

PRESENTS



Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes de Sacramento *Corazon de Mexico*

A World Stage Event

Sunday, October 12, 2008 • 3 pm

Jackson Hall, Mondavi Center, UC Davis

There will be one intermission.



BALLET FOLKLÓRICO PERFORMERS

Dominique Adams	Jesusa Niño
Alex Báez	Matthew Partida
Gabriela Báez	Rubí Liza Pelayo
Zulema Balederas	Janette de Perfecto-Sencion
Enrique Bustamante	Manuel Sabin
Carlos Camacho	Alejandro Sánchez
José Cárdenas-Becerra	Jazmine Santacruz
Brenda Colosio	Lorenzo Silva
Eric Díaz	Jessica Ramos
Tomasa Dueñas	Cherise Ríos
Alejandro Hernández	Danielle Rodríguez
Eduardo Hernández	Steven Valencia
Elizabeth Lizardi	Leah Wargo
Saray Muñoz	Raymond Zamarrippa

CORAZON DE MEXICO

Aztlan a Tenochtitlan

Choreographer: Abelardo Cisneros

The Mexica (Aztecs) originally came from a place called Aztlán. They were ordered to abandon Aztlán to find a new home. Huitzilopochtli guided them through a long journey south, under the ruling of his sister Malinalxochitl, sorceress and goddess of snakes, scorpions, and insects of the desert.

Fiesta Tabasqueña

Choreographer: Zenon Barron

The *Zapateado Tabasqueño* represents the last link of a long chain. It originated by incorporating origins of Spanish and indigenous characteristics with the music and dance styles of the African population introduced to the new world through slavery. It combines dance, song, and cheerful music enhanced by fast and difficult footwork represented in the *jarabes* and *sones* that also emerged from the Spanish “Zapateado.” The most characteristic gesture is a fast crossing of one foot at regular intervals during the dance.

Musical Interlude (Vinic Kay)

Sones Antiguos de Michoacan

Choreographer: Amalia Hernandez, Ballet Folklórico de Mexico

Sones Antiguos are influenced by the Spanish *jota* and *sarabanda*. They begin with the *Sonajas*, or rattle dances, and they continue with *jarabes*. The inspiration for the *Sonaja* dances came to Amalia Hernandez from watching children playing happily with a rattle. She combined this early concept with formal ballet techniques and created her first choreography for the Ballet Folklórico de Mexico. The movements in these pieces are joyful and carefree, presented here in a theatrical style.

Musical Interlude (Vinic Kay)

Nayarit Mestizo

Choreographer: Zenon Barron

The result of the cultural blending between the native Mexicans and the Spanish brought the adaptation of European instruments to the local music. During these dances the men demonstrate their bravery and ability to handle the machetes in their dance form, while the women show their arrogant dance style. The *Sones Meztsisos* from Nayarit are believed to have developed from the great variety of native groups that formed *Confederacion Chimalvacan*, whose groups are very rich in autochthonous dances.

The artists and your fellow audience members appreciate silence during the performance. Please be sure that you have switched off cellular phones, watch alarms, and pager signals. Videotaping, photographing, and audio recording are strictly forbidden. Violators are subject to removal.

Intermission

Veracruz

Choreographer: Steven Valencia

The Sotavento region in the state of Veracruz possesses a rich animal and vegetation life that distinguishes itself from all the regions in Mexico. Its principal cultivation inspires traditional fiestas to commemorate their most abundant fruit.

This rich vegetation is represented by some of the most known animals and vegetation such as the Guacamaya, iguanas, and coconuts. Typically towards the end of a fandango, traditional fiestas, the classic sones, like El Zapateado Jarocho and La Bamba are the most performed pieces by local musicians and dancers, for these sones are highly representative of the state of Veracruz.

Musical Interlude (Vinic Kay)

Por los Caminos del Sur

Choreographer: Zenon Barron/Steven Valencia

From the Pacific Coast of Mexico, we present the cultural traditions from the state of Guerrero. Strongly influenced by Spanish Gypsies and African natives left behind by the Spaniards, these dances featured sensual hip movements. Later, with the commercial connection that this state offered between Mexico and South American countries such as Chile, Argentina, and Peru, a mix of traditions was introduced. Religious authorities at one time forbade these dances that are filled with teasing sensual movements imitating those of birds and animals. In this region of Guerrero, dances are performed in a style called *Chilena*. The coastal music is distinctive from the other rhythms played in other parts of the state, stronger and more dynamic, with influences from the African population and music introduced by sailors and adventurers coming from Peru and Chile.

Mariachi Juvenil Guadalajara

Jalisco

Choreographer: Steven Valencia

Jalisco has been the state that has most influenced the development and evolution of folklórico today. The mariachi throughout the years has made the music of Mexico known throughout the world and has become known as Mexico's national music. The mariachi's repertoire consists almost always of *sones*, but their skill also allows them to play anything from waltzes to romantic songs.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes de Sacramento (IMBA), one of California's foremost Mexican dance companies, is unique in U.S./Mexican artistic history. Solely responsible for training its own artists and creating many of its own works, IMBA is rich in company history, repertoire, and world-class dancers. Founded in 1994 under the general direction of Yolanda Colosio, IMBA (formally Grupo Folklórico Mazatlán) quickly became one of Sacramento's finest Mexican folk ensembles, forging relationships with many of Sacramento's most respected organizations and institutions. Artistic Director Steven Valencia joined the ensemble's staff in 1998.

Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes de Sacramento was created in 1998 by Yolanda Colosio and Steven Valencia. Their aim was to train dancers in the art of Mexican folk dance and contemporary ballet. IMBA formally established a performing company in 2000 because of the great demand in northern California.

Since 2000, IMBA's performing company has toured throughout California and the southwest as well as in China and Mexico, and won various national and international competitions. IMBA has performed in many of California's most prestigious venues—Community Center Theater and Memorial Auditorium in Sacramento, Stockton Civic Auditorium, San Francisco Palace of Fine Arts, Luckman Center for Performing Arts in Los Angeles, Wells Fargo Center for Performing Arts in Santa Rosa, and the Gallo Center for Performing Arts in Modesto—and with many well known Mexican recording artists, including Mariachi Vargas, Mariachi los Camperos de Nati Cano, Nydia Rojas, Pablo Montero, Yolanda del Rio, and Gerardo Fernandez.

Ballet folklórico IMBA continues to set standards in Mexican folk dance and music and will continue to offer audiences the best in artistic vision, choreography, and the most talented dancers in this region and beyond.

Credits

Instituto Mazatlán Bellas Artes de Sacramento would like to thank the following sponsors: Wells Fargo, California Arts Council/National Endowment of the Arts, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, Sacramento Bee, Telemundo, La Terraza Mexican Restaurant, State Farm, and Dr. Manual Sabin and family.



We would also like to thank all of you for supporting our organization; without your support we could not continue to promote the beautiful folk culture of Mexico. Gracias to General Director Yolanda Colosio, without whose dedication to IMBA's company and school we would not be on this stage today. Gracias to all the parents and families of our dancers, many of whom are here in the audience today continuing to support us; we dedicate this performance to you. Gracias to all former IMBA dancers, again... you all have contributed so much and are part of the reason we are here today. Gracias to Arturo Ramos, Chevo Ramirez, Lucero Arellano, Stella Guzman, Bebo Ramos, Iris Rodriguez, Elias Roldan, Virginia Gray, Jeremy Ganter (for giving us a chance) and the Mondavi Center staff. Muchísimas Gracias: Zenón Barron, as a guest choreographer has helped inspire our company in so many ways; and Abelardo Cisneros, you continue to inspire IMBA dancers and staff with your talent and dedication to our company.