Buika

Friday, November 5, 2010, 8pm
Zellerbach Hall

Buika

Ivan “Melón” Lewis  piano
Dany Noel  bass
Fernando Favier  drums

Cal Performances’ 2010–2011 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.
Buika is one of the most distinctive Spanish artists performing today. Born on the island of Majorca to African immigrant parents from Equatorial Guinea, Buika has become a true revelation to those who thought flamenco had little left to contribute to Spanish music or to jazz. Her evident African roots and her cosmopolitanism, developed in clubs in Spain and Americanized during a strange detour to Las Vegas as a Tina Turner impersonator, explain Buika’s rare self-possession. But nothing can quite explain her ability to connect: She is one of those rare and wonderful “one listen” artists.

The singer’s latest CD, El Ultimo Trago (“The Last Drink”), an homage to the Mexican singing legend Chavela Vargas, was recently nominated for two Latin Grammy Awards, for Recording of the Year (for the song “Se Me Hizo Facil”) and for Best Traditional Tropical Album. She recorded a duet with Seal, entitled “You Get Me,” for his new CD, Seal 6: Commitment; and she has also finished taping her screen debut for Pedro Almodóvar’s upcoming film, La Piel Que Habito (“The Skin I’m In”). She closes 2010 with her first American tour, a 21-city swing that began in Chicago on October 15 and ends in Miami on November 20.

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