

La Santa Cecilia

Thursday, October 5, 2017

7:30 pm



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LA SANTA CECILIA

JOSE “PEPE” CARLOS
ACCORDIONIST AND REQUINTO PLAYER

ALEX BENDAÑA
BASSIST

MIGUEL “OSO” RAMIREZ
PERCUSSIONIST

LA MARISOUL
VOCALIST

Supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.



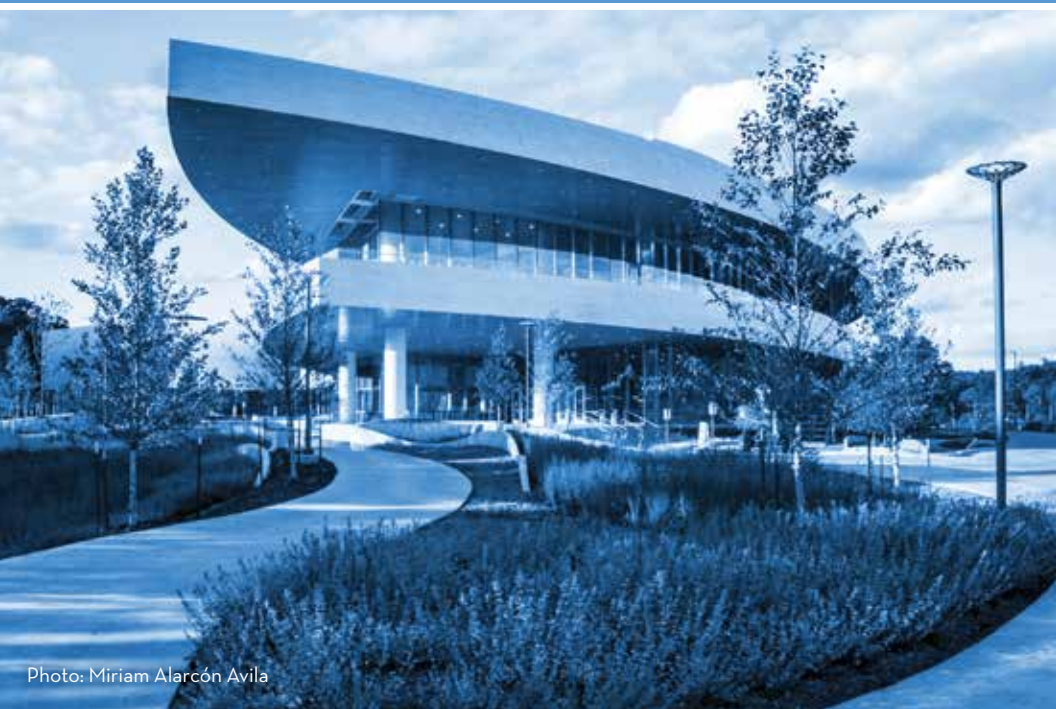


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ABOUT THE ARTISTS

La Santa Cecilia started their career by serenading passersby on Los Angeles' historic Olvera Street. La Santa Cecilia is a musical phenomenon that defies musical and cultural boundaries. Named after the patron saint of music, La Santa Cecilia is composed of accordionist and requinto player Jose 'Pepe' Carlos, bassist Alex Bendaña, percussionist Miguel 'Oso' Ramirez, and vocalist 'La Marisoul'.

With a captivating voice that sings about love, loss, and every day struggles, the band has become the voice of a new bicultural generation in the United States, fully immersed in modern music, but still close to their Latin American influences and Mexican heritage.

They have won a Grammy; toured from coast to coast; collaborated with legends including Elvis Costello, Bunbury, Fito Paez; appeared on *Conan*; and most recently shared the stage with Led Zeppelin's John Paul Jones and Pepe Aguilar. Their 2017 performances included a show at the Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles with Café Tacvba and Mon Laferte.

La Santa Cecilia burst into the scene in 2011 with the release of their debut album, *Noche y Citas*. This album gave them their first nomination at the Latin Grammy Awards for the single *La Negra*. It was also with this release that they first voiced their sympathy and support for various human rights movements, and have since used their music to openly support these causes.

They followed that album with the eclectic *El Valor* in 2012, which was named one of the best albums of the year by NPR's Alt Latino.

This was followed by their major label debut *Treinta Días*. The album was recorded in 2013 and showed the band moving in a more sophisticated direction, while holding true to themselves. They combined cumbia, reggae, soul, tango, and their L.A. spice to create an album that went on to win the Grammy for Best Latin Rock Album, Alternative or Urban in 2014.

The album featured the anthem "ICE (El Hielo)," which brought to light the struggle of undocumented immigrants in the US. The compelling video for the song humanized the controversial topic of immigration. It received accolades from major media outlets around the country, and was nominated for Video Of The Year at Premios Lo Nuestro.

In 2014, La Santa Cecilia followed the award-winning *Treinta Dias* with the EP *Someday New*, which included their unique version of "Strawberry Fields Forever." They presented the video for the song at the LULAC (League of United Latin American Citizens) luncheon in New York, accompanied by none other than former First Lady Michelle Obama. La Marisoul had the honor of singing the national anthem to the over 1,500 Latino leaders in attendance. Later that summer, the band played the sold out Reventón festival for over 20,000 people. On March 27th of that same year, the band opened the legendary Vive Latino festival.

La Santa Cecilia's music then hit the big screen. They recorded the song "Tu Vida Es Un Escenario" for the award-winning film *Cantinflas*, and collaborated with two-time Grammy winner Gustavo Santaolalla on "The Apology Song" for the animated hit film *The Book of Life*, directed by Mexican director Guillermo del Toro.



Photo: © Humberto Howard

The band's songs have also appeared in popular TV shows like *Weeds*, *Entourage*, and *The Bridge*.

La Marisoul was also featured as a guest performer on Pepe Aguilar's MTV *Unplugged*, which turned out to be the first *Unplugged* by a Ranchero artist. Pepe Aguilar later invited La Santa Cecilia on stage at the National Auditorium in Mexico. She was also invited to sing with The Roots and Elvis Costello on their highly acclaimed album *Wise Up Ghost*.

In 2015, the band released the song "I Won't Cry For You," produced by 17-time Grammy award-winner Sebastian Krys. The song is a fusion of traditional swing and norteño, continuing LSC's long tradition of genre-bending music.

"Calaverita" was released that fall. The song is a tribute to the great Mexican tradition of the "Day of the Dead" - in celebration and of those we've lost.

The band ended the year with a momentous appearance on *Late Night with Conan O' Brien*, where they played the new single "I Won't Cry For You." In January of 2016, the band played Peter Buck's "Todos Santos Festival" in Baja California, only to be joined on stage by none other than Led Zeppelin's own John Paul Jones on electric mandolin for a special rendition of "La Morena."

Buenaventura was released February 26, 2016 and is an album in which La Santa Cecilia express their gratitude for making music, traveling and performing throughout the world, and living a life filled with love and music. The album was nominated for a Latin Grammy in the Best Pop/Rock Album category, and was nominated for a Grammy in the "Best Latin Urban, Rock or Alternative" category. The album includes the rousing anti-violence anthem "Nunca Mas" which was performed at the 2016 Latin American Music Awards and Hispanic Heritage Awards.

In January of 2017, the band again broke new ground by recording a unique visual album of traditional Mexican and Latin American music titled *Amar y Vivir*. The 12 song set was recorded entirely live in five days in the streets, bars, and parks of Mexico City. The visual album is an exploration of the band's roots and counts with the collaboration of the iconic Mexican singer Eugenia Leon, Chilean star Mon Laferte, and the legendary Mariachi America, among others.

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MEET MADDIE

One of Hancher's 197 student employees

Basic Information:

Madison Bolokowicz. Freshman from Orange County, California. Studio Art and Psychology double major.

What is your position at Hancher?

Usher.

How long have you worked at Hancher?

Almost a month.

What is your favorite part about Hancher?

I love anything musical and artistic, so working at Hancher is super enjoyable for me. I've played violin since 3rd grade, so I like being surrounded by other musicians. I think it's interesting to be working on the opposite side and doing more of the "behind the scenes" work that goes into performances. My favorite part about working at Hancher has to be having the opportunity to work and hear music and see shows at the same time. Also, seeing how excited patrons get about the performances is really cool.

Do you have any favorite Hancher show you've worked or attended?

I really enjoyed working at the Jazz at Lincoln Center performance.

Do you have a favorite spot in Iowa City?

My favorite spot is the pond behind Art Building West. I always sketch and study back there. Especially with fall coming, it's really peaceful.

Do you have any favorite TV shows, movies, bands, or books?

One of my favorite bands is Sleeping at Last because they have beautiful instrumentals in all of their songs. I also really enjoy *American Horror Story* and any Disney movie.

Do you have any favorite classes you've taken at the University of Iowa?

My favorite has to be Design Fundamentals because I've taken drawing classes for 13 years and it's interesting to learn a computer-based art form instead.

What are your eventual career goals? How does working at Hancher help you achieve those goals?

I want to be an art or music therapist and work with children in psychiatric hospitals. Hancher helps me achieve these goals because I can work on customer service skills and learn more about music and the industry.



EMBRACING COMPLEXITY

Join us as Hancher explores and celebrates Islamic art and Muslim artists

Hancher has been awarded a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals (APAP) for the Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity program. APAP sought projects designed to build knowledge and appreciation for arts and culture with roots in Muslim-majority societies.

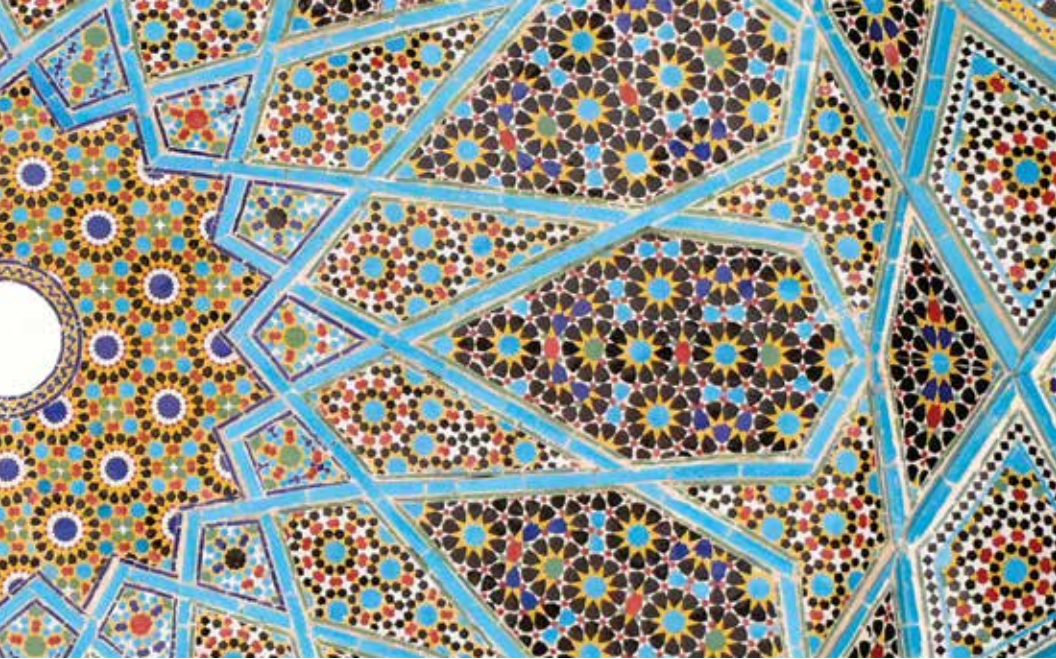
Hancher's project, *Embracing Complexity*, will take a multidisciplinary and collaborative approach to building understanding of contemporary Islamic cultures and Muslim identity. Artists will be in residence at various times over the course of two years and will work with partners both on and off the University of Iowa campus on a broad range of activities including performances, classes, exhibits, discussions, and lectures. The project will also document and explore the experiences of Muslims in Eastern Iowa through sharing of local stories and oral histories. *Embracing Complexity* is in keeping with the University of Iowa's commitment to diversity.

Our goal is to build textured knowledge of Islamic cultures, while creating a greater sense of empathy for the experiences of peoples of diverse racial, ethnic, and religious backgrounds. We believe this is an urgent program at this moment.

This project is made possible in part by a grant from the Association of Performing Arts Professionals - Building Bridges: Arts, Culture, and Identity, a component of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and Doris Duke Foundation for Islamic Art.



Image: Iranian glazed ceramic tile work, from the ceiling of the Tomb of Hafez in Shiraz, Iran. Province of Fars. (Credit: Pentocelo)



Niyaz, *The Fourth Light Project*



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