

UCSD presents Josephina Lopez's Real Women Have curves on April 23 in Mandeville Auditorium

April 17, 1992

Contact: Ruth Baily, University Events, 534-0497 or Alixandra Williams, 534-3120

UCSD PRESENTS JOSEPHINA LOPEZ'S REAL WOMEN HAVE CURVES ON APRIL 23

One of the oldest Chicano theater companies in the United States, El Teatro de la Esperanza, of San Francisco, will perform playwright Josephina Lopez's *Real Women Have Curves* at 8 p.m. April 23, in the Mandeville Auditorium at the University of California, San Diego.

Tickets for this production are \$15.00 for general admission, \$13.00 for seniors, and \$11.00 for students and may be obtained at the UCSD Box Office or from TicketMaster outlets.

A UCSD undergraduate from 1989-90, Lopez has received much critical acclaim for her 21 years. Born in Mexico and raised in Los Angeles, Lopez wrote her first play at age 17, "Simply Maria," which later aired on PBS.

The playwright draws from her own experiences to create the characters in this work, a comedy that revolves around five rather abundant women whose concerns range from diet pills to the "La Migra" (the immigration police).

Real Women Have Curves takes place at Garcia's Sewing Factory in East Los Angeles, where Estella, Pancha, Ana, Dona Carmen and Rosali work courageously to fill an order for 100 prom dresses. The action is sustained with their hearty appetites and irreverent humor.

Hector Correa, an 1985 M.F.A. graduate from UCSD's Acting Program, will direct this El Teatro de la Esperanza production as he did the original in San Francisco in 1990. Correa says El Teatro de la Esperanza will continue to experiment with various elements of theater.

The company had its beginnings with students at UC Santa Barbara who were inspired by the Chicano movement of the late '60s. The company later formed at UCSB under the leadership of Jorge Huerta in 1970. Huerta now is a professor of theatre at UCSD and heads the Hispanic American Theatre Program.

El Teatro de la Esperanza remains the only Chicano theater troupe to regularly conduct national and regional tours. It is quoted as being a company "committed to creating a new theatrical aesthetic that is based on, and draws from, the culture, history and mythology of the Latino experience."

Other productions have included "La Victima" and "Hijos: Once A Family," both of which are published in anthologies of Latin American theater.

This event is brought to San Diego by the UCSD University Events Office. Direction to the Mandeville Auditorium and parking permits may be obtained from the information pavilions on Northview Drive or Gilman Drive. For information call 534-4090.

(April 17, 1992)