

= Contra la Corriente ( Marc Anthony album ) =

Contra la Corriente ( Against the Current ) is the third studio album released by American singer Marc Anthony on October 21 , 1997 by RMM Records . The album was produced by Puerto Rican musician Angel " Cucco " Peña , with most of the songs written by Panamanian composer Omar Alfanno . The album was well received by critics who praised the vocals of Anthony as well as the songs . The album produced six singles , four of which peaked on the top ten on the Hot Latin Tracks chart . Promoted by a sold @-@ out concert in Madison Square Garden , Contra la Corriente became the first salsa album reach number one on the Top Latin Albums chart and to chart on the Billboard 200 .

Contra la Corriente received a Grammy Award and a Latin Billboard Award , and was named the eighth best album of 1997 by Time magazine . It has sold over 400 @,@ 000 copies as of 2000 . The album received a gold certification for shipping of 500 @,@ 000 copies in the United States . This was the last album that Marc Anthony recorded under RMM Records before switching over to Columbia Records to record his first self @-@ titled English album .

= = Background = =

Since Anthony 's signing on with RMM Records , his first @-@ two albums had been successful , selling over 600 @,@ 000 copies combined . His second album , Todo a Su Tiempo , was certified gold in the United States and received a Grammy Award nomination . Record producer Sergio George , who was credited for the success Anthony 's earlier albums , was not involved in the production of Contra La Corriente . Angel " Cucco " Peña , who has worked with salsa veterans such as Gilberto Santa Rosa and Willie Colón , took up the position as producer for the album . Contra la Corriente , the third studio album by Anthony , was released in October 1997 . The album was distributed by MCA Records and was promoted at a sold @-@ out concert in Madison Square Garden days before the release of the album .

= = Recording and production = =

For the album , Anthony built a studio near his home . Around that time , he was involved in the production of Paul Simon 's musical play The Capeman and had to record the album in three weeks . Anthony chose nine songs out of 1 @,@ 300 samples . He sent tapes to co @-@ producer Peña at the Altamar Music Studios in San Juan , Puerto Rico to get feedback . He made routine flights between New York and Puerto Rico to record the album hours and to rehearse for the play . Panamanian composer Omar Alfanno , who wrote three songs on the last album , had composed five songs for the album . Fernando Arias composed the boleros " No Me Conoces " and " Suceden " . " Si Te Vas " is a cover of the Pedro Fernández song . Manny Benito wrote the last track , " Un Mal Sueño " .

= = Commercial release = =

= = = Album = = =

During the Madison Square Garden concert , RMM executive producer Ralph Mercado presented an award to Anthony for selling over 350 @,@ 000 copies just before release . Contra la Corriente was the released on October 21 , 1997 in the United States . The album debuted at number @-@ one on the Top Latin Albums chart on the week of November 22 , 1997 , and stayed at number @-@ one for three consecutive weeks . The album debuted at number @-@ one on the Tropical Albums chart and remained on top for ten non @-@ consecutive weeks . Contra la Corriente was the first album Anthony to chart on the Billboard 200 , peaking at number seventy @-@ four . The album was the fourth best selling Latin album of 1998 and was the second best selling tropical

album after Buena Vista Social Club . The album was certified gold in the United States for shipping of 500 @, @ 000 units . A remastered edition of the album was released on September 9 , 2003 by Universal Music Latino . Contra la Corriente has sold over 400 @, @ 000 units as of 2000 .

= = = Singles = = =

" Y Hubo Alguien " ( And There Was Somebody ) was the lead single from the album . Released in the same month as the album , the single reached number @-@ one on the Hot Latin Tracks . It was his first number one single on the chart and the first single by a salsa musician to reach number one . " Me Voy a Regalar " ( I Am Going to Give ) followed later in the year . " Si Te Vas " ( If You Go ) was the third single from the album , released in 1998 ; it reached number @-@ eight on Hot Latin Tracks . " Contra la Corriente " ( Against the Current ) and " No Me Conoces " ( You Do Not Know Me ) both reached number @-@ two on Hot Latin Tracks . , " No Sabes Como Duele " ( You Do Not Know How It Hurts ) was the last single to be released from the album in 1999 and reached number @-@ eighteen on the Hot Latin Tracks . Three of the six singles , " Y Hubo Alguien " , " Si Te Vas " , and " Contra la Corriente " , reached number @-@ one on the Latin Tropical Airplay charts . Two songs from the album were made into music videos . The first music video was the lead single " Y Hubo Alguien " which was filmed in New York City . The second music video was " No Me Conoces " which was directed by Bennny Coral . Filming took place in México and featured Jennifer Lopez as the supporting actress .

= = Critical reception and legacy = =

Contra la Corriente received mostly positive reviews from critics , who praised Marc Anthony 's singing . Terry Jenkins of Allmusic gave the album a 4 @. @ 5 out of 5 and praised Anthony 's vocals as being " sexy " and " near @-@ flawless " though he felt that it " doesn 't quite match the dizzying heights of his breakthrough Todo a Su Tiempo " . David Wilson of Wilson & Alroy 's Record Reviews called the tunes " solid " and praised Anthony 's voice but criticized Peña 's production as being " slavishly " similar to the previous album . Achy Obejas of the Chicago Tribune names Contra la Corriente as Anthony 's best album and felt that the influence of Cuban music was prominent " in the rhythms and harmonies " in comparison to Los Van Van . Ernesto Lechner of the Los Angeles Times , who was more critical of the album , gave it two @-@ out @-@ of @-@ four stars criticizing the arrangements as " unbearably soapy " and called the album a " flawed masterpiece in the saccharine genre of salsa romantica . " An editor for Billboard magazine felt Anthony should " build on his towering reputation with another radio @-@ appropriate package " . Contra la Corriente was named the eighth best album of 1997 by Time magazine stating that " ... whether you habla espanol or not , Anthony 's talent comes through , no translation needed " .

At the 41st Grammy Awards , Contra la Corriente was given a Grammy Award for Best Tropical Latin Performance . Billboard awarded the album " Tropical Album of the Year by a Male Artist " , citing that the album became the highest selling salsa album when it charted the Billboard 200 . It also received a nomination for a 10th Lo Nuestro Awards for " Tropical Album of the Year " . The single " Y Hubo Alguien " received a Billboard Latin Music Award and a Lo Nuestro award for " Tropical Song of the Year " .

This would be the last time that Anthony worked with the RMM label . After disputes with Ralph Mercado over business practices , he left the record label and later signed on with Columbia Records to record his first self titled English album .

= = Track listing = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

The following credits are from Allmusic .

=== Performance credits ===

=== Technical credits ===

=== Chart performance ==

=== Certifications ===