



# ***PANORAMA OF THE AMERICAS***

April 10, 1999

Cubberley Community Center Theater

Produced by Raíces de México, Inc.,

*This program is funded, in part by the Palo Alto Weekly Holiday Fund. Raíces de México is funded, in part, by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and the Arts Council Silicon Valley.*

## PROLOGUE

**"PANORAMA OF THE AMERICAS"** was created by the Board of Directors of *Raíces de México* as the educational component of three diverse concerts we produce annually, the other two being artistic and community. **"PANORAMA OF THE AMERICAS"** a multicultural program, offers a look at other Hispanic cultures that may be similar to our Mexican folklore. The narrative in the program gives the audience background of the dance form or the country of origin. It is *Raíces de México's* honor to share the stage with dynamic renown local groups such as ***Grupo Folklorico Los Decanos*** and ***Araucaria, Folk Dances of Chile***. Thank you both for your participation.

We sincerely thank our sponsors of this program the PALO ALTO WEEKLY HOLIDAY FUND, as well as THE DAVID AND LUCILE PACKARD FOUNDATION and the ARTS COUNCIL SILICON VALLEY for their support of *Raíces de México*. Also sincere appreciation for the time, energy and dedication that all dancers, Board members, family and friends have committed in putting this show together. A special note of thanks to Mr. Fred W. Schill, honorary member of *Raíces de México*, for his encouragement and support.

### **About the Company – *Raíces de México, Inc.***

*Raíces de México* was founded in 1980 in East Palo Alto and became the first non-profit tax exempt Mexican artistic and cultural organization in San Mateo County. *Raíces* is centrally located on the Peninsula and as such, is able to produce and participate in artistic, cultural, and educational events throughout the Bay Area.

*Raíces* has a Board of Directors who oversee the operations of a childrens' dance group, a beginning teen/adults' dance group and a performing ensemble. In addition to dancing in events throughout the Bay Area, *Raíces* produces its own individualized annual events. These events have dual goals since they not only enhance the lives of the participants and celebrate the rich heritage of the Mexican community but they also enrich the lives of the entire community by exposing a broad audience to programs of high artistic and educational value.

Over the course of nearly 20 years *Raíces* has built an impressive repertoire of material showcasing a diverse array of Mexican arts, culture and history. Specifically, *Raíces* has accumulated authentic costumes for performing eighteen distinct regions of Mexican dance, including the corresponding music, videotapes, and narratives on the cultural and historical significance of these dance forms.

Considering that the organization has been dependent on the volunteer efforts of several key people, the accomplishments of *Raíces* are more noteworthy than organizations with large budgets and staffs.

In order to continue producing better concerts such as this, it is necessary for us to know how you, the audience, liked the show. This information is also very useful to our funding partners in assessing our worth. Therefore we thank you in advance for having taken a few minutes of your time to answer the enclosed survey and for leaving it in the designated box in the lobby

## RAICES DE MEXICO

Artistic Director/Choreographer  
Costumes  
Technical Support  
General Director

María Ines Pérez  
Columba Castañeda  
Matías Varela  
María Elena Pacheco Varela

## GUESTS

### ***GRUPO FOLKLORICO LOS DECANOS***

Choreographers

Susan Cashion – Brazil/Peru  
Silfredo LaO Vigo – Cuba  
Marco Romero – Salsa

Director

Susan Cashion

*Los Decanos* is a dance company, that performs material from Mexico, Cuba, Brazil, Peru, Argentina, Puerto Rico, Chile, and Spain. The founder and director of the group, Dr. Susana Cashion, is also coordinator of the Stanford University Dance Division. Her partner, Marco Romero, is from the state of Tamaulipas, Mexico and is a former company member of the Ballet Folklórico de México. This year the *Decanos* is privileged to have guest choreographer and dancer Silfredo LaO Vigo, a professional dancer from Cuba who has recently relocated to the Bay Area. The Core Company is comprised of 28 Stanford students, who perform on campus and within the larger California community during the school year. The company has appeared at Humboldt State University; San Francisco, Bakersfield, San Jose and Foothill Community College; Woodlake and Modesto High Schools. The group has been in existence since 1993, and has been honored by receiving a California Arts Council grant through the Multi-Cultural Entry Grants program.

### ***ARAUCARIA FOLK DANCES OF CHILE***

Directors

Raul Muñoz, Edith Leni

*Araucaria* was formed twelve years ago in the San Francisco Bay Area to fill a need of its members to maintain their own cultural identity through folk dances from their native Chile. Taken from the name of a unique tree found in the woods of Southern Chile, *Araucaria* performs dances typical of the different regions of Chile. From the cold and rainy region of Chiloe to the sunny central valleys of Chile, *Araucaria* shares a distinct sample of dances representative of their homeland. *Araucaria* performs at dance festivals, arts and crafts fairs, and cultural events throughout the Bay Area and California. For further information about *Araucaria* please contact Edith S. Leni (650) 322-0331 or Raul Muñoz (415) 469-0391.

## PROGRAM

### Part I

#### LOS DECANOS - BRAZIL

A stick dance from the plantation era. Originally, pieces of sugar cane were cut and used for this recreational dance.

1. *Maculele*

The dances of the Candomblé religion have been created for stage as part of the Afro-Brazilian tradition of Bahia. The gods, or *orixa*, are invited to dance with the practitioners. In this dance *Yemanjá*, the ocean goddess, comes to dance and admire her own reflection at our celebration.

2. *Yemanjá*

#### RAICES DE MEXICO – MEXICO – Quintana Roo

The mestizo folklore of this state is rich in rhythm and very colorful. Its formation is influenced by the *sones* (jaranas) of Yucatan and Campeche, and by the uproarious rhythms like the calypso, the reggae and brok dow of its neighboring countries in the Caribbean and coastal colonies dominated by Spain and Great Britain. The figures on the skirts are taken from the State Seal. The snail signifies the bonanzas of the coasts, the star is the morning dew or the passing of Venus that ancient Mayan astronomers used to observe, and the pine tree represents the rich forests.

1. *El Pasacalles*

2. *Jarabe Quintanaroense*

3. *Zambay Macho*

#### LOS DECANOS – PERU

The Peruvian *festejo* and *zamacueca* dances are a beautiful blend of the Spanish and African heritage of the coastal areas of Peru. The percussion instrument used is called a *cajón*, or wooden box, which the musician sits upon and plays with his hands.

1. *Zamacueca*

2. *Festejo*

#### ARAUCARIA – CENTRAL CHILE

Located in the extreme southwest of South America, Chile is a very long and thin country that is geographically as isolated as it is diverse. The central valleys of Chile are sunny and very productive. The dances representative of Central Chile are of a competitive and playful style seen within the peasant class. The more structured dances were greatly influenced by the Spanish culture.

1. *Golpeadita*

2. *La Luna*

3. *Las Estrellas*

## RAICES DE MEXICO – MEXICO – Guerrero

The “Chilena” is a typical dance pertaining to the Coast of the State of Guerrero, which is located to the southwest of the State of Mexico along the Pacific Ocean. The dance, which dates back to the XIX century, comes from South America. According to Argentine folklorist, Carlos Vega, its antecedent is the “zamba”. It is believed the dance form came to Guerrero by way of seaman on ships that landed in Acapulco. From its inception the dance has suffered diverse influences until it was converted into a version of the Mexican son. The use of the kerchief and the drumming sound are probably the only Andean elements that have remained of the coastal “Chilena” and which distinguish it from the actual son.

1. *El Palomo*

2. *El Son*

## INTERMISSION

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## PART II

### LOS DECANOS – CUBA

In the crowded living quarters of urban tenements (*solares*), the freed slaves used a simple wooden shoe called a *chancleta* to protect their feet. Within the carnival ambiance of Santiago de Cuba, the sound of the *chancletas* added to the contrapuntal rhythms of the congas and Chinese flute as dancers sought merriment in the streets. The dance has its name and fame from the wooden shoes the dancers wore.

1. *Chancletas*

The Cuban *son* is derived from the turn of the century *Danzón*, a result of interpreting and mixing African and Iberian elements into popular music and dance. Later the dance was to develop into Cuban Mambo and New York Salsa.

2. *Son Cubano*

### RAICES DE MEXICO – MEXICO – Nuevo Leon

Dances from the State of Nuevo Leon came from Europe brought over by the mercenaries of the French troops. These rhythms included the *polka* from Czechoslovakia, the Polish *redova* and *mazurka*, the Viennese *waltz* and the *shotis* from England. Adaptations were made to these dances, and include, heel-toe movements and accents, brusque turns, and rapid intercrossings.

1. *Flor*

2. *El Circo*

3. *El Potrillo*

4. *El Pavido Navido*

## ARAUCARIA - SOUTHERN CHILE

To the South, Chile reaches into the cold and rainy regions of Chiloe, and further south to the inhospitable Antarctic zone. The archipelago of Chiloe represents one of the most culturally interesting regions of Chile. Europeans escaping from wars have found refuge in Chiloe and their influence is clearly present in the music and dances of this area. Work activities in Chiloe revolve mainly around fishing which demands vital communal work and community integration.

*1. Cielito*

*2. Rin*

*3. Chocolate*

## LOS DECANOS - U.S.A.

A contemporary night club number of Bay Area/Latino salsa.

*1. Salsa*

## RAICES DE MEXICO - MEXICO - Costa de Nayarit

The area between the Santiago and Acaponeta rivers in Nayarit is called the gold or untamed coast. This region is located north of the State of Mexico along the Pacific Ocean. Dances of this area are greatly influenced by its northern neighboring state, Sinaloa. This is a region of enormous plantations of tobacco, beans, mangos and other products. Fishing is another activity that abounds for the nobles of the Coast. The cheerful, outgoing people of the *Coast of Nayarit* have their local style of music in a rhythm very proper to the State, and greatly influenced by the Zacatecan and Sinaloan drum.

*1. Vuela Paloma*

*2. El Novillo Despuntado*

*3. De Mazatlan a Acaponeta*

FIN

Dear Audience:

We hope you enjoyed the show. We thank you for your support and for taking the time to fill out the enclosed survey.

*RAICES DE MEXICO*

## DANCERS

### LOS DECANOS

Susan Cashion  
Nick Chan  
Javier Delgadillo  
Ricardo Gonzalez  
Anthony Gutierrez  
Gabriel Jennings  
Isaac Kos-Read  
Ryan Landfield  
Silfredo LaO Vigo

Alexander Nixon  
David Rodriguez  
Marco Romero  
Michael Turner  
Karl Vance  
Annice Chen  
Nadine de Coteau  
Terea Cotton  
Lorie Gumbs-Tyler

Nicole Hernandez  
Theresa Kramer  
Meredith Lopuch  
Kim McClure  
Sierra Millman  
Silvana Rodriguez  
Lisa Talma  
Jessica Yu

### ARAUCARIA

Drago Bogdanic  
Priscila Calva  
Nestor Cuevas  
Ines Marquez

Horacio Mena  
Raul Muñoz  
Maggie Muñoz  
Edith Sepulveda

### RAICES DE MEXICO

Alejandro Callejas  
Margarita Zarate Fallon  
Todd Gaviglio García  
Raul Herrera  
Francisco Maldonado  
Marta Martínez  
Edgar Mayoral

Rosa María Morales  
Gullermo Pérez  
María Ines Pérez  
Susana Saenz  
Jaquelin J. Varela  
Nicole Pacheco Varela

UPCOMING EVENT:

### ***"CONCIERTO DE LA COMUNIDAD"***

*(Community Concert)*

*April 25, 1999 2:00 p*  
*Horace Mann Middle School*  
*3351 Twenty-third Street, San Francisco*

*Pick up a flyer in the lobby – Don't miss it!*