



ALCORTA'S COMPAÑÍA DE DANZA FOLKLÓRICA

Corpus Christi's Premier Mexican Folk Dance Company

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: SAMUEL ALCORTA, JR.

INOLVIDABLE 2022

APRIL 22 | 7:30 PM

ONE NIGHT ONLY

Del Mar College - Richardson Performance Hall

101 Baldwin Blvd. Corpus Christi, TX 78404

Live Musical Accompaniment by:
Grupo Sin Fronteras | Houston, TX

Guest Artists:
Compañía Folklórica Alegría Mexicana | Houston, TX

COMPANY HISTORY



Alcorta's Folklórico Diamante (AFD) is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of the art of Mexican Ballet Folklórico and Latin folk dancing throughout South Texas. The company's primary objective is to promote the Hispanic culture by studying and creating staged representations of the various regions of Mexico, Spain and Latin America. These performances create an outlet for the local community to become more diverse in their knowledge and understanding of other cultures through the arts.

AFD began as a local high school folklórico dance group that had received many awards and recognitions in region and state level dance competitions; the group was recognized as one of the best folklórico dance groups in Texas at the time. As the group learned more about Mexican folklórico, they felt the need to continue learning of Mexico's rich heritage and share their knowledge and experience with the younger generations, giving them the opportunity to learn about their heritage while engaging in a healthy activity. With this, AFD was established in 1997 under the direction of founder, Cynthia Mercedes Alcorta.

Currently celebrating 23 years of excellence, the dance company has received many awards and recognitions in various festivals and competitions throughout Texas. The company has traveled to perform throughout Texas in cities such as San Antonio, Dallas, San Marcos, Victoria, Houston, Bastrop, Edinburg, and Austin as well as Lake Charles, Louisiana; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Pueblo, Colorado; and Acapulco, Mexico.

The professional company "Alcorta's Compañía de Danza Folklórica" has also been invited to represent the United States in the Festival Folklórico Nacional de Saltillo in Coahuila, Mexico and The World Folk And Dance Festival in Mississauga, Canada. They have also performed at the opening ceremonies for several international conferences of the Asociación Nacional de Grupos Folklóricos. Most recently, the company traveled to Las Vegas to participate in the Las Vegas Folk Festival and has received an invitation to perform in Argentina.

The dancers of AFD have been featured in performances with the world famous Mariachi Vargas de Tecalitlán, as well as city tourism campaigns and local business commercials.

Many have witnessed the beautiful dancers that have graced the many stages with their authentic costumes and incredible footwork. AFD is open to anyone interested in learning the folkloric dances of Mexico.

FOLKLORIC DANCE

The term folklore is used to signify folk art, a form of expression born from the substance of a certain group of people and deeply rooted within its most cherished traditions. Folklore is not a stagnant form of art, but essentially traditional; it does not change, although it is refined through the eyes of new generations.

Folklorico dances have remained alive, and quite unchanged, in the heart of the people, and the unique effort of modern choreographers has succeeded in refining these ancient dances that expressed adoration to nature, courage, and love. The choreography of the Folklorico dances combine historical research and creativity, therefore the choreography is the quality of the spectacle.

ARTISTIC QUALITY

Alcorta's Compañía de Danza Folklórica (ACDF) strives to produce high quality Mexican Folklorico production in South Texas and beyond as it is a representation of the customs, traditions, values and people of Mexico. To ensure the upmost quality and professionalism in their presentations, ACDF's artistic staff is highly educated in folklórico dancing by professional choreographers as well as Mexican culture and history. In addition, ACDF works with highly respected choreographers from Mexico to give workshops to their dancers to ensure the authenticity of the dances. ACDF also takes pride in making their own investigations of regions throughout Mexico, as they gather all the information needed to produce a festival of a town or religious ceremony as a staged choreography.



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Friday, April 22

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-PROGRAM-

I. TRADICIONES PURÉPECHAS

Pirekuas are sung throughout the state of Michoacan. These popular songs can be heard in the traditional Purépecha language and can be accompanied by instruments such as the guitar and violin. The most representative dances of the region express the pride of these indigenous peoples and their glorious past, having never been conquered during the period of colonization. Among the best-known dance of Purépecha people is the La Danza de los Viejitos or dance of the old men that calls attention to the importance of the four elements: earth, water, and fire and the four cardinal points.

Male Severiana | Danza de Viejitos | Danza de Pastoras | Aguililla

II. VALONAS Y SONES ARRIBEÑOS DE RIOVERDE

The huapango arribeño originated in the eastern region of San Luis Potosí. They are traditionally played and danced in: San Nicolás Tolentino, Guadalcázar, Lagunillas, Cerritos and Rio Verde. The huapangos are danced at baptisms, marriage proposal, weddings and wakes, or the arrival of important guest to the communities. The footwork is lively and has various combinations including zapateado, paseado, and valseado. The musicians play several styles at these gatherings called: poesías, decimales, valonas, sones and jarabes.

Jarabe de Rioverde | La Rosita | El Caballito

III. XANTOLO: DÍA DE MUERTOS EN LA HUASTECA POTOSINA

The Danza de los Huehues is an ancestral dance that can be found in the Huasteca region of Mexico. It is danced during the Xantolo (Day of the Dead) and consists of diverse cast of characters. Characters that can be found in each comparsa of Huehues and their significance are the cowboy (leader of the group), pregnant woman (new life), death (the end of life), devil (the good and bad in the world), and the popular catrinas (aristocracy). This dance is typically performed in front of the altars of loved ones and is danced to the rhythms of the violin, jarana, and quinta huapanguera.

Danza de los Huehues

IV. MÉXICO PACIFICO

In the coastal state of Sinaloa, the town of Guamuchil holds one of the largest carnival celebrations in Mexico. This piece is inspired by the different comparsas or groups that participate in the parades of carnival and the vast array of musical stylings that can be heard across the town during these celebrations. The celebrations of carnival can also be found in the state of Chiapas. In the city of Chiapa de Corzo we see the celebration know as La Fiesta Grande where we find the iconic black dresses with embroidered flowers that represent the Chiapaneca woman.

Sinaloa: *Tecateando | Satanás Bonito | Mundo Engañoso*
Chiapas: *Aires de Coatán | Las Chiapanecas*

V. HUAPANGOS Y CUMBIAS DE JOPALA

The Huasteca includes the northern part of Veracruz and stretches into Tamaulipas, Hidalgo, San Luis Potosi, and Puebla. The character of the regional music is boisterous and normally sung in a falsetto tone, and the traditional instrumentation is violin, jarana and guitar (or huapanguera). The sones or tunes of the area are performed at special fiestas called huapangos, which normally last as long as bodies are able to endure. The music and dances exhibit strong indigenous influence, as do the patterns in the clothing and the more reserved and humble movements.

El Canario | El Bigote | La Guayabita

INTERMISSION

VI. EL BAILE CALABACEADO

The baile del calabaceado is a very popular manifestation of the cattlemen of this region, the northern part of the Baja peninsula that borders southern California. This dance, also known as the “cowboy dance,” was born in the late 1950s as the norteña musical style began to gain popularity. The rhythm allows the dancers to interpret various movements of the cowboys including jumps, turns and kicks all with the intention of creating a cloud of dust underneath their boots.

El Coyote | La Loba del Mal

VII. SOY DEL MERO NORTE

The dances from the northern region of Mexico consist of the chotís, redova, polka, and huapango norteño. Although derived from several Polish, Scottish, and Czechoslovakian styles, the people of this region made dances into their own, giving them greater movement and joy. The vibrating personality of these dances is evident by the brave and masculine character reflected in the strong and agile footwork of the men, as well as grace and flirtatious nature of the women.

Nuevo León Valdiosera: *Chotis a Monterrey | El Pavido Navido*
Viva Linares: *La Presumida | La Capsula*
Tracalada Norteña : *La Grulla | El Circo | El Portillo | El Lucero*

VIII. LOS COLORES DE MI TIERRA

The state of Jalisco is the land of the Charros, tequila, and Mariachis. Since the last century it has become a symbol of Mexican nationality. The Charros of Jalisco are known for their high spirits and joyous grasping of life. Jalisco’s folklore captures the soul of Mexico in its sensual music, refined dances, and dazzling costumes.

La Madrugada | Palomas de San Jerónimo | Son del Jabalí
Las Abajeñas | Son del Ausente | El Principio

PERFORMING DANCERS

SAMUEL ALCORTA	GABI GONZALEZ	ZOË SOLIS	JULIAN CARRENO
CRISTIAN ALCORTA	KASSANDRA SALAZAR GONZALEZ	CARLY EVERETT	KYLIE ANGELA ALPICHE
SERGIO ALCORTA	ANA WILCOX	SAMANTHA OLINICK	ZILPAH GOLLECK
EFRAIN GUTIERREZ	DANIELLE GONZALEZ	GISELLE MARTINEZ	FERNANDO HERNÁNDEZ
MICHAEL GUTIERREZ	ALEXA-JO MATA	DORENE BOCANEGRA	ADRIAN RIVAS
ADALBERTO ZANEZ	NOE PALOMINO	ALYNNA PEREZ	EDGAR CASTANEDA
LUIS ESTRADA	XÓCHITL MUÑOZ	KRYSTA CISNEROS	RICARDO RAMOS
REYNALDO MORENO	ISAAC TORRES	MERARY PALOMINO	JUAN DAVALOS
JOSE ESPINOZA	ROSALINA TORRES	CARLA SHELTON	JAIR SANCHEZ
BELLA GUTIERREZ	KASADI ROWSER	KASSIDY ZUNIGA	JR. BERRONES
SASHA ALCORTA	JASMINE RODRIGUEZ	MARIELA GARCIA	BRIANNA BERRONES
ISABELLA ESTRADA	ALANNAH AVALOS	GYSELLE GUERRERO	EMELY GARICA
MELISSA MENDEZ	JACKELINE RODRIGUEZ	ALEJANDRO ARNERO	ABBY HERNANDEZ
ALYSSA RIOS	ALINA MORALES	ASHLEIGH BRANHAM	GIA GARCIA
BRITTANY CLARAMUNT	BELLA LEO-SALGADO	CHRISTIN MARIE YORO	MARGERY BENITEZ
LORENA RAMIREZ GARCIA	SAVANNA FELIX	ISABELLA BLANCO	VIANEY SANCHEZ
EMME HOUSE	KARINA GONZALEZ	JARITZA CERDA	

ARTISTIC STAFF

ALCORTA’S COMPANIA DE DANZA FOLKLORICA
Artistic Director: **Samuel Alcorta, Jr.**
Founder/Administrative Director: **Cynthia Mercedes Alcorta**
Assistant Director: **Sasha Mireya Alcorta**

COMPAÑÍA FOLKLÓRICA ALEGRIA MEXICANA
General Director: **Isidro Salas**
Administrative Director: **Eva Santos**



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A LITTLE BIT OF MEXICO



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