

UCSD hosts groups of Mexican musicians in "Raices Musicales - Musical Roots of Mexico"

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UCSD WILL HOST GROUPS OF MEXICAN MUSICIANS IN "RAICES MUSICALES - MUSICAL ROOTS OF MEXICO," NOV. 1

Music in the Mexican and Hispanic Southwestern tradition will be heard at 8 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 1, in the University of California, San Diego Mandeville Auditorium.

Raices Musicales brings together the finest performers of four regional music and dance traditions: the marimba of southern Mexico, the accordion conjunto native to the Texan border area, the mariachi of Jalisco, and the jarocho harp from Veracruz.

Performing will be Santiago "Jimmy" Jimenez Jr. (accordion ensemble), Los Pregoneros del Puerto (harp ensemble), Marimba Chiapas, Mariachi el Capiro de Jalisco, Los Reyes Albuquerque (guitar and violin), and dancers Bel Sandre and Miguel Delgado.

Accordion player Santiago is a member of a famous family of tejano musicians. The family accordion tradition began with Santiago's father and grandfather. Today, Santiago, his brother, and their children continue the accordion tradition which was bequeathed by the German immigrants of Northern Mexico.

The ensemble music from southern Texas and adjacent border areas include polkas, schottishes and waltzes. With Santiago are Luis Gonzales on the twelve-string guitar and Toby Torreson on upright bass.

Los Pregoneros del Puerto is led by Jose Gutierrez, harpist and pregonero (lead singer) of the ensemble. He is a master of the jarocho tradition, which is the combination of instrumental music, improvised and fixed oral poetry, and dance. Gutierrez will be accompanied by Oliverio Lara on the four-string guitar, and Valente Reyes on the small, eight-string guitar. With Los Pregoneros del Puerto will be two dancers from the state of Veracruz.

Dancers Sandre and Delgado have appeared with many Mexican folk dance companies in the southwest. Delgado is a choreographer whose projects include the films "loot Suit," and "La Bamba." Sandre, who will serve as mistress of ceremonies for Raices Musicales, has appeared in several episodes of the television series, "L.A. Law."

Efrain Solis Lopez and Lorenzo Cruz are Marimba Chiapas. Originally from the state of Chiapas, Lopez and Cruz present the syncopated sounds of the marimba of southern Mexico, on an instrument which had its origins in Africa. The marimba is similar to the xylophone with key arrangement resembling that of a piano. Some of the larger marimbas may be played by as many as eight musicians. The Mexican marimba is thought to have come from Central America during colonial times.

Mariachi el Capiro de Jalisco will focus on the cancion ranchera (literally, "country song") and the bolero, a slower, more romantic song. Mariachi Jalisco will include violins, trumpets, the six-string bass guitar, a small, five-string guitar, the standard six-string guitar, and the famous Jalisco harp.

Los Reyes Albuquerque, which appeared in Robert Redford's film production, "The Milagro Beanfield War," is a duo of father and son. The two performers, father Roberto Martinez and son, Lorenzo, perform on guitar and violin, respectively. They have taken part in the Smithsonian Festival of American Folk life and the Festival of the American West, and have received funding from the National Endowment for the Arts for their work in perpetuating and promoting the Hispanic music of New Mexico.

Tickets for this event are available from the UCSD Box Office (534-4559) and from TicketMaster outlets for \$12 general admission, \$10 seniors and \$8 for students.

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