

# Biography Diomary La Mala

Name: Diomary Celeste Castillo Jiménez  
Born: May 28th, 1969  
Place: San Francisco de Macoris, Dominican Republic  
Occupation: Artist  
Category: Singer

Diomary studied music at the School of Fine Arts in her hometown, where she also completed her university studies, where she obtained a bachelor's degree in business administration.

She began her artistic career in New York City in 1993, in the city's nightclubs, accompanied by local groups for ten years. She shared the stage with renowned Latin artists such as Sophy, Braulio, Ana Bárbara, Álvaro Torres, Francisco Céspedes, among others.

She later ventured into the Bronxnet radio and television production school, Lehman College and took her first steps as a producer by creating the radio program "La Vida Artística" and the music reality show "Dejando Huellas" (2003-2005).

In 2006 Diomary released "Enero 2," her first album in the tropical genre, under Efraín Dávila's musical production and Luisito Quintero's artistic direction. During that time, she had the opportunity to share stage with artists of the caliber of Paquito Guzmán, José Alberto "El Canario", Rey Reyes, Frankie Negrón and Johnny Ventura.

Diomary stood out in the tropical genre and received an invitation to be part of relevant artistic celebrations, such as Sergio Vargas's 25 years in the art, Los Hermanos Rosario's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and other memorable events.

She left New York City to represent the Dominican Republic in an important reality show on the Telemundo Internacional Puerto Rico network in 2010, where she achieved a high level of popular acceptance. It was during this competition that she added "Mala" to her stage name and where "La Mala de la Película," the name of her second tropical album in the merengue and

bachata genres was born, produced by Irving Peña and maestro Darys Contreras.

In 2014 Diomary was chosen as her country's national voice and joined Ramon A. (Papa) Molina National Orchestra, directed by maestro Sandy Gabriel, to perform a rich repertoire of native Dominican music. This move opened the doors among local artists to have her a guest or opening artist of concerts, such as: "Entre Amigos," Frank Ceara; "Big Bang Nuñez 3," Pavel Nuñez; Santo Domingo Jazz Festival; and Xiomara Fortuna's 40-year career, just to name a few.

Diomary has worked alongside with Dominican producers such as Aléxis Casado, Amaury Sánchez, Josean Jacobo, Gustavo Rodríguez, Alberto Bernabe, Guillermo Cordero, Iván Ruíz, René Brea, Chiqui Hadad, Alberto Zayas, and many others.

She was nominated for *Premio Soberano*, the most prestigious art award in the Dominican Republic, winning "Solo Artist of the Year 2016" award.

Today Diomary has become a country brand, positively influencing Dominican society by working every day toward social well-being, along with other charitable foundations such as the Rodi Foundation, La Fundación Merced, Fundación Nido para Angeles, Fundación Faces, Save the Children, and through her own Foundation "Comenzar de Cero," dedicated to helping those in San Francisco de Macorís, her native town.

Some of her most selfless and altruistic acts include visits to chemotherapy centers to accompany cancer patients, motivational speeches and workshops for family members, helping with the treatment process. As a champion of this cause she proudly wears a turban to show solidarity due to hair loss as a result of the aggressive cancer treatment. This gesture accidentally led to the creation and designing of her own clothing brand, resulting in her being invited to show her creations on the most important catwalks in the country.

The multifaceted Diomary has a career that spans all the arts, having played supporting roles in three films, "La Barbería", "La Vida de Los Reyes" and "Tuberculo Presidente;" and three musicals, "in The Heights", "El Camaleón, Cabaret y Circo, "Mama Mía," under the direction of the great Waddys Jaquez.

In 2018 she produced her live album "Quisqueyanas," a collection of great works by Dominican authors and their stories, managing to position it at the highest level and this leading to her becoming a counterpart of all-time-great, such as Nini Cáfaró, José Luis Rodríguez, Alexander Pires, Kenny G, Danny Rivera, Pablo Milanes, Amaury Gutierrez, and Raúl Diblasio.

She is currently recording two productions of Dominican boleros: "Feeling," an album with piano and voice with maestro Gustavo Rodríguez; and "Bolero Jazz," a selection of this romantic gender from around the world in a Big Band format, under the musical production of Patricio Bonilla. These ambitious projects are part of arduous research work that highlights the quality of great Latin American composers, spanning three generations of performers "Unidos por un Bolero."

Currently, she also produces and hosts the radio program "Mala Radio," along with the timeless and admirable Julie Carlo and the actress Rosmery Almonte, under the direction of Irving Peña. At the same time she produces and hosts "Mala Live" for national and international television.

Diomary has received numerous national and international recognitions; furthermore, it is worth mentioning one of the best moments in her career was the closing of the cycle of the renowned TEDx motivational talks, where many world renowned personalities, such as Bil Gates, Elon Musk, Stephen Hawking, among others, have also been guests.

Among her greatest satisfactions was performing "Ella Canta, El Cuenta" alongside with the most important cultural minister of the Dominican Republic, Freddy Ginebra, directed by Raúl Martín, leading to representing the country in international cultural festivals in Portugal, Spain, United States, Colombia, and Panama.

Diomary, in addition to singing, has great culinary skills, being the successful creator and owner of three major dining projects in Santo Domingo: "7 Caldos", tropical broths, "El Rincón de La Mala", Creole food, executive dish, and "Mal de Amores Bar and Tapas," the latter becoming the iconic spot of the nightlife in the colonial zone in Santo Domingo. All this led her to be invited to compete in the first season of Master Chef Celebrity Dominican Republic, and her being one of the most voted participants.

In August of 2022, she was invited to represent her country at the "International Bolero Festival" that was held at the Esperanza Iris City Theater in Mexico, accompanied by the National Mexican Bolero Orchestra, performing a masterful interpretation of a medley of boleros by Dominican composers of high international recognition, eliciting an enthusiastic ovation from the Mexican public.

That same year she was chosen by the Dominican Ministry of Culture as queen of the national Dominican carnival parade. She was later invited by the Dominican embassies in Morocco and Madrid, as a guest artist to perform in the celebrations of the Dominican Republic Independence Day.

It is because of her extraordinary journey that, in this time of declining values, in Diomary's case, the word BAD is tantamount to exactly the opposite and becomes an acrostic that defines the artist.

- M** mujer (woman)
- A** auténtica (authentic)
- L** luchadora (fighter)
- A** altruista (altruistic)