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ON THE BEAT

On the Beat

Also Grammy-nominated: Eric Oberstein

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UPDATED DECEMBER 10, 2015 5:20 AM



Eric Oberstein, photographed in April 2015 by News & Observer staff photographer Juli Leonard.



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Turns out there's another North Carolina multi-Grammy nominee this year, from right here in the Triangle.

In [nominations](#) released Monday, the **Eric Oberstein**-produced album “Cuba: The Conversation Continues” by Arturo O’Farrill & the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra made the field in two categories: best large jazz ensemble album, and best instrumental composition. Oberstein joins a field of [North Carolina nominees](#) including rapper J. Cole, producer 9th Wonder and singer/multi-instrumentalist Rhiannon Giddens.

Oberstein, who is [associate director](#) of Duke Performances in Durham, also reached the Grammy winner’s circle last year as producer of O’Farrill’s previous album, 2014’s “The Offense of the Drum.” The current “Cuba” album was recorded in Havana in 2014, just days after President Obama’s announcement of the normalization of relations between the U.S. and Cuba.

Also on the Grammy catch-up front, Dr. Dre’s “Compton” was nominated for best rap album -- featuring contributions from Raleigh rapper **King Mez** and Apex producer **D.R.U.G.S. Beats**.

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This story was originally published December 9, 2015, 10:12 AM.

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