 12½", stands for standing play
- Bass: Markbass 800 head, 4×10 and 1×15 cabs
- 9 Manhasset music stands with lights
- Bembé brings handbells and timbale bells

Stage: rhythm riser large enough for timbal kit, 3 congas and bongó; horns on a riser behind or stage left; up to three 8'×8' carpeted risers.

Crew and power: venue A1 at FOH to assist Bembé's engineer, plus a monitor engineer; on-stage power provided by presenter; lighting director provided by venue.

Schedule: system wired and tested before arrival; closed soundcheck about 2 hours before show.

Hospitality: one hot meal for about 10, dressing rooms for 10, water. Travel dates: hotel rooms per rider (10 singles, plus 2 doubles for engineers if requested).

Summary only. The full 12-page BEMBÉ TECH RIDER 2025 (staging, lighting, wardrobe, catering) governs. Tech advance: Christian Pepin, 213-929-3923.