



Friday, March 9, 2018, 8pm
Fox Theater, Oakland

globalFEST
The New Golden Age of Latin Music
featuring Las Cafeteras and Flor de Toloache

Las Cafeteras

Daniel French, *vocals, jarana*
Enrique Chi, *guitar (special guest)*
Denise Carlos, *vocals, jarana, zapateado*
Jose Cano, *drums, cajón*
Hector Flores, *vocals, jarana, zapateado*
Gloria Estrada, *bass*

Flor de Toloache

Mireya Ramos, *guitarrón, vocals*
Shae Fiol, *vihuela, vocals*
Julie Acosta, *trumpet, vocals*
Noemi Gasparini, *violin, vocals*

This performance will include one intermission.

*Cal Performances presentations in Oakland
are generously underwritten by Signature Development Group.
Cal Performances' 2017–18 season is sponsored by Wells Fargo.*

The six-piece band *Las Cafeteras* began as a group of students at Eastside Cafe, a community space in East Los Angeles, where the group's members learned to play *son jarocho*, a traditional music style from Veracruz, a state in the Gulf of Mexico. All of the band's members are children of immigrants.

The group features traditional Mexican folk instruments including the *jarana*, an eight-string guitar; the *quijada*, a donkey jawbone (which serves as a percussive scraper); and a *tarima*, a wooden platform for dancing. While the band's sound is rooted in *son jarocho*, the *Los Angeles Times* described it as a "uniquely Angeleno mishmash of punk, hip-hop, beat music, cumbia, and rock." It is through this mix-and-match of styles and sources that *Las Cafeteras* delivers its socially conscious lyrics, in both English and Spanish.

"We're organizers. We're movement kids," said band member Hector Flores in a recent interview. "But we don't say we're political. We say we're storytellers. It's just not the mainstream story."

Las Cafeteras has released two recordings. The band's song "La Bamba Rebelde," a politically charged remake of "La Bamba" (perhaps the most famous *son jarocho*), from their CD *It's Time* (2012), became a theme song for the telenovela *Bajo El Mismo Cielo* on the Tele-mundo network. *Las Cafeteras*' second album, *Tastes Like LA*, featuring the powerful song "If I Was President," was released in April 2016.

Winners of a 2017 Latin Grammy for the album *Las Caras Lindas (The Pretty Faces)*, the all-female *Flor de Toloache* was founded in 2008 by Mexican-Dominican violinist, vocalist, composer, and arranger Mireya Ramos, who grew up in Puerto Rico listening to her father's mariachi records, and Cuban-American vocalist and *vihuela* (a small guitar-like instrument) player Shae Fiol. The group started as a trio featuring harp, violin, and *vihuela* before

becoming a full ensemble. The members hail from diverse cultural backgrounds including Mexico, Puerto Rico, the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Australia, Colombia, Germany, Italy, and the United States.

In 2015 *Flor de Toloache* was nominated for a Latin Grammy for its self-titled debut, which honored traditional mariachi music while also adding the band's distinctive R&B influences. The name *Flor de Toloache* ("toloache flower") alludes to the white flower of the *datura*, a toxic plant known as a love potion in Mexican folk legend.

globalFEST: The New Golden Age of Latin Music is the second national touring extension of *globalFEST* and the first to spotlight Latin artists based in the United States. In addition to concert performances, the current tour includes outreach programs at universities across the country and matinee performances for young audiences. It continues the mission of *globalFEST* to bring the world's music to America.

Founded in 2003, *globalFEST* guest curates in both performing arts and commercial settings, including such influential events as SXSW, Bonnaroo, and Lincoln Center Out of Doors, as well as internationally at Festival d'Ile de France, and for socially conscious brands including TOMS. These curatorial opportunities raise the profile and visibility of gF artists and build audiences by having performers appear in unexpected locations where more general music fans have the opportunity to discover the excitement of global sounds. In 2016 *globalFEST*'s On The Road activities expanded to include gF's first national tour, *Creole Carnival*. Featuring artists Emeline Michel (Haiti), Brushy One-String (Jamaica), and Casuarina (Brazil), the tour visited more than 25 cities in the US and Canada.

globalFEST: The New Golden Age of Latin Music, is booked by Toby Tumarkin at IMG Artists in New York City.