

NEWS RELEASE

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# Fans of The Soraya's Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular Can Now Watch from Home On-Demand For One Week Only, December 20-27, 2024!

The Soraya is thrilled to announce an all-new option for enjoying *Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular*! This season The Soraya expands its digital concert options, building off a successful Jazz at Naz festival livestreaming option, and offers <u>Nochebuena en Casa</u>, an eight day, ondemand experience from Dec. 20 to Dec. 27 for just \$9.99 per household. With this new on demand experience, filmed at The Soraya during live performances on Dec. 7 and 8, generations of music lovers will now be able to enjoy highlights from this Soraya Original Production from anywhere in the world.

The ninth edition of The Soraya's original production, *Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular* features Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles (joining for the ninth year in a row), Mariachi Pueblo Viejo, and special guest vocalist Camila Fernández, the daughter of Mexican Singer Alejandro Fernández, and granddaughter of the late great Vicente Fernández. Angela Aguilar, Eugenia León, and Lupita Infante are among the guest vocalists who have joined The Soraya's *Nochebuena* production in the past.

## Details:

The Soraya offers on-demand viewing of **Nochebuena en Casa** (highlights from the live performances of Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular) from December 20 at 9 a.m. through 27 at 11:59 p.m. This \$9.99 per household purchase includes:

- A 40-minute highlight experience
- Pre-show content
- Post-show content
- Eight days to rewatch the content as many times as you would like
- Click here to purchase access!

# About Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles (BFLA)

Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles was founded in 2011 by Kareli Montoya and has distinguished itself as the nation's premier Mexican folk dance company. Their skillful dancers have graced world-class venues such as the Anaheim Convention Center, Orpheum Theater, Nokia Theater, Greek Theater, John Anson Ford Amphitheater, Santa Barbara Bowl, the Younes & Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts, Staples

Center, Tempe Center for the Arts and the Rady Shell at Jacobs Park. Since its inception, BFLA has worked with the industry's finest Grammy Award-winning artists such as Lila Downs, Pepe Aguilar, Mariachi Divas and Mariachi Los Camperos.

They have shared the stage and accompanied mariachi greats like Mariachi Nuevo Tecalitlan, world-famous Mariachi Vargas and Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuellar. Not shy of any genre, Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles has worked with music celebrities like Ana Barbara, Morrissey, Ruben (Cafe Tacuba), Las Cafeteras, Beatriz Adriana, Banda El Recodo, Paquita la del Barrio, Empress Of, and Armenian pop star Lilit Hovhannisyan. This amazing dance troop was the first Folklórico company in the country to accompany symphony orchestras such as the San Bernardino Symphony Orchestra and the Marina del Rey Symphony, both conducted by Frank Fetta.

Media coverage has made BFLA internationally recognized especially after being featured in the 2016 National Geographic Traveler UK edition and with their collaboration with Mitu Network on a Mariachi Remake of Beauty and the Beast's "A Tale as Old as Time," featuring Mariachi Garibaldi de Jaime Cuellar and BFLA's Director, Kareli Montoya. The video went viral on Facebook at 15 million views (and counting)! If you have seen the Disney Pixar *Coco Live* at the Hollywood Bowl or on Disney+, then you have already had the opportunity to see BFLA in action, as they assisted Disney Studios with magical performances during 2017 for the release of *Coco*. They were the folkloristas at the D23 Expo where they performed on stage with Benjamin Bratt, Mariachi Divas, and the Grammy<sup>®</sup>-winning Gordon Goodwin Big Phat Band.

Perhaps you caught them at the *Coco* Premiere at El Capitan Theatre or even on Dancing With the Stars, "Disney Night." If you missed those performances, we are sure you saw them grace the stage at the 90th Annual Academy Awards alongside Natalia Lafourcade, Gael Garcia Bernal, and Miguel with a rendition of *Coco*'s Academy Award-Winning song, "Remember Me."

#### About Camila Fernández

Camila has established herself as an unstoppable force in the Mexican regional genre. Her undeniable talent and passion for music have led her to become the lone female voice of the Fernández Dynasty.

Born on November 30, 1997, in Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico, Camila's love for music was evident from her earliest days. At the tender age of four, her powerful voice and stage presence impressed everyone on every stage she graced, whether it was in musical theater, school choirs, religious pageants, or performances. Her destiny was clear: music was her path.

To formalize her music career, Camila embarked on an educational journey, studying at the renowned Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA. Additionally, she honed her musical skills in Guadalajara and San Diego, CA, exploring piano, guitar, and voice.

Before delving into the world of Mexican regional music, Camila experimented with various music genres until she found her unique voice in mariachi. Inspired by a promise to her grandfather, the legendary Vicente Fernández, she began writing songs and shaping her eponymous album.

Her musical influences encompass icons like her grandfather Vicente Fernández, her father Alejandro Fernández, Juan Gabriel, Rocío Dúrcal, José Alfredo Jiménez, and Eugenia de León, who have left an indelible mark on her style and passion for music.

Although her music career began in 2017, it was in 2022 and beyond that Camila Fernández's journey experienced a constant evolution. From her memorable mariachi performance at Corona Capital Guadalajara in 2022 to the release of a moving cover of "Amor Eterno" and her touching rendition of "Las Mañanitas" to the Virgin of Guadalupe, to her collaboration with Morat on a mariachi version of "Debí Suponerlo," the singer has chosen to focus her exceptional talent on Mexican regional music, establishing herself as the only female voice of the Fernández Dynasty.

On July 6, 2023, Camila released the first single, "Todo, Todo," from her upcoming eponymous album, which

was released on October 26, 2023. This preview showcases La Fernández redefining the distinctive style of Mexican regional music by blending elegance, fashion, and tradition with more contemporary elements and language, creating a perfect balance.

Her new album, *Camila Fernández*, includes 20 tracks, with 10 original songs and 10 covers, all connected by the theme of love in its various forms. Camila penned nine of the original songs, demonstrating her creative ambition and deep commitment to her music. This creative ambition is reflected in the musical development of her new album, which evokes the nostalgia of Mexican mariachi and the sonic innovation of the 21st century. Camila is an artist with a promising future, capable of reinventing the past through her ranchera passion conveyed in every verse.

Thanks to her unique qualities, Camila Fernández is undeniably the best representative of the new Mexican regional music: a revolutionary woman who blends the best of multiple worlds to create an authentic and distinct style. Her music is a gift for Mexican music enthusiasts and an inspiration for future generations.

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

The Soraya continues to provide a center for Latin American artists and audiences. "The Valley and greater Los Angeles are home to a wealth of the most vibrant Spanish-speaking communities," said Thor Steingraber, The Soraya's Executive and Artistic Director. "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—Hecho en Las Américas –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." Celebrating its 10th year, nine performances will be presented in the 2024-25 Hecho en Las Américas series, beginning with the Aída Cuevas celebration of Juan Gabriel on Oct. 12. The Series will include two performances of Disney Pixar's Coco Live-to-Film concerts on Oct. 26 & 27 featuring Orquesta Folclórica Nacional de México; Two performances by Leyendas del Mariachi on Nov. 9; The Soraya's Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular on Dec. 7 & 8; two performances of Ballet Folklorico de México de Amalia Hernández on March 14 & 15, and Chucho Valdès: Irakere 50 with Special Guest Arturo Sandoval on Feb. 20, 2025. For more information on the Hecho en Las Américas series, please visit TheSoraya.org

#### About the Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya)

The Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for The Performing Arts (The Soraya) is an award-winning, state- ofthe-art 1,700-seat theatre designed and built by HGA Architects and Engineers and opened in January 2011 as the Valley Performing Arts Center (VPAC). Through a transformative gift by Younes and Soraya Nazarian, the venue was renamed The Soraya in 2017. Vibrant programming has served to establish The Soraya as the intellectual and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley and its 1.8 million residents and as one of the top arts and culture venues in Southern California. Since its inaugural season, The Soraya has presented over 500 artists and companies across the genres of music, dance, theater, and film and is a highly in-demand location for filming and rental events.

The Soraya's 2024-25 Season boldly advances the expansive sound of orchestras both traditional and contemporary; the freestyle vibe of jazz; an array of dance luminaries, and a cultural bounty drawn from the musical well of global voices. The Soraya continues its vigorous commitment to innovating, excelling, and amplifying access by offering a wide variety of performances that reflect Los Angeles' many distinctive communities and featuring new and original work and artists from the local region as well as nationally and around the world.

Located on the vibrant campus of California State University Northridge (CSUN), The Soraya and the Mike Curb College of Arts, Media, and Communication share an integral link that enhances student access and opportunities in the arts and performing arts. A \$5 million contribution from record producer and former California Lieutenant Governor Mike Curb was pivotal in ensuring the completion and opening of The Soraya in 2011. For his founding support and in acknowledgment of the integral relationship between the Mike Curb

College and The Soraya, Mike Curb is recognized as one of The Soraya's Cornerstone Benefactors. This partnership fosters academic and artistic excellence, elevating the talents and the future growth of CSUN's students through master classes, student tickets, concerts of student ensembles, and students appearing alongside renowned artists such as Wynton Marsalis, Aida Cuevas, and Martha Graham Dance Company.

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