

"Mariachi Herencia de México takes mariachi music to whole new heights,"
— The Chicago Sun-Times

Mariachi Herencia de México Opens The Soraya's Hecho en Las Américas Series with Special Guest Leonardo Aguilar

Friday, Sept. 26 at 8 p.m.; Tickets start at \$45 and are now available at
TheSoraya.org.



(Los Angeles, CA) September 17, 2025 —The Soraya's **Hecho en Las Américas Series** returns for its 11th season, premiering at 8 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 26 with **Mariachi Herencia de México** and special guest **Leonardo Aguilar**. Tickets start at \$52 and are now available at TheSoraya.org.

Chicago-based Mariachi Herencia de México is a two-time Latin GRAMMY-nominated band with five chart-topping albums that has performed across North America paving the way for a new generation of mariachi musicians. The band's origins stem from César Maldonado, a Chicago resident, a student of Chicago Public Schools (CPS), and the founder of the Mariachi Heritage Foundation (MHF). In 2016, MHF began an all-city, audition-based music program for CPS students to receive advanced mariachi training. The most advanced students from the program were placed in an elite ensemble that later became **Mariachi Herencia de México**, which recorded its first studio album, *Nuestra Herencia*, in 2017 and earned a Latin GRAMMY nomination for Best Ranchero/Mariachi album. Since then, the mariachi has released five studio albums and has toured all over North America.

The Soraya brings **Mariachi Herencia de México** to launch the Hecho en Las Américas Series with vocalist Leonardo Aguilar, the son of Mexican superstar performer Pepe Aguilar, to perform traditional mariachi songs and original hits from his four studio albums.

In a recent [interview with Steingraber](#), Aguilar said in the last five years he's musically "died and been reborn" in the best way possible, and he's excited for his collaboration with the mariachi.

"This is the first year that I worked with (Mariachi Herencia de México) ... it's a great mariachi, and it's amazing seeing people do what they they're good at. All of these musicians are incredible," he said.

"It's an amazing show and I love playing in it. It's very interesting and very fun for me and I feel very grateful to be able to take that music and take that feeling, that energy...to people who can't go home right now. I feel a big sense of responsibility...and that's also why I'm not going to use this stage to sing two hours of my songs. This show is not about that — it's about culture, about music, and we have to be proud of where we are from...the language we speak."

For story development and interview requests, please contact:

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- [CLICK HERE](#) for your press kit, complete with photos and press releases.

About Mariachi Herencia de México

The historic tradition of mariachi music has its roots of origin in cities such as Guadalajara and Mexico City. As the ever-evolving genre's influence spread, it reached Chicago and birthed [Mariachi Herencia de México](#). The 2x Latin GRAMMY-nominated band has issued five chart-topping albums and has performed all across the North American continent paving the way for a new generation of mariachi musicians.

Nuestra Herencia, their debut album, topped the Latin streaming charts and earned the band their first Latin GRAMMY nomination for Best Ranchero/Mariachi Album. 2018's *Herencia de la Tierra Mía* and the two-volume series, *Esencia and Esencia, Vol. 2* issued in 2019 and 2020, respectively, charted atop all major streaming platforms and industry charts. In 2022, *Herederos* appeared as the band was performing a wildly successful North American tour. *Herederos* received a 2023 Latin GRAMMY nomination for Best

Ranchero/Mariachi Album. The young, virtuosic band is composed of 14 musicians, ages 18-32, representing a new bicultural generation in the U.S.

About Leonardo Aguilar

Leonardo Aguilar, part of the new generation of the Aguilar dynasty, is a prominent artist in regional Mexican music. He has stood out not only as a great performer, but also as a songwriter and producer. Born on January 15, 1999, he is the son of renowned singer Pepe Aguilar and the brother of Ángela Aguilar.

In 2016, he released *Gallo Fino*, his first solo album, produced by his father and featuring collaborations with Espinoza Paz and El Chapo de Sinaloa. With this project, he earned nominations at the Latin Grammy Awards for Best Ranchero/Mariachi Album and Best Regional Mexican Song for *Compromiso Descartado*, as well as a nomination at the Anglo Grammy Awards in 2018 for Best Regional Mexican Music Album (Including Tejano).

Since 2018, Leonardo has been actively participating in the family shows *Jarypeo Sin Fronteras* and *Jarypeo Hasta Los Huesos*, touring across Mexico and the United States alongside his father and sister Ángela. In these shows, he not only sings but also takes part in the equestrian performances, reflecting his deep love for ranch life.

In 2023 and 2024, he continued to release music with a more mature style and original lyrics. Among his most recent songs are *El Comienzo del Final* and *No Lo Podía Hacer Mejor*. During that same period, he released his album *Soy Como Quiero Ser*, a tribute to Joan Sebastian, which includes the standout track *Bandido de Amores*, reaching #1 on Regional Mexican Airplay and #2 on Latin Airplay. His single *Por el Contrario*, featuring Becky G and Ángela Aguilar, became a viral hit and reached #1 on the Latin Pop charts. This track earned him a 2024 Latin Grammy nomination for Best Regional Mexican Song.

In 2025, Leonardo released *Le voy a pedir a Dios*, a self-penned song that showcases his most intimate side as a singer-songwriter. That same year, he solidified his status as a key figure in regional Mexican music by becoming one of the most nominated artists at Premio Lo Nuestro 2025, with eight nominations including Song of the Year, Mexican Music Song of the Year, Mariachi/Ranchera Song of the Year, Male Artist of the Year – Mexican Music, and Collaboration of the Year.

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-of-the-art 1,700-seat theatre that opened in 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. The Soraya is located on the campus of California State University Northridge, the intellectual and cultural heart of the San Fernando Valley.

Executive and Artistic Director Thor Steingraber, in his 12th year leading the organization, sums up what makes The Soraya a central piece of Los Angeles arts and culture. “At The Soraya, we hold a high standard of excellence for every performance from a vast array of artistic disciplines, and we hold steadfast to our commitment to the value and impact of the performing arts in community-building, for the Valley’s 1.8 million residents and beyond.”

The Soraya's 2025-26 Season is a journey through the expansive sounds of orchestras, the freestyle vibes of jazz, the innovations of dance luminaries, and a vast array of global voices. The Soraya continues its vigorous commitment to excelling, innovating, and amplifying access for Valley residents, students, and arts lovers across Southern California.

About the 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."

Ten performances will be presented in the 2025-26 **Hecho en Las Américas** series, beginning with Mariachi Herencia on Sept. 26. The Series will include the return of Lila Downs (Oct. 24); four performances of the Soraya original *Nochebuena: A Christmas Spectacular* featuring Ballet Folklórico de Los Ángeles and Mariachi Pueblo Viejo (Dec. 20-22); virtuosic trio the Villalobos Brothers (Mar 14, 2026); Ballet Hispánico (Mar 28, 2026). The series will close in April 2026 with two performances of *Chavela y Sus Mujeres: Un Homenaje a Chavela Vargas* (Apr 18-19), featuring Ofelia Medina, Eugenia León, La Marisoul, Los Macorinos, and Mariachi Gama 1000 in a celebration of the musical icon.

What: Mariachi Herencia de México
with Special Guest Leonardo Aguilar

When: Fri Sep 26 | 8PM

Where: Younes and Soraya Nazarian Center for the Performing Arts (The Soraya)
18111 Nordhoff Street, Northridge, CA 91330

Website: www.TheSoraya.org

Tickets: \$45 - \$99

Ticket Office: 818-677-3000 (Tue-Sat, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

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