# CSUN. SORAYA

# The Soraya Welcomes Home

# Hecho en Las Américas

Featuring artists from Mexico, Colombia, Nicaragua, and Venezuela, plus a Musical Tribute to Dolores Huerta, Nochebuena, and the Malpaso Dance Company

The Hecho en Las Américas Series Begins Oct 1 with Aida Cuevas' 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary – Yo Creo Que Es Tiempo featuring Mariachi Aztlan

## All Tickets Now on Sale at <u>www.TheSoraya.org</u>!

(Los Angeles, CA) August 15, 2022— The popular *Hecho en Las Américas* series featuring artists from Mexico, Cuba, Colombia, Venezuela, Nicaragua, and the United States, returns for the 2022-23 season for the seventh time as **The Soraya** continues to provide a home in the San Fernando Valley for Los Angeles' Spanish-speaking and Latin American artists and audiences.

"The Valley and greater Los Angeles are home to a wealth of the most vibrant Spanish-speaking communities. While this has been true for decades, we recognize that many arts organizations have not fully served them. I believe The Soraya is the only organization in the region to offer an entire series dedicated to the diverse music and dance forms of Mexico, Central America, and South America. We are proud to serve the communities nearby, and also celebrate that entire families come to us from great distances for our performances," said **Thor Steingraber**, **The Soraya's Executive and Artistic Director.** 

"Related, CSUN is one of the largest Hispanic serving-institutions in the United States, and The Soraya's programs are an integral part of the educational experience for many of those students."

Nine performances from eight different artists will be presented, beginning with the **Aida Cuevas' 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary** celebration on October 1. The Series will conclude on May 13, 2023 with **Dreamers**, a collaboration between Mexican singer-songwriter Magos Herrera's and the New York string quartet Brooklyn Rider performing pieces from their *Dreamers* album. Other highlights include **Concierto Para Dolores: A Musical Tribute to Dolores Huerta,** a Soraya-produced program; Havana-based **Malpaso Dance Company** with live music performed by **Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble**; **WAR: 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert**; the explosive musical pairing of **Kombilesa Mí** and LA's own **Jungle Fire**; two holiday **Nochebuena** performances; and **Luis Enrique + C4 Trio** featuring powerhouse Grammy Award-winning Venezuelan singer **Nella**, making her LA debut.

For all ticket information visit <u>www.TheSoraya.org</u> or call the Ticket Office at (818) 677-3000.

#### About The Soraya's Hecho en Las Américas Series

Norteño specialists, Los Tigres Del Norte, blew the doors off the theatre when they performed during the Valley Performing Arts Center's first season in 2012. Soon after, Mariachi Vargas performed back-to-back concerts in 2013 and 2014 and proved that VPAC, now known as The Soraya, would become a home to Latin American artists and audiences in greater Los Angeles. *Hecho en Las Américas* was born.

*Hecho en Las Américas* was named to be inclusive of all the communities and cultures in North, Central and South America—and the artists whose work inspires and carries on those traditions.

"It's a reminder to us that when we book Spanish-language concerts and programs— we want to have Venezuela...Nicaragua...[and other countries] represented by the artists we seek, find, and invite to The Soraya," said Justin Souza, The Soraya's Programming Director.

The Series is yet another example of the performing arts center's mission to create a space for original collaborations between artists.

Those one-of-a-kind collaborations include **Kombilesa Mí and Jungle Fire**—who may have never met without The Soraya's matchmaking.

While Jungle Fire is a band native to Los Angeles, Souza and Soraya Executive Director Thor Steingraber felt that the Afro/Latin funk group would shine even brighter when paired with Kombilesa Mí—an Afro-Colombian group that overlays traditional Colombian rhythms with hiphop lyrics in both Spanish and Palenquero—a language spoken only in the small Afro-Colombian village the group hails from.

"The heart and soul, and mission is to make The Soraya an inclusive place rooted in shining a light on all cultures," Souza said, explaining that with each performance, the audience is the culmination of The Soraya's goal.

"The Soraya is giving a platform to all of these amazing things—artists, community, culture—for people who may not see them anywhere else."

#### The 2022-23 Hecho en Las Américas Series Includes:

#### Sat Oct 1 | 8pm Aida Cuevas 45TH Anniversary Yo Creo Que Es Tiempo

The Queen of Ranchera Music commemorates the 45th anniversary of her career performing beloved songs and greatest hits! Aída will be joined by Mariachi Aztlán as she returns to her Los Angeles familia at The Soraya for another spectacular performance.

#### Thu Oct 13 |8pm

**Malpaso Dance Company** 

#### with Arturo O'Farrill and the Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble

This artistic export direct from Havana is more than the rhythms and moves you love from Cuba. Malpaso is a serious contemporary dance company that captures the soul of the island nation, its aspirations, and its proud cultural identity alike. The company also performs a new piece, "Stillness in Bloom," by American choreographer Aszure Barton and co-commissioned by The Soraya.

#### Sat Oct 22 | 8pm

#### Luis Enrique + C4 Trío

#### With Special Guest Nella

The sounds of Nicaragua and Venezuela unite in this one-time pairing, only at The Soraya. Luis Enrique "El Príncipe de la Salsa," headlines the evening—uniting with Venezuelan cuatro ensemble C4 Trío, and Grammy Award-winning vocalist Nella in her main stage debut in Los Angeles.

#### Sun Nov 13 | 7pm

#### A Musical Tribute to Dolores Huerta

Artists spanning pop, rock, folk, Latin, and mariachi will honor Dolores Huerta in person with a celebratory evening of music. Produced entirely by The Soraya, the very best musicians in Los Angeles and beyond will join a world-class house band and mariachi ensemble to honor one of the most influential women of the 20th century. Performances by La Marisoul, David Aguilar, Cristela Alonzo, Gaby Moreno, Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuéllar and more.

# Sat Dec 10 | 8pm

### Sun Dec 11 | 3pm

#### Nochebuena

Featuring Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles and Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuéllar A popular holiday tradition at The Soraya, the lively Nochebuena celebration returns this year with an extraordinary line-up.

Thu Mar 30 | 8pm <u>Kombilesa Mí with Jungle Fire</u> The Language Lives Through Music Afro/Latin Funk Group Jungle Fire fuses its L.A. roots with Afro-Colombian hip-hop group Kombilesa Mí, brought together by The Soraya for an explosive musical pairing sung in both Spanish and Palenquero—a language spoken only in the village that the latter hails from.

#### Sat Apr 15 | 8pm

#### WAR: 50TH Anniversary Concert

With a mission to spread a message of brotherhood and harmony, the band WAR was founded at a time when peace was the slogan in an anti-Vietnam America. The revolutionary band celebrates over 50 years of brotherhood with their popular hit songs like "Why Can't We Be Friends?" and "Low Rider."

#### Sat May 13 | 8pm Dreamers

# Magos Herrera and Brooklyn Rider

#### **Onstage Sessions**

Mexican singer-songwriter Magos Herrera's enchanting voice pairs harmoniously with New York-based string quartet Brooklyn Rider in this collaboration—their Melodies and words, both familiar and new, dedicated to overcoming anti-immigrant sentiment as they perform from their Dreamers album. Audiences have the unique opportunity to sit on stage with the musicians for an up close and personal experience.

#### About The Soraya

Located on the vibrant and diverse campus of California State University in the heart of Los Angeles' San Fernando Valley, the **Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts** (**The Soraya**) continues its vigorous commitment to innovating, exceling, and amplifying access by offering a wide variety of performances that reflect LA's many distinctive communities and featuring new and original work from the Los Angeles region as well as artists from around the world.

The Soraya's upcoming 2022-23 season offers a joy-filled reunion featuring a vibrant program of nearly 50 classical and popular music, dance, theater, family, and international events that will further establish it as one of the top arts companies in Southern California that uplifts and inspires its audiences.

Tickets:	For all ticket information visit <u>www.TheSoraya.org</u> or call the Ticket Office at
	(818) 677-3000.
Where:	Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya)
	18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330.
Website:	www.TheSoraya.org
Phone:	818-677-3000

#### The Soraya Press Contacts

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