

= Formula , Vol . 1 =

Formula , Vol . 1 is the debut studio album by American singer @-@ songwriter Romeo Santos , released on November 8 , 2011 by Sony Music Latin . It is Santos 's first album as a solo artist following the breakup of American bachata group Aventura , of which he was the lead singer . The record contains fifteen tracks , most of which were composed by Santos and co @-@ produced with Ivan Chevere . The album experiments with the sound of bachata and other genres including R & B and flamenco . It features several Anglophone and Hispanophone guest artists including Usher , Tomatito , Mario Domm , and Lil Wayne . Recording for the album took place in 2011 at The Castle , Fight Klub , and EMG Studios in New York City . A deluxe edition of the album containing five extra tracks was released exclusively in Walmart retail stores in the United States .

In the U.S. , Formula , Vol . 1 peaked at number one on the Billboard Top Latin Albums and Billboard Tropical Albums charts and was the best @-@ selling Latin album of 2012 . It was certified three times platinum (Latin field) by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for shipping 300 @,@ 000 copies and had sold 328 @,@ 000 copies in the U.S. by February 2014 . It ranked number thirteen , twenty @-@ six , and seventy @-@ seven on the Argentine , Mexican , and Spanish album charts respectively .

Santos promoted the record by touring the U.S. , Latin America and Europe . It was generally well received by critics , who praised the production of the bachata tracks although some of the duets ? including those with Mario Domm and Mala Rodríguez ? were criticized as obvious attempts to appeal outside of the bachata audience . The album earned Santos several accolades , including a Grammy nomination , three Billboard Latin Music Awards , a Billboard Music award , a Lo Nuestro nomination , a Premios Juventud award , and a Soberano Award . Six singles were released from the record , four of which , " You " , " Promise " , " Mi Santa " , and " La Diabla " , reached number one on the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart in the U.S.

= = Background = =

Romeo Santos began his career as the lead member of Aventura , an urban bachata infused band . The band rose to popularity in the 2000s , has sold over 1 @.@ 7 million albums in the U.S. , and had the best @-@ selling Latin album of 2009 , The Last . Soon after the band 's separation in early 2011 , Santos signed a record deal with Sony Music Latin and Jive Records to record his debut solo album , Formula , Vol . 1 . According to his manager Johnny Marines , the contract was worth US \$ 10 @,@ 000 @,@ 000 . Santos felt that the record was a continuation of his career rather than a new beginning .

= = Composition = =

Formula , Vol . 1 contains fifteen tracks , most of which were written by Romeo Santos and co @-@ produced by Ivan Chevere . Santos said that he intended to write more English @-@ language recordings on the album but did not want to stray far from his musical origins . The songs were recorded at The Castle , Fight Klub , and EMG Studios in New York City .

The album begins with a skit featuring American comedian George Lopez , in which Santos confesses his " sins " about his fortune and fame to a priest played by Lopez . The first song " La Diabla " (" She @-@ Devil ") is a bachata track about a man who regrets making a deal with a she @-@ devil after losing the game of love . The third song , " Que Se Mueran " (" Let Them Die ") , attacks the public for their criticism of the age difference between lovers . " Mi Santa " (" My Saint ") incorporates elements of bachata and flamenco , and features Spanish guitarist Tomatito .

" Promise " is a bilingual bachata tune that features American singer Usher and was produced by Rico Love . Santos said the collaboration was his idea , and that Usher enjoyed the duet despite not speaking Spanish . " Debate de 4 " (" Battle of 4 ") features Dominican bachata musicians Antony Santos , Raúlín Rodríguez , and Luis Vargas , who also feature in a skit preceding the track . " You " is a bilingual bachata record and was the first composition written for the album .

" Magia Negra " (" Black Magic ") is a mixture of bachata and hip hop music , and features Spanish rapper Mala Rodríguez . " Rival " is a ballad duet with Mario Domm , the lead singer of Mexican band Camila . It was recorded at Ocean Way Recording in Los Angeles . " All Aboard " is a hip hop track featuring American rapper Lil Wayne and produced by Rico Love . Santos said that he approached Wayne after writing the song .

= = Singles = =

" You " , the first single from the album , was released on May 10 , 2011 . In the US , the song peaked at number ninety @-@ seven on the Billboard Hot 100 and debuted at number one on the Billboard Hot Latin Songs . Santos is the eighth overall artist whose single has debuted at number one on the Hot Latin Songs chart . It also reached number one on the Billboard Tropical Songs charts . " You " was the eighth best @-@ performing Latin single of 2011 .

The album 's second single , " Promise " was released on September 2 , 2011 . The song peaked at number eighty @-@ three on the Billboard Hot 100 , became his second number one single on the Hot Latin Songs and Tropical Songs charts , and peaked at number one on the Billboard Latin Pop Songs chart . " Promise " received airplay in Mexico , where it ranked at number twenty on the Monitor Latino charts .

" Mi Santa " , the album 's third single , was released on January 24 , 2012 . It peaked at number one on the Hot Latin Songs , Latin Pop Songs , and Tropical Songs charts . The fourth single , " All Aboard " , was released on March 8 , 2012 , and peaked at number eight on the Latin Digital Songs chart .

The fifth single , " Rival " , was released on March 19 , 2012 , peaking at number forty @-@ two on the Hot Latin Songs and number twenty @-@ two on the Latin Pop Songs charts . In Mexico , " Rival " peaked at number ten on the Monitor Latino charts . The sixth single , " La Diabla " , became the fourth single from the album to reach number one on the Hot Latin Songs chart ; making it the second @-@ most number one singles from an album . Only Spanish singer Enrique Iglesias has had more number one hits from a single album . " La Diabla " also peaked at number two on the Latin Pop Songs and number one on the Tropical Songs chart .

= = Promotion = =

To promote the album , Santos launched a 75 @-@ show The King Stays King tour , which started in New York City on February 11 , 2012 . Santos performed songs from the album and from his time with Aventura . Three men from the audience were selected to perform " Debate de 4 " with Santos . The tour opened with three consecutive shows ? two of which sold out ? at Madison Square Garden . The concerts at Madison Square Garden were recorded and later released as a live album titled The King Stays King : Sold Out at Madison Square Garden on November 6 , 2012 . By May 2012 , the tour ranked at number five on the Top 20 Concert Tours grossing over US \$ 749 @,@ 885 in the country according to Pollstar .

On May 31 , 2012 , Santos began a world tour in Venezuela . The tour continued to Chile , Ecuador , Peru , Paraguay , Argentina , . and Colombia . In October 2012 , Santos performed two concerts in Madrid and Barcelona . After his performances in Spain , he performed in Honduras , El Salvador , Guatemala , and the Dominican Republic . Santos announced that he would start the second leg of the tour on February 14 , 2013 , at the José Miguel Agrelot Coliseum in San Juan , Puerto Rico . Two weeks later , Santos performed in Chile and Argentina . The U.S. portion of the tour 's second leg began on March 22 , 2013 , in Newark , New Jersey , and ended on May 3 , 2013 , in Hollywood , Florida . Santos performed the final leg of his tour in Mexico , where he performed six concerts .

= = Critical reception = =

Thorn Jurek of Allmusic gave the album a positive review , and called " You " an " easy summertime groove " and " Promise " a " shimmering duet " . He also wrote that Santos 's mix of

genres creates " an intoxicating brew . " Mikael Wood of Entertainment Weekly gave the album a B rating and wrote that Santos ' " solo aspirations include cracking the R & B mainstream " , and that the album " generally sticks to the successful blueprint advertised by [its] title . " An editor for Terra Networks gave the album 3 out of 5 stars , noting that while Santos takes risks with the sound and collaborates with other artists from different genres , the bachata tracks sound alike in the production . Peter Margasak of the Chicago Reader wrote a positive review for the album , describing the album as a successful " balancing act between past and present " . He said the production of the album " gives everything vivid colors and gauzy textures " , but that some songs ? including the duets " Magia Negra , " with Mala Rodríguez and " Rival " with Mario Domm ? were " less @-@ than @-@ convincing detours " , describing the former as a " throbbing EDM " and the latter as " treacly power balladry " . Sarah Godfrey of the Washington Post gave the album a favorable review , admiring Santos for appealing to the Anglophone market without the need to " sell out bachata die @-@ hards " , citing " Promise " as the main example . Godfrey said that Santos retains his style on the duet " All Aboard " , and that the collaborations were " obviously meant to pull in folks who ? ve never heard of Aventura " . She praised the compositions , including " La Diabla " and " La Bella y Bestia " , which she said are " impossible to resist , whether one understands all of the lyrics or not . "

At the 19th Billboard Latin Music Awards , Formula , Vol . 1 was nominated for Album of the Year , Digital Album of the Year , and Tropical Album of the Year . At the 20th Billboard Latin Music Awards , the record received the three aforementioned awards . It was also recognized as the Top Latin Album of the Year at the 2012 Billboard Music Awards and earned a nomination in the same category the following year . At the 2012 Juventud Awards , the album won a " Lo Toco Todo (I Play Every Song) " award and a nomination for the promotional tour for the album . At the 55th Grammy Awards , Formula , Vol . 1 received a nomination for Best Tropical Latin Album , which was awarded to Marlow Rosado and La Riqueña for his album Retro . At the 25th Lo Nuestro Awards in 2013 , the record was nominated for Tropical Album of the Year , but lost to Phase II by Prince Royce . In the Dominican Republic , the record was awarded Album of the Year at the 2013 Soberano Awards . At the 2013 Mexican Oye ! Awards , it was nominated for Urban Album of the Year by a Soloist or Group .

= = Commercial performance = =

Formula , Vol . 1 was released worldwide on November 8 , 2011 . As part of a deal with Walmart , a deluxe edition containing five extra tracks ? the English version of " Promise " , Spanish and English versions of " Aleluya " featuring American rapper Pitbull , " Malevo " , and " Vale la Pena el Placer " ? was released for sale exclusively at Walmart outlets . It also contained a DVD containing music videos for " You " and " Promise " . In the U.S. , the album debuted and peaked at number nine on the Billboard 200 chart and debuted at number one on the Billboard Top Latin Albums and the Billboard Tropical Albums charts . 65 @,@ 000 copies were sold in its first week , making it the biggest debut sales for a Latin album since El Cartel : The Big Boss by Daddy Yankee in 2007 . It was at number one for seventeen non @-@ consecutive weeks on the Top Latin Albums chart , and thirty non @-@ consecutive weeks on the Tropical Albums chart . Formula , Vol . 1 was the best @-@ selling Latin and Tropical album of 2012 in the U.S.

The RIAA certified the album triple platinum (Latin field) for shipping 300 @,@ 000 copies . By February 2014 , Formula Vol . 1 had sold over 328 @,@ 000 copies in the U.S. The album peaked at number thirteen in Argentina and number seventy @-@ seven in Spain and certified gold in Venezuela . In Mexico , it peaked at number twenty @-@ six on the Top 100 Mexico albums chart and was certified gold by AMPROFON .

= = Track listing = =

All songs written and composed by Anthony " Romeo " Santos , except where noted ..

= = Credits and personnel = =

The following credits are from Allmusic :

= = = Performance credits = = =

= = = Technical credits = = =

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =