

RAICES DE MEXICO



Presents

EVOLVING HERITAGE Roots of Mexican Folk Dance

Mexican folklore dance in a historical perspective

featuring

*México Tenochtitlán
Raíces de México*

*Grupo Andanza
Mariachi Santa Cecilia (7:30 pm only)*

2:00 pm and 7:30 pm

**November 15, 2003
Cubberley Theater
4000 Middlefield Road, Palo Alto**



RAICES DE MEXICO

Master of Ceremonies	Todd Gaviglio Principal, John Gill School and Trustee Ravenswood School District
Artistic Director/ Choreographer Performing Ensemble	María Ines Bella
Instructor/Artistic Director <i>Los Niños de Raíces de México</i>	Rob Flores
Video	Matías Varela Ambrose Bella
Audio	Orale Productions Javier Pacheco
Costumes	Columba Castañeda
Accessories	Rosa María Morales
Scenic Design / Creation	Peter Alegria Andrea Masterson Andres Barrera

Sincere thanks from the Board of Directors & members of Raíces de México to:

Fred W.Schill, Raymond Tolles, Enriqueta G. Rincon, Georgina La Berge, Carla and Peter Chow and many others for their continued support, all the volunteers who have worked on this project – especially the instructors, Artistic Directors and backdrop artists - the Arts Council Silicon Valley whose grant co-sponsored this program, our “dinner sponsors” Whole Foods Market of Palo Alto and Three Brothers Tacos, Luther Burbank Savings and the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund for their support of the children’s program, and to the California Arts Council for many years of committed art advocacy.



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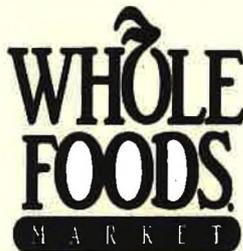




PROLOGUE

"EVOLVING HERITAGE – Mexican Folklore Dance" is a mini-historical interpretation of the evolution of Mexican folklore dance. This program highlights what is thought to be the beginning of dance in México, presented through indigenous dance interpretations. There were later foreign influences, most notably from Spain brought in during the Colonial period. Other influences that played a part in the formation of Mexican dance were from European countries of France, Germany, and Poland. Another huge influence came from Africa, primarily by way of the Caribbean. The synthesis of these elements combined with the regional resources and cultural patterns to create distinct dance forms collectively described as Mexican Regional Dance.

It is our intent to show you the diverse influences on Mexican Folk Dance through performance and narration. Raíces de México is proud to be sharing the stage for this dynamic show with another great Mexican folklore dance company México Tenochtitlán from San José and our flamenco amigos Grupo Andanza from San Francisco. Also, we are happy to be working with Mariachi Santa Cecilia again and only regret that the Mariachi was not able to perform at both shows. "Evolving Heritage – Roots of Mexican Folklore Dance" is funded, in part, by a grant received from the Arts Council Silicon Valley. Raíces de México is grateful to Whole Foods Market of Palo Alto and Three Brother's Tacos for their support and "dinner sponsorship". Don't forget to visit the new Three Brother's Tacos store to open December 01, 2003 at 2220 University Ave in East Palo Alto.



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About Raíces de México

Raíces de México was founded in 1980 at the Saint Francis of Assisi church hall by a young man, Ruben Avelar, who wanted to give back to his community of East Palo Alto and began teaching children and teens Mexican folklore dance. **Raíces de México** became a non-profit, tax exempt organization in 1985 and in 1986 began its first adult performing ensemble. **Raíces de México** fulfills its mission of promoting and preserving culture through dance and music by offering classes in Mexican regional dance to children, teens and adults. As presenters **Raíces de México** produces its own shows and cultural workshops to provide the audience with additional exposure to programs of high artistic and educational value.

Raíces de México was selected in 1994, 1997 & 2001 to participate in the prestigious San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival held at the Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco. Other accomplishments have included participation in Channel 7's "Profiles in excellence" program, and participation in KQED's series "The Other Side Of The Freeway".

Raíces de México relies primarily on the volunteer efforts and contributions of its supporters. Funding for its children's program is received, in part, by the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund, Luther Burbank Savings, and various individual donors.



LUTHER BURBANK SAVINGS





PERFORMING GROUPS

Raíces de México.... *In its 23rd year, Raíces de México continues to entertain and educate its audience with performances of high artistic quality and distinct regional dances drawn from its impressive repertoire of 18 regions.*

María Ines Bella *Has over twenty years of Mexican folklore dance experience and over fourteen years experience as an Artistic Director. María Ines has been with Raíces de México since 1996 and has taken Raíces de México to the prestigious San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival in 1997 and 2001. She has showcased new works at four major productions and has added four new regions to Raíces de México's expanding repertoire. For information on dance classes or performances, please call (650) 322-1501 or email raicesdemexico@hotmail.com.*

Artistic Director/Choreographer
Executive Director

María Ines Bella
María Elena Pacheco Varela

Grupo Andanza ... *A group of young artists dedicated to promoting, presenting and educating the public on the varied types of music, song and dance of Spain. Formed in 1999 through the collaboration of choreographers/dancers Danica Sena Gakovich "La Mora" and Consuelo Aparicio-Cercos "La Cochu" Grupo Andanza was created with one clear and concise objective: "vamos a conocer España!" (we are going to learn about Spain). Grupo Andanza strives to present the ample folklore, classic Spanish music and dance, the original bolero (XVIII century), jota, flamenco and zarzuela (small theatrical presentation sometimes comic theatre and opera).*

Danica Sena "La Mora" *perfected her Spanish dance, during her residency in Spain. She has toured and performed all over Europe, Japan and the U.S. "La Mora" has choreographed countless zarzuela productions, operas (i.e. Bay/Golden Gate Opera's "Carmen", Carlos Carvajal's "Rapsodie" and City Ballet School's "Nutmacker"). She has also appeared on television, and at various Ethnic Dance festivals. Ms. Sena currently teaches at City Ballet School, Rhythm & Motion Dance and Roundhill Studios. Ms. Sena also teaches the piano, flute and violin, as well as jazz, ballet, and theater. She is the founder of "Grupo Andanza". For more information on La Mora, dance classes or Grupo Andanza, please call (415) 333-9474 or email grupo_andanza@hotmail.com.*

Consuelo Aparicio-Cercos "Cochu" *was born and raised in Valencia, Spain. After graduating from high school in Detroit "Cochu" returned to Spain to continue her studies in art and dance. A professional dancer, "Cochu" has a Bachelor's degree in Classical Ballet and a Master's degree in Spanish Dance (flamenco, classical Spanish, folklore, 18th century, character and castanets). With over 14 years of professional experience teaching, dancing and choreographing in American and Spanish art schools, Ms. Aparicio-Cercos now works as a Spanish and Dance Specialist and Teacher in various San Francisco Schools and Cultural Centers. Besides her background in Spanish music and dance Consuelo has also displayed amazing talents in the art of silk screening.*

For more information on "La Cochu" dance classes or Grupo Andanza, please call the Mission Cultural Center (415) 826-3297 or e-mail "grupo_andanza@hotmail.com".

Artistic Directors of Grupo Andanza

Danica Sena-Gakovich "La Mora" and
Consuelo Aparicio Cercos "Cochu"





MEXICO TENOCHTITLANfounded in 1989 by Hector Plascencia and a group of dedicated individuals who wanted to investigate their ancestral roots and culture to better understand their own personal lives. This curiosity developed into one of the strongest Mexican dance groups in the San Jose area. Fourteen years later "México Tenochtitlán" continues to expand its repertoire and knowledge of Mexican music and dance. México Tenochtitlán is most known for their precolonial repertoire of dance, music and costumes. Having presented itself in various venues throughout San Jose, Santa Clara, the East Bay, San Francisco, Fresno, Santa Barbara, and Tucson, "México Tenochtitlán" has performed for weddings, grand openings, school and civic celebrations, festivals, and private parties.. One of their main objectives is to continue educating its members about the rich and varied traditions of México as seen through "danzas" (indigenous dance) in order to continue educating and entertaining the community at large. México Tenochtitlán was selected to participate in the prestigious San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival in June 2001. **Hector Plascencia** ...Has over 25 years of dance experience both in México and the United States. Hector founded "México Tenochtitlán" after having danced and participated with many other dance groups in the Bay Area. His love for "danzas" took Hector to a whole new arena and way of life. His passion for Mexican folklore is an undying trait that drives him to investigate and research new material with frequency. Hector studied dance in Guadalajara, Jalisco, México and danced with the Ballet Folklorico de Bellas Artes de Jalisco for a number of years before moving to the United States. For more information on "México Tenochtitlán", dance classes or possible performances please call 408) 274-8674 or email [**Mextenoch@aol.com**](mailto:Mextenoch@aol.com).

Artistic Director/Choreographer
Assistant

Hector Plascencia
Margarita Rueda

MARIACHI SANTA CECILIA...Was founded in 1995 by Barbara Pérez-Díaz and Suzanna Lambert after having performed with other mariachis for 31 and 15 years respectively and having become weary of the traditional "one leader" structure of the Mariachi. Barbara and Suzanna shared a vision of an ensemble that would work as a cooperative. An ensemble where the expertise and experience of each musician would be shared, where no one element was more important than another, and where the input of each member was equal to the next. So, to accomplish this, Barbara and Suzanna began recruiting seasoned colleagues whose musicianship and attitude they knew would prove invaluable in the creation of their new mariachi. Mariachi Santa Cecilia is comprised of members from across the United States and México but the members are not just musicians, they are educators and ambassadors – for the beautiful and infectious "Sabor del Mariachi" (Flavor of the Mariachi). Twice Mariachi Santa Cecilia has been chosen to represent the City of San José, California at the Encuentro Internacional de Mariachi in Guadalajara, México. Mariachi Santa Cecilia is a highly sought after, professional Mariachi that performs extensively throughout central California. Mariachi Santa Cecilia can be heard every Sunday delighting the appreciative crowds with original compositions and classic mariachi standards at the world famous San José Flea Market. For more information on Mariachi Santa Cecilia please call: Suzanna Lambert (408) 842-0940 or email [**suzanne.lambert@gte.net**](mailto:suzanne.lambert@gte.net).

Directors

Suzanna Lambert and
Barbara Pérez-Díaz





PROGRAM

Part I

1. "Tonatiuh" (Sol - Sun)
 2. "Huilotl" (Paloma - Dove)
 3. "Xipe Totec" (Renovacion - Renewal)
- México Tenochtitlán**

Aztec dance is an offering to the "energia creadora" (higher power) as well as an act of appreciation and respect to the concrete forces that give us life: water, fire, wind, earth. Within this ritual dance, there are steps which represent the four elements. Dance honors the ancestors who left us with a legacy of knowledge and a discipline that includes respect for nature and all its aspects. Aztec dance is a way to find harmony between the earth and the cosmos, a means to reach a superior level of consciousness close to the origin and destiny of man and the universe. Aztec dance represents the man's spiritual battle to better himself in all aspects.

*

"La Jota de La Dolores" **Grupo Andanza**

This piece is from the zarzuela of the same name, this energetic and proud dance depicts the mountainous region of Aragon, located in the northern part of Spain, and is an expression of this region's athletic jotas and village fiestas.

*

"La Danza de Los Shules" **Raíces de México**

From the region of the "huasteca" (cattle grazing) of Veracruz we bring you a ritual dance that historians tell us was once performed to give thanks for a good harvest to the Goddess Ixtlizantli (Goddess of Corn), during the month of August. When the conquistadors arrived this Indian religious manifestation began to suffer modifications; first its instruments changed to those of the European violin, guitar and "jarana" (small guitar) and now the dance is performed in honor of the Virgin of the Asuncion and not the Goddess of Corn.

*

"Danza del Venado" **México Tenochtitlán**

The "Dance of the Deer" or "Mazochimihua" meaning deer of the stars, comes from the indigenous group Yaqui from the State of Sonora, which is an arid region in the Northern part of Mexico. . The deer is a key element of the Yaqui way of life, depicting resiliency, agility, speed, and beauty as well as a source of food, clothing and shelter... This dance is a spiritual representation of the struggle between good and evil. The deer represents good and the coyote (or hunters) represent evil. Eventually, good defeats evil through death.

The deer allows his own death so that his body becomes nourishment for his people and his spirit returns to its rightful place among the stars. According to an Archaic legend, all stars that shine in the universe were once dancers of the Deer Dance called "Mazochoqui" deer of the stars.



“Granada” by Agustin Lara
Grupo Andanza

This most popular of Spanish songs depicts the enchanting city of Granada located in the southern part of Spain. Granada is known for its striking Moorish architecture, fragrant gardens and beautiful dark-eyed women.

INTERMISSION

Part II

1. **“Mujeres Que Se Pintan”** 2. **“Fiesta De Mi Pueblo”**
Los Niños de Raíces de México

From the State of Yucatan, the rich and legendary country of the indigenous Maya, we bring you “jaranas” (lively steps). Jaranas are a dance form where Mayan “sonecitos” (short songs) are fused with a mixture of the strong Spanish music of the jota, sarabandas and zapateados of the different regions of Spain

The Aragonese jota originated the 3x4 rhythm and the Andaluz the 6x8. The dances of Yucatan have preserved the elegant dignity of early Spanish dance, but with an exotic flavor. This fusion is visible in the way the dancers hold their hands up making a sound with their fingers imitating the sound of castanets, yet some of their movements retain the influence of their pre-hispanic roots.

*

1. **“La Presumida Vieja”** 2. **“La Azucena Bella”**
3. **“El Sombrerito”**
Raíces de México

Strategically located in the heart of the Mexican Republic, and precisely in the geographic center of the country, is the State of San Luis Potosi the cornerstone in the history and art of México. The region of San Luis Potosí, one of the twelve making up New Spain was formed in 1786. It was reduced in 1824 when the free and sovereign state was formally consolidated. San Luis Potosi is one of the six states that form the “Huasteca” (cattle grazing) region. The “huapango” is made up of many cultural influences: the music is Arab-Andaluz, the lyrics are from the Spanish golden era, the musical melodies and lyrics have a melancholy feel from the indigenous cultures which is juxtaposed with a lively rhythm and tempo as a result of the African influence of the colonial period. The rhythm of the “huapango” is 3x4 and 6x8.

*

1. **“El Jarabe Nayarita”** 2. **“El Limoncito”**
3. **“La Majahua”** 4. **“Los Bules”**
México Tenochtitlán

Nayarit is the home of the Huichol and Cora Indians who managed to escape becoming slaves to the Spaniards by hiding within the mountainous terrain of the Sierra Madre of Nayar, and as such were able to preserve their culture in a pure fashion, which is apparent to the present. To this day, both the remaining Huichol and Cora Indians continue to make the Sierra Madre their home. The mestizo dances of Nayarit are comprised of sones, potorriscos, and minuets incorporating the rural campesino’s flat walking step and heel/toe movements. These dances have a strong indigenous influence not only in the music but also in the execution of their steps.

The Jarabe Nayarita, originally was a representative dance of the evangelical battles between good and evil and later became a contest between participants to see who had the greatest ability to maneuver the razor sharp machetes. The name “Nayarit” comes from the Coro “Nayar” who was a God the equivalent of Quetzacoatl – the plumed serpent



**“Alegrías de Cadiz”
Grupo Andanza**

Andalucia is a southern region of Spain which had a great deal of influence on México during the colonial era. From the heart of Andalucia which is known for its strong cultural pride, comes this colorful and elegant dance adorned with Manton de Manila (shawl). This beautiful lacework was later brought to Mexico by the Spanish settlers and appears in the costumes of several regions of Mexico including Veracruz.

*

1. “Cascada

2. “El Circo”

3. “El Lucero”
Raíces de México

Nuevo Leon is located in the northeastern part of the Mexican Republic, west of Tamaulipas and south of the United States. Along with the rhythms of the rigadon, the quadrille, lancers and contradance that arrived in México from Europe, you will see also see, among the dances of Nuevo Leon, versions of the polka from Czechoslovakia, the Polish redova and mazurka, the Viennese waltz, and the English schotis. These forms became popular among Nuevo Leon’s high aristocracy during the latter half of the 19th century and over a period of time were passed down to the working classes.

*

MARIACHI SANTA CECILIA
(7:30 pm show only)

1. “El Gavilan”

México Tenochtitlán

2. “La Madrugada”

Raíces de México

3. “El Carretero”

México Tenochtitlán

4. “La Chata”

Raíces de México

5. “La Negra”
Raíces de México and México Tenochtitlán

With its lively enthusiasm and catchy rhythm every song from the State of Jalisco captures the explosive spirit of the people and their love for Mariachi music. The charro costume of the male signifies the elegance, vanity and culture of the Mexican horseman, and the beautiful dress of the female represents the colorful images and spirited character of Jalisco. The dress was originally a mark of social class exemplified by the quality and quantity of ribbons adorning the dress. The gaiety, color and rhythm, the music and dance of Jalisco are most often associated with México and are world-famous.

THE END / FIN



DANCERS AND MUSICIANS

Raíces de México

María Ines Bella
Alejandro Callejas
Luís Ricardo Cel
Nohemy Colín-Roden
Tiffany de la Torre

Rob Flores
Jessica Herrera
Raul Herrera
Rosa María Morales

Ana María Ruiz
Susana Saenz
Ruth Kitayama Terao
Susana Zarate
Margarita Zarate Fallon

Los Niños de Raíces de México

Gabriela Contreras
Ana Laura Flores
Gabriela Dematteis

Selene Herrera
Cecilie Kern
Willilam Kern

Axel Morales
Sonya Suastegui

Grupo Andanza

Consuelo Aparicio "La Cochu:
Fanny Ara
Melissa Cruz
Stefania Neira

Musicians:
Piano Galina Umanskaya
Guitarra Seth Hankins
Palmas Lizbeth Pastora

Singers:
Tenor Claudio Santome
Cantaora Virginia Juan

México Tenochtitlán

Ana Baron
Arnoldo Elicea
Ricardo Flores
Maricela Gaines

Yuridia Guerrero
Nicolas Mendoza
Jorge Palacios
Manuel Pérez

Ana Plascencia
Hector Plascencia
Margarita Rueda
María Vega

Mariachi Santa Cecilia

Violines
Antonio Sanchez
Suzanna Lambert
Carla Díaz

Sharon Jones,
Tamarah Lucero,
Barbara Pérez-Díaz

Vihuela
Roberto Lucero

Guitarron
Cecilia Reyes

Guitarra
Juan Fernandez

Trompetas
Susano Lazano
Eric Parra



A CALL FOR HELP

Reach out to improve your community life



Raíces de México does not have the benefit of receiving recurrent funds from any particular organization every year.

All activities and achievements are therefore highly dependent on the energy and work of its supporters.

To ensure stability and expansion **Raíces de México** is currently looking for **volunteers and new members** for its board of directors.

Help is greatly needed in the following areas:

- Marketing
- Administration
- Public relations
- Fund raising
- Technology projects (web)

If you have expertise in any of these areas or would like to contribute to the association's growth by providing **a few hours of your time** weekly or even monthly, please contact:

Maria Elena Pacheco Varela at
(650) 322 15 01
or send an email to
raicesdemexico@hotmail.com

Volunteer today and contribute to enhance and enrich your community
with activities of high artistic, cultural and
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and

Teens and Adults Class – Fridays from 7:30 p.m. to 8:45 p.m. in Palo Alto
Cubberley Community Center studio L6, 4000 Middlefield Road

*

Children's Class – Fridays from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in Palo Alto

*

Intermediate/Advanced Teens and Adults – call for new schedule

JOIN TODAY!

For more information about our dance classes or upcoming shows
Call Maria Elena Varela (650) 322-1501
or send an email to: raicesdemexico@hotmail.com

***ALSO: Don't miss "Dancing Feet" next April 25, 2004 at the Cubberley Theater in
Palo Alto a multicultural show featuring Raíces de México, Red Thistle Scottish
Dancers, Lowiczanie Polish Folk Dance Ensemble and Jubilee American Dance.
For more information about this show, call
(650) 327-1350 – Jennifer Kelly***





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