



**Freestyle Candela** is guitarist **Leif Totusek** and his composition based on Soukous guitar, Cuban Rumba and inspirations from Hendrix to Haiti. Leif has played extensively with Soukous Guitar master "Moses Fan Fan" and has been special guest with "Tabu Ley Rochereau (jazz Alley Seattle, Wa.) the godfathers of the soukous form.



[Listen on Bandcamp](#)



[Biography](#)



[facebook](#)



[Photos](#)



[Website](#)

**National Public Radio** \*\*\*\* ... Best performance at the 1996 Bumbershoot Arts and Music Festival "... A shining example of cross-culture fusion ... Sure to get you on your feet ... Part African, part Cuban. ... A highly personal vehicle conveying his musical ideas. ..." *Norman Weinstein (MonitorRadio)*

**Afro-Pop Worldwide...** Golden guitar Grooves...Spiritual...hypnotic...fun... Totusek with his guitar is a star... *Banning Eyre, Boston Phoenix*

**BUMBERSHOOT 2002** ... "my advice to everyone is to checkout Leif Totusek's Freestyle Candela. . .great guitarist and the African Soukou thing he does is amazing... we are more than lucky to have him in Seattle." *David Meinert, Seattle Weekly*

**The Seattle Stranger** ...Burning Rumba. . . Dance's on guitar. . .Irresistible blend of Soukous and jazz" *Danny Houseman, The Seattle Stranger*



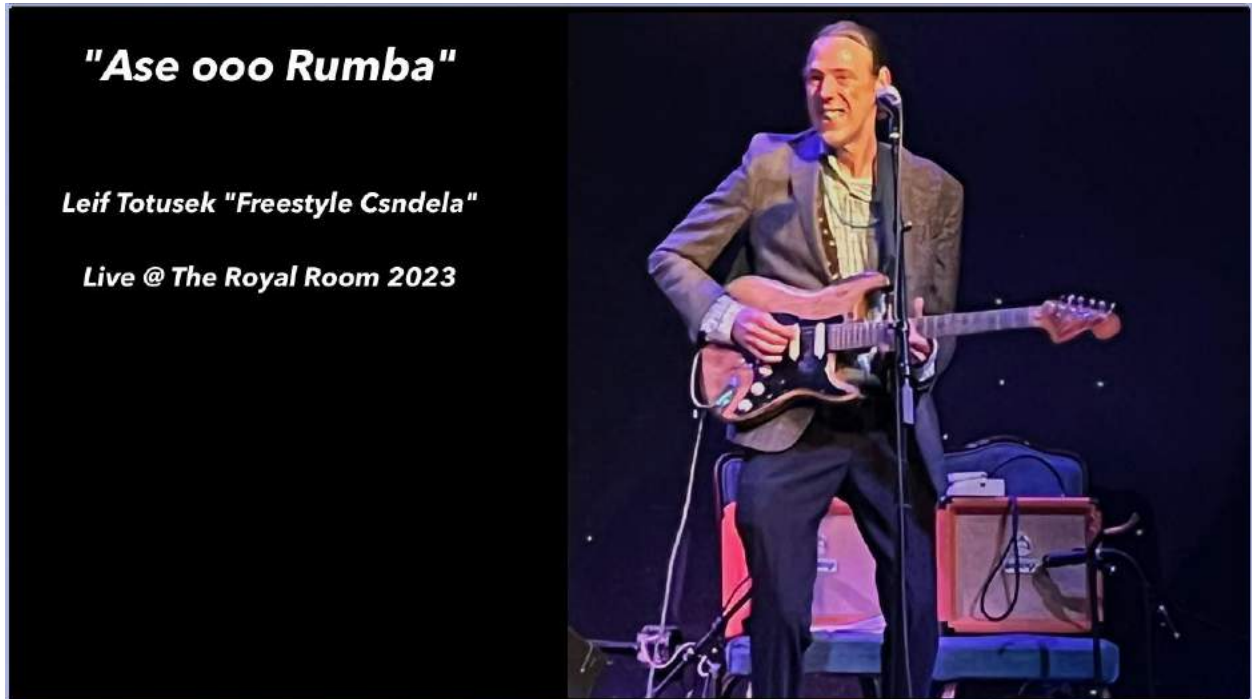
[View Video -Live @ The Triple Door](#)

*Boston Globe ... Playing his own take on Rumba, African funk, Seattle guitarist Leif Totusek leads one of the most promising groups, Freestyle Candela . . .” Fernando Gonzales, Boston Globe*

*The Jazz Café’ London, England ... brilliant young American guitarist. . .” The Jazz Café’ London, England*

*City Limets’, London England . . . Intriguing American band who combine the rhythms of Africa, Cuba and Brazil. . .with American folk and rock styles... City Limits’, London England*

**Boston Phoenix . . . word is . . . they’re fantastic ...”**



**[Latest Video - Live @ The Royal Room 2023 “Ase ooo Rumba”](#)**

## Contact

Leif Totusek Management Co.

206- 323-1139

4216 Sunnyside Ave N Seattle, WA 98103

[freestylecandela@yahoo.com](mailto:freestylecandela@yahoo.com)



*Leif Totusek Live @ Waterfront Blues Festival, Portland, OR*

**Footnotes:**

**Leif Totusek - Freestyle Candela**

**Performance List**

2023 Leif Totusek live at The Royal Room [video](#)

2022 Whidbey Island Guitar Festival [video](#)

Latona Pub, Earth Day

Columbia City Night Market

World Rhythm Festival

2021 Leif Totusek live on facebook [full concert](#)

Fiddler's Inn

2020 Leif Totusek at Latona Pub Mardi Gras

2019 Columbia Tower Club, Seattle Guitar Night

Latona Pub, Earth Day

Fiddler's Inn

2018 World Rhythm Festival

Hotel Albatross

San Juan Islands Summer Arts Festival

2017 Salif Keita & Leif Totusek at Kings Hall [video](#)

Latona Pub 30th Anniversary

2016 Lake Chad Benefit Concert for

Rezo Lekol Kreole "Haiti" [video](#)

World Rhythm Festival, Seattle Center

2015 St. Mark's Episcopal Cathedral, Seattle

Blue Nile Children's Organization,

Benefit for Ethiopia [photo](#)

2014 Waterfront Blues Festival, Portland, OR photos

2013 Woodland Park Zoo [photo](#)

Waterfront Blues Festival, Portland, OR

2012 The Conway Muse, Conway, WA photo

2011 Museum of History & Industry (MOHAI) [video](#)

Nick Feldman / Seattle Weekly [review](#)

2010 Benaroya Hall, Inside/Out Jazz Awards [video](#)

2009 The Triple Door with J. J. Cale, Seattle, WA

Seattle Weekly Erik Neumann [Review](#),

September 29, 2009

Connecticut Yankee, San Francisco, CA

Egan's Ballard Jam House

2008 The Shrine & Otto's Shunkin' Head, NYC

The Triple Door / Main Stage

2007 Masquers Theater, Soap Lake, WA

2005 Scarlet Tree Benefit for Ghana [Video](#)

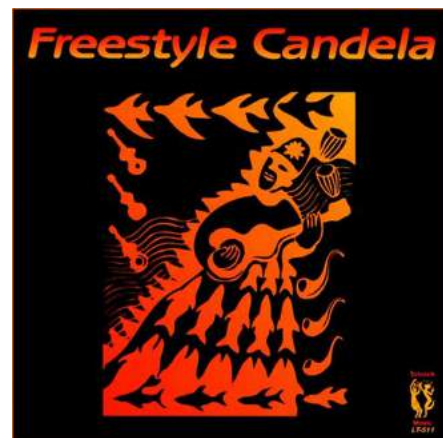
For more highlights and information, visit the

Leif Totusek Freestyle Candela [Facebook page](#)



**Leif Totusek "Freestyle Candela" JJ Cale**

**Live at The Triple Door**



**Leif Totusek "Freestyle Candela"**

**Debut Album**