

"Music Knows No Borders. Music has the power to unite us across time and geography. We give voice to the musical diasporas and discover how rhythm is elemental melody is universal, and that music does not discriminate," — The Soraya

Portuguese Fado Singer Mariza Makes Her Debut at The Soraya on Nov. 6, in the Music Knows No Borders Series

Thursday, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m.; Tickets start at \$46 and are available at [TheSoraya.org](https://www.thesoraya.org).

(Los Angeles, CA) **October 28, 2025** — The celebrated **Music Knows No Borders** series for the 2025-26 Season gets underway on Thursday, Nov. 6 when Portuguese fado singer **Mariza** makes her debut at The Soraya. Her performance is the first of six that honors the global musical diaspora—music that unites people across time and geography. Other artists in the series include the Yiddish music specialists **The Klezmatics** on Dec. 7; Armenia's musical ambassador **Tigran Hamasyan** on March 7; Mexico's **Villalobos Brothers** on March 14; Argentina's tango masters **Quinteto Astor Piazzolla** on March 21; and the West African sensation **Cirque Kalabanté** on March 22.

For more than 20 years Mariza has been hailed by the world music circuit for her extraordinary voice and commitment to the tradition of Portuguese fado. For her commitment to the craft, Mariza has joined the ranks of late Amália Rodrigues — known worldwide as the "Queen of Fado," and recently honored by Carnegie Hall for her lifetime achievements — as one of the only Portuguese artists to build an international career with such success.

In her own biography, Mariza describes herself as "a true ambassador of Fado who does not hesitate to take it along new and daring paths, without ever losing sight of her soul." Her work has paid off, earning praise for not only preserving the genre, but taking it into the future to reach new generations.

"Fado is often seen as mournful music, but it is more fully music that explores — and sometimes celebrates — the expression of deeply felt emotion," wrote [Marty Lipp](#) in a Pop Matters article about Mariza's tribute to Rodrigues in 2021. "There are light and playful fado songs, but the canon is mostly the retelling of lost love and homesickness, not surprisingly given its origins of

music played for men who set off in rickety vessels for weeks and months. As the music evolved, the lyrics were often written by poets, but it has mostly stayed true to its unmistakable essence.”

Now a leading ambassador for fado, Mariza performs in major venues around the world, singing with international stars, and igniting a new appreciation for fado.

“There are few musical forms as singularly identified with a nation as fado is to Portugal,” said Thor Steingraber, Soraya Executive and Artistic Director. “While The Soraya’s programming has ventured to cultures and nations in every corner of the globe, this is our first foray into the soulful music of Portuguese nightclubs and concert halls. Personally, fado is among my favorite musical forms, and I’m ecstatic that its foremost interpreter, Mariza, will make her Soraya debut.”

To share a sample of the sounds of Mariza with your audiences, The Soraya has created a Spotify playlist for you to share, linked [here](#).

About Mariza

No visit to Lisbon is complete without a late-night visit to a café or bar to relish in the soulful sounds of fado, the traditional music of Portugal. Recognized as the foremost representative of her country’s culture, singer Mariza has graced the major stages of the world and achieved superstar status with over 30 platinum recordings. “An international ambassador of contemporary Portuguese music, Mariza brings her enchanting charisma unparalleled voice and profound emotional depth,” said Virginia Tech News. Mariza was born in the same neighborhood that, 150 years prior, had given birth to the dramatic, expressive, intensely melancholy music now synonymous with the Iberian country. Her way of drawing the deepest emotions from a song has made her a beloved icon in Portugal. Across her three-decade career, Mariza has stretched the limits of fado, combining it with jazz, flamenco, Latin jazz, and influences from her mother’s home country of Mozambique. Her “dark, rich, commanding contralto” (*Washington Post*) has also prompted high-profile collaborations with Sting, Lenny Kravitz, Gilberto Gil, and the late Cesária Évora.

For story development and interview requests, please contact:

- [Marie Estrada](#), Soraya Marketing & Communications Specialist
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- [Click here for your press kit](#), complete with photos, and press releases

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.

What: Portuguese fado singer Mariza

Tickets: \$46-\$94

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

Website: www.TheSoraya.org

Ticket Office: 818-677-3000

Soraya Press Contacts

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