



Cortijo's Wake: El Entierro De Cortijo (A bilingual ed)

By Edgardo Rodríguez Julia

Duke University Press. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Cortijo's Wake: El Entierro De Cortijo (A bilingual ed), Edgardo Rodríguez Julia, A bilingual edition of a renowned work of Puerto Rican literature, Cortijo's Wake/El entierro de Cortijo is novelist Edgardo Rodríguez Julia's vivid description of the funeral of legendary Puerto Rican musician Rafael Cortijo. El entierro de Cortijo became an immediate bestseller following its original publication in Puerto Rico in 1983. An unparalleled Afro-Puerto Rican percussionist and bandleader, Cortijo (1928-1982) revolutionized the country's musical culture. His band, Cortijo y Su Combo, captivated Caribbean and Latin American audiences as it emerged in the mid-1950s. Immensely popular across Puerto Rican social classes, the band both "modernized" the traditional vernacular forms of bomba and plena and forcefully re-established their African and working class roots. The group's innovations have been integral to salsa since the 1960s. Winding through the streets of working-class San Juan with Cortijo's funeral procession, Rodríguez Julia's autobiographical chronicle provides a rare portrait of the impoverished society from which Cortijo's music emerged. Along with detailed renderings of grief-stricken mourners - including Cortijo's childhood friend and fellow musician, the celebrated singer Ismael ("Maelo") Rivera - Rodríguez Julia records his feelings as he,...



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