Cal Performances Presents

Saturday, March 31, 2007, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Inti-Illimani

40th Anniversary Tour

Cal Performances’ 2006–2007 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
Inti-Illimani
40th Anniversary Tour

PROGRAM

Caro Nino
La Guitarrera Que Toca
Lo Que Mas Quiero
La Flor de la Chamiza
La Exiliada del Sur
Q’Apac Chunchu
   El Tiku
   Vino del Mar
   El Arado
   Malagueña
   El Guarapo y la Melocha

INTERMISSION

A La Caza del Ñandu
   Tú no te Iras
Buonanotte Fiorellino
   De mi Semilla
   Palimpsesto
   Porteña
   Samba Lando
   La Prisionera
   Rondombe
   La Tarde se ha puesto triste
       Sobre tu Playa

Selections are mainly from their recent releases Pequeño Mundo and Lugares Comunes.

Program is subject to change.
Inti-Illimani

Jorge Coulon (since 1967)  guitar, tiple, rondador, zampoña, hammered dulcimer, harp, vocals
Marcelo Coulon (since 1978)  guitar, quena, piccolo, flute, bass, vocals
Efren Viera (since 1993)  congas, bongo, cajón, timbales, other Latin percussion, clarinet, saxophone, vocals
  (replaced Max Berrú, who retired in 1997)
Daniel Cantillana (since 1998)  violin, bass, zampoña, viola, mandolin, vocals
  (replaced José Seves, who retired in 1998)
Manuel Meriño (since 2000)  musical director, guitar, tiple, bass, vocals
  (replaced Horacio Salinas, who retired in 2001)
Christian González (since 2001)  flutes, piccolo, quena, sikus, cajón, bass, vocals
Juan Flores (since 2002)  bass, cajón, cuatro, charango, quena, guitar, mandolin, sikus, vocals
  (replaced Horacio Duran, who retired in 2003)
Cesar Jara (since 2005)  guitar, tiple, bass, charango, vocals
Luis Galvez  sound director
Gabriel Vasquez  stage & road manager
Laurelle Favreau  tour manager

Inti-Illimani uses D'Addario strings and Vandoren reeds and mouthpieces.

Special thanks to Patricio Manns, René Castro, Don Verdery, Peter Kotsatos, Jim & Janet D’Addario, Mike Nguyen, Randy Hecht, the Chilean Embassy of Washington, Heraldo Muñoz, Rodrigo del Canto, Liliam Molina, the Coron sisters, Horacio & Mona Mena, Ana Kimbal, Sally Bean, Hector Salgado, Marianne Teleki, Doug & Gail Brown, Quique Cruz, Susan Borenstein, Guillermo & Margo Prado, Joanne Puttlitzer, Marcelo Montealegre and Lydie Starkey.

North American Management (since 1983)
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About the Artists

Inti-Illimani

(Ayamara dialect: Inti = sun; Illimani = mountain near La Paz, Bolivia; and pronounced Inte-E-gee-mane)

For four decades, Inti-Illimani’s music has intoxicated audiences around the globe. This year, Inti-Illimani celebrates its 40th anniversary and the release of Pequeño Mundo, its 43rd album (complete discography at inti-illimani.cl). Wedded in traditional Latin American roots and playing on more than 30 wind, string and percussion instruments, Inti-Illimani’s compositions are a treasure for the human spirit. Their mellifluous synthesis of instrumentals and vocals captures sacred places, people’s carnivals, daily lives, loves and pains that weave an extraordinary cultural mural.

Known for their open-minded musical approach, the “Intis” had a much different mission in mind when they met in the 1960s at Santiago Technical University: to become engineers. Luckily for the world, their love of music encouraged their restless souls to explore the indigenous cultures of Chile, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador and Argentina. In some of the poorest, purest and most ancient cultures, they discovered Andean music and, in a sense, their roots. Inti-Illimani’s music became Latin America’s visceral link between pueblo and people, vivified in Nueva Canción.

In 1973, Chilean President Salvador Allende was deposed while Inti-Illimani was on tour in Europe. The young musicians found themselves without patria or passport. Italy became their home for the next 14 years. In 1988, they were warmly welcomed back to Chile, moving home permanently in 1990. Inti-Illimani became, and remains, South America’s ambassadors of human expression. Their unique sound—forged with passion and poetry—is a mantra for peace in the world and within ourselves.

They have appeared on stages for Amnesty International, with Peter Gabriel, Mercedes Sosa, Bruce Springsteen, Sting and Wynton Marsalis; at benefit concerts for the Victor Jara Foundation (London, Dortmund, Glasgow), with Peter Gabriel, Paco Peña, John Williams, Emma Thompson, Karen Matheson, Maria Farantouri, Salsa Celtica and the Rambert Dance Company; and have shared the stage with Federico Fellini, Patricio Manns, Arja Saionmonaa, Holly Near, Mercedes Sosa, Youssou N’Dour and Pete Seeger. Inti-Illimani has been honored with the 1990 Lion of Venice, a Human Rights Award from UC Berkeley in 1997 and a nomination at the British Academy of Music (soundtrack category) for the 1982 BBC film, The Flight of the Condor.

Jorge Coulon, the group’s remaining founding member, in an interview stated: “We have never been so political that it was propaganda. We are not a political group in that sense, but we have always been politically engaged. We have a concept of society and about the relationships between human beings, and we try to translate our ideas into our sound, not to be part of one political party or another but in the sense to bring about a better world.”

Since 2000, Warner Brothers Latin America has released The Best of Inti-Illimani: 1973-1987, Inti-Illimani Perform Victor Jara (a selection of works by the late Chilean composer, singer, poet, actor and close friend of the Intis) and Inti-Illimani: Antologia en vivo (live tracks spanning 33 years). Xenophile Records also released The Best of Inti-Illimani, with works from the four titles released on Xenophile during the 1980s. Pequeño Mundo, the group’s latest CD release, continues Inti-Illimani’s exploration of Latin American, Afro-Latino and Italian sounds and includes the group’s first foray into jazz-flavored composition. Its title track offers fans a preview of the soundtrack, composed by Inti-Illimani, to the animated film, My Little World, which is slated for release next year. Longstanding admirers of the band will be delighted to see that, in addition to Inti-Illimani’s existing members, the CD features the work of several special guests who have a strong historical connection to the group, including founding member Max.
Berrú, past members Pedro Villagra and Renato Freygang, and longtime collaborator and dear friend Patricio Manns.

Since 2000, Inti-Illimani has welcomed four new members. “I believe the group at this moment is very modern; I would even say it’s in the vanguard,” stated Jorge Coulon in a recent interview with AARP Segunda Juventud. “What pleases me about this group today is that the creative risks it is taking are very much in keeping with our history while opening us to many perspectives, many possibilities.” Manuel Meriño, musical director since 2001, sees the recording of Lugares Comunes (Common Places), released in 2003, as the point at which the newly configured ensemble came together. As the band’s sound continues to embrace new musical sensibilities, the younger Intis are mastering classics like “Lo Que Má Quiero” and “Candidos,” which remain in the concert repertoire. But they do not feel constrained by the musical legacy they have inherited. Says Daniel Cantillana, violinist and frequent lead vocalist who has collaborated with Meriño on some of the new material, “rather, these songs establish an intangible aesthetic framework that lets us know whether a song can fit within what we do. It is our identity, and if it determines what we do, it does so very subtly.”

In addition to its tours and recordings, in 2004 Inti-Illimani’s music was used for the award-winning documentary, The Devil’s Miner, a moving portrait of 14-year-old Basilio Vargas and his 12-year-old brother, Bernardino, as they work in the Bolivian silver mines of Cerro Rico. In 2005, Inti-Illimani was commissioned to compose and record the soundtrack for My Little World, the first full-length animated feature by independent filmmaker Mike Nguyen (supervising animator for Iron Giant).

Many musicians have the technical musical qualities. But the musician who has a “plus,” who maintains a connection between his values and his creative world, is much more difficult to find. We sought that honesty in the musicians who would join us as the next generation of Inti-Illimani. We are the result of many, many metamorphoses and experiences that we do not own personally. I do not own my experiences. They come from a much earlier time, and they will survive me and go on to touch other lives.

Jorge Coulon, Founding Member of Inti-Illimani

I would like to think that some of my work will, in 50 years, be part of a body of work that connects us across time to our people and our land. This is the essence of our music. Its essence, so to speak, is made of clay, not plastic. This music’s elements are those of the Earth itself, elements that also vibrate in the people. These are the elements that I believe distinguish our music and allow it to transcend those works created strictly for mass distribution or to manufacture a hit.

Manuel Meriño, Musical Director of Inti-Illimani since 2001

From Inti-Illimani

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