

Ruben Blades Quotes

*New York, People, Thinking, Latin, Miami, New Orleans, My Family, Lawyer,
Radio, Cities, Law, Facts, Commerce, Country, Our Lives, School, Ignorance,
Mean, Important, Military*

I think we risk becoming the best informed society that has ever died of ignorance.

~Ruben Blades

Everyone comes back. It makes no difference how far we wander, we always have our country, our land, in our souls and our minds.

~Ruben Blades

They're making a ton of money, and no one is getting a nickel.

~Ruben Blades

And, he'd seen me in Panama, and he talked about maybe doing something in New York so I hooked it up when I came here and I recorded in 1969 my first album with Pete Rodriguez.

~Ruben Blades

What is interesting in this is the exchange of music that occurred between New Orleans and Cuba, I mean, they had ferries that would go from one port to another.

~Ruben Blades

I was a kid, and I remember my mother singing. She was also a radio soap opera actress, but my mother sang.

~Ruben Blades

Every band had their own distinctive sound, but it was pretty much dancing music and rhythmic music with a tremendous emphasis on copying the Cuban models.

~Ruben Blades

People are a lot smarter than anyone gives them credit for being.

~Ruben Blades

So that I saw music as a way of documenting realities from the urban

cities of Latin America.

~Ruben Blades

So that when I came from Panama... my family was exiled in 1973 and they went to Miami.

~Ruben Blades

So that when I came to New York again, it was, I'm not too sure right now, but it was '74 or '75. I went to Miami in '74 and then I came to New York, I think, at the end of '74.

~Ruben Blades

Anywhere you had a commerce center, you had a lot of music.

~Ruben Blades

What I do not accept is the fact that so many people's talents were ripped off.

~Ruben Blades

I was born in Panama, the Republic of Panama, on July 16, 1948 in Panama City, in an area called San Felipe.

~Ruben Blades

There was no television, so the radio provided you with everything.

~Ruben Blades

A lot of times you're just conditioned by what's around you.

~Ruben Blades

It doesn't make sense for me to be a lawyer in a place where there is no law.

~Ruben Blades

We had something to say. Whenever we played, people didn't dance,

they listened.

~Ruben Blades

And music was a very important part of our lives. The radio was on all day.

~Ruben Blades

I was the first person to come into New York with a Latin American point of view which was also very much influenced by political happenings in Latin America.

~Ruben Blades

Rock is young music, it is youth oriented. It just speaks for a generation.

~Ruben Blades

But, when I was about thirteen, I began to sort of sing in my neighborhood.

~Ruben Blades

There was a lot of stuff happening in Havana that was being heard and appreciated by New Orleans musicians because of this situation. And vice versa.

~Ruben Blades

So that in 1974, when I graduated as a lawyer, I figured I'm not going to be a lawyer under a military regime.

~Ruben Blades

Yes, I was going to law school and it was closed in '69.

~Ruben Blades

I think in New York we had respect and we would pretty much fill up the places where we went, but I never got the sense that we really were

Number 1 here in New York among the Latin crowds.

~Ruben Blades

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