San Francisco Ethnic Dance Festival

June 13-29, 1997 Palace of Fine Arts

Fua Dia Congo (Congolese) "Bakongo"

This popular secular dance with its drum accompaniment is traditionally performed joyously during funerals — the final rites of passage — among the Bakongo people of the Central African countries of Congo and Zaire. At African funerals, mourners express both sorrow and joy; the joy comes from the realization that the deceased is another vital link between the communities of the dead and the living.

The 20 dancers and musicians of this company, founded in 1977 in Palo Alto, are dedicated to preserving Congolese culture through artistic interpretation of its daily life and rituals. They have appeared in many festivals nationwide.



Director/Musician: Malonga Casquelord

Dancers: **Renee Arechea Rossana Barringer Lorraine Bowser Kilambi Diakiese**, Airias Godfrey **Tamu K Hamed**, Tamika Harris **Mia Johnson**, Janeen Johnson **Rachida Knox**, Lunhusu Malonga Cynthia Phillips, Sonja Travick Emily Uribe, Sherel Washington

Drummers:

Mampouya Jean Armel Massengo Constant Kiazi Malonga Matingou Raphael

Raices de Mexico (Mexican folkloric) "El Jarabe Colimote"

rom the tiny state of Colima on the Pacific Coast, this compendium of rhythms and melodies (from waltz to *morisco* to promenade) was arranged and choreographed into one dance in the 1980s. Energetic, proud, and flirtatious, the dance forms date back to 17th- and 18th-century Spanish culture and encompass flamenco, *seguidillas*, and *zapateado andaluz*.

Counded in East Palo Alto in 1980, Raices de Mexico teaches Mexican folk dance to children, teens, and adults in order to preserve the Mexican culture through dance.

Director: Maria Elena Pacheco Varela

Choreographer: Rafael Zamarripa

Dancers:

Alejandro Callejas, Luis Cel Angel Fabian, Todd Gaviglio Francisco Maldonado Olga Melendrez, Rosa Morales Guillermo Perez, Ines Perez Rashad Perez, Linda Quinonez Ruth Terao, Margarita Zarate

