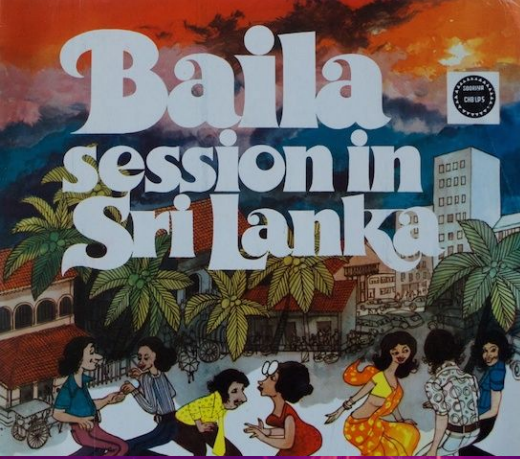


Baila

An Sri Lankan Artform

Chrystal Silva



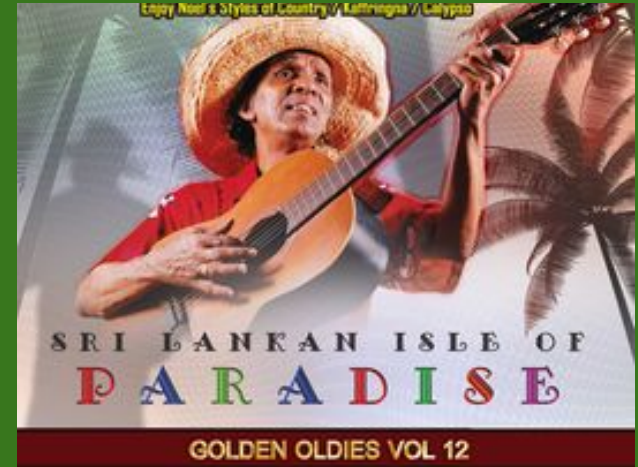
History and Origin of Baila

- A form of music that evolved out of Sri Lanka
- Incorporates African, South American, and South Asian components
 - Uses maracas, banjo guitar, viola, violin, Spanish guitar, rabana (flat drum)
- Popular for parties and nightclubs
 - Historically performed as party entertainment





- A mixture of various cultures and traditions
 - African and South Asian beats
 - large variety of costume
- Roots primarily in African music
 - Performed for Portuguese upper class and diaspora as entertainment music



Two Forms of Baila

Waade Baila

- Emphasis on wordplay and eloquence
- Rooted in both Sri Lankan values of witty expression and traditional African verbal repartee in music



Chorus Baila

- Popular for parties and dancing
- Increasingly “party” beats
 - Westernization



- Popular worldwide
 - Sri Lanka's most exported and popular music genre on Spotify, YouTube, iTunes
- Constant evolution
 - African created and performed
 - Advent of the radio
 - Mainstream popularity
 - Mixture with indigenous Sri Lankan music
 - Modern day popularity
- Historically controversial
- *Currently* controversial



Songs:

Original: <https://youtu.be/J74r1FpVcVs>

Westernized: <https://youtu.be/dMs45X9OgdE>