

"(Chavela y Sus Mujeres) wasn't just a concert, but a communion of generations around a figure who transcended music to become a symbol of rebellion and authenticity," — El Sol de Puebla

**Four Passionate Voices—
Ofelia Medina, Eugenia León, Ely Guerra, and
La Marisoul Join Forces to Honor
Legendary Mexican Ranchera Singer
Chavela Vargas
With the U.S Debut of
CHAVELA Y SUS MUJERES
Featuring Los Macorinos and Mariachi Gama 1000**



Saturday, April 18 at 8 p.m. and Sunday, April 19 at 3 p.m.

Tickets \$59-\$117 and are available at [TheSoraya.org](https://www.thesoraya.org).

(Los Angeles, CA) April 9, 2026 – Four passionate and powerful Latina vocalists — Ely Guerra, Eugenia León, Ofelia Medina and La Marisoul—join forces with Los Macorinos and Mariachi Gama 1000 for the U.S. debut of *Chavela y Sus Mujeres*, a one-of-a-kind musical tribute to the late Chavela Vargas, the celebrated social and musical rebel, and passionate interpreter of rancheras, boleros, and corridos.

Two performances of ***Chavela y Sus Mujeres*** (*Chavela and Her Women*) will take place on **Saturday, April 18** at 8 p.m. and **Sunday, April 19** at 3 p.m.

Chavela y Sus Mujeres serves as an homage to Chavela Vargas, honoring her legacy through the artistry of four distinguished Latin American singers: **Ely Guerra, Eugenia León, Ofelia Medina, and La Marisoul**. These performers will lead the concert by performing some of Chavela's most renowned and beloved songs, reflecting the essence and emotion of the late singer's work.

- Actress, writer, director and social activist **Ofelia Medina** who is best known for portraying artist Frida Kahlo in the film "Frida Still Life."
- **Ely Guerra**, a Mexican singer-songwriter and music producer with a 30-year career. 2010 Best Alternative Album Latin Grammy winner, independent businesswoman for over 18 years at Homey Company. She has performed throughout Mexico, as well as in different countries and cities in Europe, the United States, Cuba, Central and South America.
- With more than twenty-five recordings, **Eugenia León's** repertory ranges from contemporary composers to traditional Mexican and Latin American music.
- **La Marisoul**, a Mexican American singer and songwriter who is best known as the lead vocalist of the Grammy-winning band La Santa Cecilia. She is one of the most prominent voices in Mexican American music today, creating original and innovative music that transcends borders and genres.

"I love Chavela Vargas. She is such an amazing artist and an artist who was just loved by people from all walks of life. I just love the way she sang and how she interpreted all of these beautiful Mexican songs," **La Marisoul** said in a recent interview with Soraya Executive and Artistic Director Thor Steingraber. "To be on stage with such amazing women who I love and admire so much...and to sing with Los Macorinos and Mariachi Gama 1000...for me it's something special and empowering and a place where i get to learn from some of the greatest artists of Mexico."

About *Chavela y Sus Mujeres* at The Soraya

Chavela y Sus Mujeres makes its U.S. debut at The Soraya, a performing arts center on the campus of California State University, Northridge, one of Southern California's most culturally rich and diverse communities, giving lifelong fans and those new to Chavela Vargas the opportunity to experience her work firsthand.

The concert is the final performance in The Soraya's **Hecho en Las Américas** series, an annual selection of programming dedicated to the diverse music and dance forms of Mexico, Central America, and South America.

At its Mexican debut, [*El Sol de Puebla*](#) called *Chavela y Sus Mujeres* "an act of cultural remembrance and a recognition of the power of women within Mexican music," adding that the musical tribute honors a woman who defied stereotypes, loved fearlessly, and "who made every song a declaration of freedom."

Performed in several venues around Mexico since its inception, *Chavela y Sus Mujeres* makes its U.S. and L.A. debut at The Soraya, centrally located in one of Southern California's most culturally rich areas, giving fans and those new to Chavela Vargas the opportunity to experience her work in the most heartfelt and entertaining way.

Nearly 14 years since the death the iconic Mexican singer of Costa Rican birth, Chavela Vargas is brought back to life through the voices of Mexican artists Eugenia León, Ely Guerra, and La Marisoul, with actress Ofelia Medina, and accompanied by Los Macorinos and Mariachi Gama 1000. "Majestic voices singing to our beloved Mexico, to love, and heartbreaks...great women interpreting great composers, with one purpose...to pay their respect to Chavela Vargas."

About Chavela Vargas

A Costa Rican-born singer, Chavela Vargas immigrated to Mexico as a teenager where she first began to sing in street performances and later began to perform in nightclubs in the 1940s.

Vargas was renowned as a Mexican singer who blended ferocity and warmth in her dramatic and novel interpretations of Mexico's ranchera songs like "La Llorona" and "Paloma Negra," traditionally sung by men and with multiple instruments. Her interpretations — stripped down to be performed with just her guitar — are said to have invoked raw emotion, and the true meaning of the songs she performed. Her clothing of choice, men's pants and ponchos, also marked her as one of the first in the era to defy traditional Mexican gender roles.

Chavela met Frida Kahlo in the early 1940s while Kahlo was married to muralist Diego Rivera. They immediately connected through their unconventional nature and artistic passion. They shared an intense, passionate, and short-lived love affair, marking one of the most significant, albeit rumored, romances in Mexican artistic history. Vargas lived with Kahlo at Casa Azul for a time, with Vargas calling Kahlo her "greatest love" and finding in her a kindred spirit. Vargas famously said of Kahlo, "She taught me how to live my life and not be afraid of anything... she taught me to have my personality, and to break norms."

Vargas gained major recognition in the mid-1950s and released her first album, *Noche Bohemia*, in 1961 at 42 years old. Though she was a highly talented and in-demand artist, Vargas' struggle with alcohol led to her vanishing from the stage for several decades. Championed by Spanish filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar, who used her music in several of his films, Vargas re-emerged in the early 1990s and launched an international comeback while in her 70s. She received a lifetime achievement award from the Latin Recording Academy in 2007 and died five years later in Cuernavaca, Mexico, on August 5, 2012.

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.”

What: *Chavela y Sus Mujeres*
Un Homenaje a Chavela Vargas
starring Ofelia Medina, Eugenia León, Ely Guerra, La Marisoul, Los Macorinos,
and Mariachi Gama 1000

Musical icon Chavela Vargas was known for her “rough voice of tenderness,” a reflection of her long life, much spent reveling in Mexico’s nightlife and cantinas. A cast of today’s most relevant and important Latina artists pays tribute to her unmistakable voice that spanned most of the 20th century and is remembered in hundreds of songs. *Tickets \$59–\$117*

When: Sat Apr 18 | 8 PM
Sun Apr 19 | 3 PM

Where: 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

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