

For immediate release:

Media Contact: edris@brava.org

Brava presents
7th Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival
A Tribute to Andrés Flores



Featuring
Chuchumbé desde México | Los Hijos de José | Tarimba
& special guests Quetzal Flores, Martha Gonzalez, and Amairani Flores

February 6 – 10, 2019
Brava Theater Center

Brava's Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival returns for its 7th year!!! Explore the Afro-mestizo folkloric music style of Veracruz during a week-long festival of live music, community fandango, workshops with master artists, and a panel discussion when Brava presents the 7th Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival. This year's Festival is a celebration of the renowned master Andrés Flores who passed away in 2018, and features headliners Chuchumbé desde México – whose name references a performance/dance banned from 1776 that mocked colonial authorities – with musicians Patricio Hidalgo, Yaratze Hidalgo Sandoval, Felix Jose Oseguera Rueda, and Juan Francisco Galvan. Joining them will be Los Hijos de José with José Roberto Hernández, Federico Zuniga Jr., and Russell C Rodríguez, with special guests Quetzal Flores and Martha Gonzalez. Opening the concert is Tarimba with Lolis García, Kyla Danysh, and Joel Ramirez. Making a guest appearance the 7th Annual at San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival is Andrés Flores' daughter Amairani Flores.

[Calendar of Festival Events](#)

Wednesday, February 6 – 7pm
Master Workshop, La Peña Cultural Center
\$15 beginner; \$20 advanced

--

Friday, February 8 – 5:00pm
Roundtable Discussion & Reception, Brava Theater Center Cabaret
Join KPOO host and producer Chelis Lopez, Patricio Hildalgo, Liche Oseguera, along with Russell Rodriguez for a panel discussion on Andrés Flores' influence on Bay Area Son Jarocho.

\$10

--

Friday, February 8 – 6pm to 11pm
Fandango Jarocho, Brava Theater Center Cabaret
Cultural convening ritual known as Fandango Jarocho, a late-night session of instruments, dancing, voices and verse. Bring your instruments and your dancing shoes!

This is a free community event.

--

Saturday, February 9 – 7pm to 10pm
Live Concert, Brava Theater Center
Celebrate the life of Andrés Flores with a live concert featuring Chuchumbé desde México, Los Hijos de José, and Tarimba. Andrés Flores' daughter Amairani Flores will make a guest appearance.

\$45; \$40 – Reserved seating in the orchestra
\$30; \$25 – Reserved seating in the mezzanine

--

Sunday, February 10 – 1pm
Master Workshop, Brava Theater Center

\$20 for one workshop; \$30 for two

--

BIOS

Andres Flores

Andres Flores is renown as a founding member of the legendary Son Jarocho group, Chuchumbe, pioneers in the Son Jarocho movement of the late 1980's and 1990's. This group resurrected many of the long dormant traditions and composed new music based on the folkloric themes. He went on to lead his own band, Los Hijos de Jose, exploring the many Caribbean and African aspects of the Son Jarocho tradition with veteran Mexican music scholar and virtuoso performer Russell Rodriguez and cumbia/jarocho rocker Federico "Lico" Zuniga, who have both played in many important Mexican music fusion bands and recordings. An outstanding singer, dancer, musician and instrument maker, Flores has been featured on many recordings including Piano Xarocho directed by Venezuelan pianist Claudia Calderon.

He was a significant contributor to the Grammy nominated recording, *Electro-Jarocho*, by Sistema Bomb with whom he often also performed. A highly influential performer and teacher of jarocho known throughout the United States and beyond, Andres Flores was a mainstay in the Bay Area, performing with numerous ensembles and contributing to the vibrancy of the musical form. In August of 2018, Flores suffered a stroke in Xalapa, where he had recently moved from his beloved hometown of Coatzacoalcos, where he learned to play son Jarocho. A CD of Flores last recording, “*El Camino*” by Andres Flores y los Hijos de Jose, was released in November of 2018.

Chuchumbe is an internationally known music and dance group from southern Veracruz, Mexico that interprets and creates verse and dance from the son jarocho tradition. Led by Felix “Liche” Jose Oseguera Rueda and Patricio Hidalgo Belli, Chuchumbe has focused on developing not only different structural lyric forms and meters, but also a strict thematic coherence, one of the elements that was disappearing from traditional fandango festivals. All of the band’s stringed instruments are fashioned by the musical director, Oseguera, who distinctly creates them from single pieces of cedar. The band popular CD, ¡Caramba Niño! and in 2005, they performed as part of the Midwest World Fest, which brought together bands from Somalia to Japan to tour nine Midwestern US states.

Los Hijos de José was initiated by Russell Rodríguez and Federico Zuñiga Jr., two San José musicians who consistently were invited to accompany *jarocho* musicians on their gigs while traveling through the Bay Area. They have accompanied master jarocho musicians such as Liche Oseguera, Patricio Hidalgo, blues artist Hook Herrera and Chicana/o musicians Quetzal Flores and Martha Gonzalez. In 2010, Zuñiga and Rodríguez began a long-time working relationship with Andres Flores eventually inspiring the three to invest time, money and energy into the project, *El Camino*. Under the auspices of Greg Landau the recording production proposed new versions of traditional sones, original compositions, a classic bolero and a composition by Agustin Lara. With this project, Los Hijos de José became much more than a backup band, but rather a collective of musicians that included José Roberto Hernández, Chris Gonzalez Clarke, Quetzal Flores, Martha Gonzalez, la Marisoul, Michael Tejada all of whom contributed to the project and often were seen backing up Andres throughout California. *El Camino*, which was recorded in 2014, was eventually released April of 2017 through major streaming services (i.e. itunes). Now, due to the efforts of Federico Zuniga, Greg Landau, Angelica Loa Perez, Angela Flores and Horacio Tenorio, we are happy to announce that it is available as a produced CD. This recording was a true labor of love and serves as a testament to the productive transnational conversations occurring between Jarocho/os and Chicana/os, communities that have found affinity.

For the 2019 San Francisco Jarocho Festival Los Hijos de José include the outstanding musicians: Quetzal Flores, Martha Gonzalez, José Roberto Hernández, Russell Rodríguez, and Federico Zuñiga, all of whom look forward to sharing the music of Andres with his daughter Amairani Flores Pitalua. Collectively the musicians dedicate this performance to their brother, Andres Flores Rosas, whose voice, musicianship, character and now whose absence, continues to impact their lives.

José Roberto Hernández is a multi-instrumentalist, singer, composer, arranger, producer, musical educator, and ethnomusicologist. A resident of the San Francisco Bay Area, he is one of the most respected exponents of folkloric music. Hernández was born in the city of Cardenas, Tabasco, Mexico, where he began his musical career. He went on to work in Oaxaca, then Mexico City, eventually arriving to the United States. Highly influenced by master folklorists, his career is rooted in traditional music, which is his greatest passion. He has invested a lifetime in collecting and learning to play native and traditional instruments and is always eager to research and learn about the dance and music of other

cultures. He is known for his innovative use of traditional forms and instruments in combination with contemporary music and has earned much respect amongst musicians from different music sectors throughout the Bay Area. In addition to his musical ensemble, Vinic-Kay, which is dedicated to the promotion of Mexican folk music, Hernández performs as part of the Bobi Cespedes Trio, as a featured artist with the John Santos Sextet and also with his long-time musical partner Manny Constanancio, who are featured at El Jardin (Santana Row San José) and La Corneta in San Francisco.

Federico Zuniga Jr began his musical journey in San José, CA at the age of 10, having been first influenced by his father, Federico Zuniga Sr., an accomplished pianist, who continues to play today. As a teenager, he found solace in the rebellious sounds of punk and rock. At the age of 19 Federico discovered *son jarocho* from local maestro Artemio Posadas. Since then he has performed alongside various groups like Chuchumbe, and at the Festival de la Candelaria in Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, with Son de Madera and Zach De La Rocha from Rage Against the Machine. In 2011, he was invited by Hector "Hec-dog" Perez to participate on the Sistema Bomb project, alongside Jarocho masters Ramon Gutierrez, Patricio Hidalgo, Liche Oseguera, Andres Flores, Los Cojolites, Asdrú Sierra from Ozomatli, Roco from La Maldita Vencidad and Bolivian/Spanish MC Hector Guerra. This project was nominated for a Grammy for best Latin Rock Urban Alternative album for 2013. Zuniga relocated to Los Angeles in 2012 and has been an active member in the Latin alternative scene performing and recording in all styles of music.

Currently, he teaches son jarocho alongside master artist Cesar Castro for the Arts in Corrections program via the Alliance for California Traditional Arts at Norco State Prison. In the summer of 2018 Zuniga completed a B.A. in Music, with a concentration in Bass performance, at the Los Angeles College of Music.

Russell C Rodríguez is currently an assistant professor in the Music Department at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He has extensive experience as a cultural worker, academic, and accomplished artist. Rodríguez received his Ph.D. from the department of Anthropology at the University of California, Santa Cruz. He worked as a curator for the Smithsonian Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage annual festival, co-curating the Latino Music Program in 2004, and has contributed to a variety of production by the Smithsonian Folkways Recordings as a researcher, producer, annotator and musician. Rodríguez began his studies as a musician with Artemio Posadas in 1974 eventually working with Posadas in Los Trovadores de la Costa, performing *son huasteco* and *son jarocho*. He went on to work as a mariachi musician with groups such as Mariachi Azteca, and since has become an accomplished musician, composer, and dancer specializing in performance styles of various traditional forms of Mexico. In 2010, he completed work as the assistant producer and musical director for the documentary *La Danza Escenica: El Sello de Rafael Zamarripa*, and contributed original compositions to Ray Tellez' documentary *The Storm that Swept México*. In 2013, Rodríguez composed an original score for the B. Traven's novel *Macario* and in 2018 the score for the original theater play *La Departera*, both for San José's premiere Chicano theater ensemble Teatro Vision. For the latter play Rodríguez, along with Greg Landau, produced a soundtrack bringing together some of the finest Chicana/o musicians in the Bay Area in other regions of California. Rodríguez was honored to work side by side with Andres Flores in the *El Camino* recording, to which he contributed as a composer, arranger, musician and engineer.

Tarimba

'Tarimba' is believed to be the African root word of 'tarima', the wooden dance platform that serves as the heart of the Son Jarocho tradition of southern Veracruz, Mexico.

TARIMBA is a collective comprised of local Bay Area musicians who have embraced the traditional genre of Son Jarocho music. The core members of TARIMBA, Lolis García and Kyla Danysh, are experienced multi-instrumentalists and vocalists who actively perform and teach in the Bay Area music community.

Joel Ramirez is a California native and with a B.A. from Stanford University and an MBA from UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business. He is a life-long musician with a passion for traditional Mexican music. While in college, he was one of the founding member of the Mariachi Cardenal de Stanford, where they recorded an album and played at various Mariachi festivals. He is a student of Dr. Artemio Posadas and a former member of the East Bay Center for Performing Art's Son de la Tierra. For over 10 years, he has been active in the Bay Area Son Jarocho music community where he plays Jarana and Guitara de son with various groups including Tarimba, Soneros de a Bahia to name a few.

For Calendar Editors:

What: 7th Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival

When: February 6 – 10, 2019

Where: Brava Theater Center, 2781 24th Street (at York), San Francisco 94110

Tickets:

\$25 - \$45

brava.org