

The origin of Shanti Setú

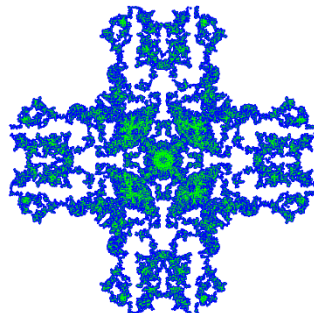
A translation of <https://campanitasdefe.com/2017/10/14/el-origen-de-shanti-setu/>

***Summary.** This little bell explains how the name of the **band** that I dream will perform the songs on the blog came to be and includes the composition "**Un canto nuevo**" (**A new song**) to reiterate that the goal of this enterprise is to sing to the **Lord** a new song. A fragment of the song performed a cappella can be heard [here](#). Such a fragment may also be heard by the end of the text.*

*The blog [Presentation](#) provides information about the purpose of these little bells and the blog [Organization](#) shows how the entries are grouped by categories. This entry belongs to the categories "**Experiential little bells**" and "**Matters of faith**."*

After coming back from my sabbatical year in 1998, when I had about twenty songs written, I started thinking that they could perhaps be useful to animate towards **love** and **faith**. This, one fine day and following my instincts, I dared to call the great **Puerto Rican** musician and trumpeter **Luis "Perico" Ortiz**, who, in my opinion, had the best salsa band for years, especially in the 1980s. The elegance and originality of his music always captivated me, to the point that I would only drive from **Boston** to **New York** to dance if he was on the billboard. I decided to talk to him, particularly, since he already proclaimed that our lives do change when we let **God's** love [get in](#).

Amid a pleasant conversation, I ventured to sing to him a couple of my songs. To my delight, **Perico** liked them and asked me to send them to him. After some time, I received a beautiful response that I kept visible on the side of a bookshelf in my office for years. The message, like another [vote of confidence](#), expressed his hope that one day he would compose music for my lyrics, which he found simple yet profound, and he ended with a significant farewell: "**for the well-being of our music**" ...



... With the passage of time, my output continued to grow and the dream of realizing the songs took root more definitively in me, to the point that I began thinking about the name of the band that would perform them. Inspired by the mysterious name of the great **Cuban** jazz group **Irakere** (meaning "forest" in **Yoruba**), I sought a name that was intriguing and would also invite curiosity about its meaning.

One a good day in 2005, after trying names like "**bridge of love**" and "**bridge of peace**" in various languages, the enigma was resolved by my friend **Ravi**, a respectful and wise man, who celebrated that I would accompany my **Indian** meal with water instead of a soda. The answer lay in the language of **Melquíades** from the **great Nobel laureate of my country, Gabriel García Márquez**, and his **One Hundred Years of Solitude**! The solution was rooted in the **Sanskrit** embedded in **Gabo's** work and was a sonorous **Shanti Setú**, translating a **Puente de Paz (Bridge of Peace)**.

Certainly, the phrase was truly love at first sound and the name I was searching for came to stay. The facts that **setú — bridge** — provides in **Spanish** an invitation to "**be as you are**" and that the acronym is curiously found while praying the **Lord's Prayer** — "**hágase tu voluntad**" in "thy will be done" — confirmed, with due reason and emotion, that the enigmatic name was the perfect battle cry for the future band.

Here comes the song "**Un canto nuevo**" (**A new song**) that serves as an introduction to the musical project. Drawing inspiration from various **Psalms**, in particular number 96, it encapsulates the essential invitation to "**sing to the Lord a new song.**"

Those that know it shall understand that the initial reference to a **happy day** is related to a heartfelt song by the "**culprit**" of my songwriting, **Silvio Rodríguez** and that **the greatest prize** is also the **jackpot** that I long to win so that the band may exist.

Let the **square root of two** bloom!

A NEW SONG

A happy day has arrived!

In the Jubilee of Hope!

**A new song oh for the Lord,
with voices, listen, and with a drum,
oh great praise, all the jackpot,
the just triumphs, yes reigns love.**

Oh, live my friend with all truth,
it's real medicine for us to heal.
oh, believe, listen, fear no more,
the Lord always gifts much more.

**A new song oh for the Lord,
with voices, listen, and with a drum,
oh great praise, all the jackpot,
the just triumphs, yes reigns love.**

Oh, live my dear with charity,
it's the eternal plan for us to arrive.
oh, believe, listen, live your peace,
the Lord always gifts much more.

**A new song oh for the Lord,
with voices, listen, and with a drum,
oh great praise, all the jackpot,
the just triumphs, yes reigns love.**

Oh, live my friend with real faith,
it's a requisite for us to dream.
oh, believe, listen, lie no more,
the Lord always gifts much more.

**A new song oh for the Lord,
with voices, listen, and with a drum,
oh great praise, all the jackpot,
the just triumphs, yes reigns love.**

*Bridge of Peace
or Shanti Setú in Sanskrit...*

*Bridge of Peace:
to listen dreaming..*

*Shanti Setú:
to dance thinking...*

The band has arrived...

**A new song: Shanti Setú,
plentiful joy in holy light,
oh great praise: Bridge of Peace,
glory confirms always the plus.**

Forgive, oh look, so that you count,
it's the straight path for us to win.
apply it, listen, oh love much more,
the Lord never denies His peace.

**A new song: Shanti Setú,
plentiful joy in holy light,
oh great praise: Bridge of Peace,
glory confirms always the plus.**

Sing with me, oh dance now,
with all hope, a vital fest.
apply it, listen, oh genius verse,
the Lord never denies His peace.

**A new song: Shanti Setú,
plentiful joy in holy light,
oh great praise: Bridge of Peace,
glory confirms always the plus.**

Arises the fig tree to forewarn,
great jubilee, a total ode.

apply it, listen, Mother of God,
the Lord never denies His peace.

**A new song: Shanti Setú,
plentiful joy in holy light,
oh great praise: Bridge of Peace,
glory confirms always the plus.**

Here it comes...

Shanti Setú...

Bridge of Peace...

Speeding up and remembering...

The Lord always gifts much more,
all praise Him, all praise to the Lord,
the Lord never denies His peace,
oh reign of nines, oh it's coming now,
the Lord always gifts much more,
it has arrived, it has arrived, oh Shanti Setú,
the Lord never denies His peace,
it's also, it's also, oh Bridge of Peace,
the Lord always gifts much more,
oh eternal party, with dance and song,
the Lord never denies His peace,
out of love, out of love, He died oh, poor one,
the Lord always gifts much more,
and His silhouette is X equals Y,
the Lord never denies His peace,
from a bud to a rose, oh love prevailed.

**The Lord always gives much more,
the Lord never denies His peace. (4)**

And the plus is the cross!

(February/March 2006/April 2022/January 2025)



A fragment of the song may be heard in Spanish [*here*](#).