FLACO JIMENEZ

"Ay Te Dejo En San Antonio"

Over 60 Minutes of Classic Tex-Mex



- Ay Te Dejo En San Antonio (Santiago Jimenez – Tradition Music Co. BMI) Ranchera
- 2. Juárez Danzón
- 3. Mentiste Cuando Dijiste Ranchera
- 4. El Barrelito Polka
- 5. Las Gaviotas Canción
- 6. Morir Soñando Vals
- Rosa María (Prisciliano Varela Garcia) Cumbia
- 8. Traigo Un Recuerdo (Santiago Jimenez) Polka
- 9. Amor De Los Dos Vals-Ranchera
- 10. La Barranca Polka
- 11. Mujer Casada Ranchera
- 12. La Paloma Canción
- 13. El Cerrito (Leonardo Jimenez Tradition Music Co. BMI) Redova
- 14. Ni El Dinero Ni Nada Ranchera
- 15. Angel Mío Vals-Ranchera
- 16. Gritenme Piedras Del Campo
 Ranchera
- 17. Un Viejo Amor Bolero
- 18. Tu Nuevo Cariñito Ranchero
- 19. El Gallito Huapango
- 20. La Piedrera Polka
- 21. Spanish Eyes
- 22. Vuelve A Quererme Ranchera Total time: 64:18

All selections previously released on Arhoolie LPs 3014 & 3021.

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Selections #1-10, 17 & 18, recorded May 21 & 22, 1985 at Toby's Recording Studio in San Antonio, TX, except #8 which was recorded by Chris Strachwitz on portable equipment at a dance at Pancho's Palace in Dilley, TX on May 18, 1985.
Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez – accordion

Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez – accordior & vocals

Toby Torres – bajo sexto & vocals Henry "Big Red" Ojeda – bass Issac Garcia – drums Eduardo Garcia – bajo sexto (& vocal on ROSA MARIA)

Selection #11-16, recorded at ZAZ Studio in San Antonio, TX in 1979. Flaco Jimenez – accordion & vocals

Hugo Gonzalez – bajo sexto & vocals Fred Oieda – vocals

Issac Garcia – drums Ruben Valle – bass Joey Lopez – bajo sexto

Selections #19-22, recorded at ZAZ Studio in San Antonio, TX in 1979. Flaco Jimenez – accordion & vocals Oscar Tellez – bajo sexto

Juan "Eddie Hurricane" Bosquez – drums Francisco Salazar – bass

Produced by Chris Strachwitz Cover by Wayne Pope Cover photo courtesy Austin City Limits





Flaco Jimenez

Flaco Jimenez is finally making home grown Texas "conjunto music" reach the ears, souls, and dancing feet of fans around the globe as well as in his home state of Texas. Conjunto music means duet singing with accordion, bajo sexto (a heavy 12 string guitar), bass, and drums. Mexicans have called it "Música Norteña" (music from the North), Anglos refer to it as "Tex-Mex," but most people in South Texas know it as "Conjunto" or more generally as "Tejano" music. Whatever the label, this is country music with an accordion lead, soulful lyrics employing a variety of very danceable rhythms.

Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez was raised with this music and has been playing dances since the early 1950s when he became a member of the conjunto LOS CAMINANTES and made his first recordings for the Rio label. Born into a musical family in San Antonio on March 22, 1939, Leonardo learned from his father Santiago Jimenez, who was the first conjunto accordionist from San Antonio to make recordings in 1937. Young Flaco soon developed a much faster and flashier style which is evident on his very first records. By the mid-1950s Flaco had formed his own conjunto and soon had his first local hit with the polka "Hasta La Vista." A steady stream of records followed for various labels like Corona, D.L.B., Norteño, and Joey and every weekend the conjunto was booked to play dances somewhere in Texas.

In 1972 Flaco Jimenez became one of the first conjunto musicians to record with an Anglo rock band when he made an album with Doug Sahm for Atlantic. In 1974 I teamed up with film maker Les Blank

to produce the award-winning documentary of Texas-Mexican border music, CHULAS FRONTERAS, in which Flaco makes a spectacular appearance along with his father, younger brother Santiago Jimenez, Jr., and Flaco's son David, who was only nine years old at the time! This film was aired on national TV in England, Sweden, Germany, and later over PBS in the US. Singer/guitarist Ry Cooder met Flaco during the filming and eventually asked him to tour the US and Europe. They also recorded together and in 1977 were seen on NBC TV's "Saturday Night Live" as well as on several installments of PBS's "Austin City Limits." In 1981 Ry was hired as musical director for the film "The Border" and got Flaco, along with Freddie Fender, to record the soundtrack.

Country/Bluegrass singer Peter Rowan met Flaco while playing a job in San Antonio. They also enjoyed each other's music and Flaco joined the Rowan band on several tours both in the US and Europe. They recorded together in 1978 for a Flying Fish LP which included Rowan's delightful "Free Mexican Air Force" with Flaco wailing on the accordion over a rolling conjunto beat backing Rowan's humorous lyrics. The song became quite a hit, especially in California, and is still one of my favorite collaborations between Rowan and the Texas accordion king! A new recording of "Free Mexican Air Force" can be heard on Flaco's Arhoolie CD/C 3027 "Flaco's Amigos," which also features Ry Cooder and Fred Ojeda, one of the best duet singers Flaco has ever worked with.

Flaco Jimenez has recently enjoyed playing as a sideman or partner in a variety of musical settings. In 1990 he is making quite a hit with the Texas Tornados. On these Arhoolie recordings however, Flaco and I

wanted to present him in the pure conjunto framework since his soul and inner spirit is first and foremost bound to the songs and sounds of the conjunto. The heartfelt love songs and the powerful beat and drive of the polkas and waltzes are the foundation of the rancheras. Flaco's heritage is rich and varied and this recording presents some of the best of his authentic strains.

The spirit of Flaco's late father Santiago Jimenez is especially noticeable in several of his compositions including the title selection AY TE DEJO EN SAN ANTONIO (I'm Going to Leave You in San Antonio) which was first recorded by Santiago Jimenez with Flaco playing bajo sexto on their Arhoolie LP/C 3013. Los Lobos, a young Chicano new wave rock band from Los Angeles with deep roots in Mexican regional music, heard this song and included it on their first album: "And A Time To Dance." Thanks to Los Lobos' rapid rise to popularity, their performance of AY TE DEJO was included in two films: Columbia Pictures' "Sylvester," and Warner Brothers' "Fandango."

The nice bolero UN VIEJO AMOR has Toby Torres taking the lead vocal and his joining Flaco on this record is a reunion of sorts for both of them. Toby started in music professionally in 1957 and hired Flaco as an accordionist to join his conjunto about 1958. They worked at the East Side Club for many years. In 1968 Toby Torres quit playing dances and started ZaZ studios with Joey Lopez. They went broke but since then Joey Lopez has built his Joey label, the studio, and pressing plant into a major enterprise. In 1972 Toby joined Flaco's conjunto as second voice and bajo player and a few years later they had a local hit with CLAVELITO. Today Toby is no longer a regular member of Flaco's conjunto but has a successful conjunto of his own still playing dances most

weekends and running the studio where many of the selections on this CD/C were recorded.

The second part of this album contains most of the selections from Flaco's earlier Arhoolie record, "El Sonido de San Antonio." There is fine duet singing by Fred Ojeda and Flaco on "Mujer Casada" and the bluesy solo voice on "Ni El Dinero Ni Nada" and "Gritenme Piedras Del Campo" is that of Hugo Gonzalez, who for many years led his own conjunto and has been one of my favorite singers in San Antonio. (Chris Strachwitz)

1. AY TE DEJO EN SAN ANTONIO

Ya no quiero que me beses ni besarte ni mirarte ni siquiera oír tu voz, porque supe que tenías otro amante, y en Laredo ya tenías otros dos.

(coro)

Te gusta mucho el baile, y bailas al compás. Te vas hasta Laredo y quieres más y más.

Soy ranchero, jugador y navegante, ya me voy para nunca más volver. Me dejastes sin dinero y sin rolante, por el mundo te me echastes a correr.

1. I'M LEAVING YOU HERE IN SAN ANTONIO

I don't even want to kiss you or for you to kiss me, or to look at you or even hear your voice, because I found out that you have another lover, and in Laredo you already had two others. (Chorus) You like to dance very much, and you dance right to the beat. You'll go all the way to Laredo and still want more and more.

I'm a rancher, a gambler and a rambler, and now I'm leaving and never coming back.

You left me without money and without a car, you've taken to running 'round the world on me.

Coro:

Ya me voy, ay te dejo en San Antonio, Tu mañita no te la puedo quitar. Hay momentos que pareces el demonio cuando mueves la cintura pa' bailar. Coro:

11. MUJER CASADA

Por una muier casada dicen que vo he de morir; mentiras, no me hacen nada si ella me quiere seguir. Porque la quise y la quiero y no la puedo olvidar, su marido anda diciendo que a traición me ha de matar. Para quitarle el intento vo me la vov a llevar a pasar la temporada, luego se la vuelvo a traer. Vente prieta consentida recelos no tengas va, si vo he de perder la vida dispuesto Dios lo tendrá.

14. NI EL DINERO NI NADA

Porque soy como soy sin razón me desprecias; porque vivo entre gente que dices que no es de tu altura. Chorus:

Now I'm going, I'm leaving you here in San Antonio.

I can't take away your cheating ways, there's times you look just like the Devil when you move your little waist to dance.

Chorus:

11. MARRIED WOMAN

They say that a married woman Will be the cause of my death; It's all talk, they won't do anything If she runs away with me.

Because I've loved her
And can't get her off my mind,
Her husband goes around saying
He'll kill me from behind.
So that he won't think about it
I'll take her away with me;
We'll spend some time together
Then I'll bring her back to him.
Come, dark woman, my only one,
And don't be afraid;
If I'm going to lose my life
It must be God's will.

NOT MONEY OR ANYTHING

Because of who I am You are rejecting me unfairly; Because I live among people You consider below your class. No me dejas cantar en tus rejas como otros te cantan; ni me dejas gritar que te quiero con honda ternura.

Porque soy como soy se me va tu cariño; porque no hice dinero en el mundo me estás derrotando.

Yo no tengo derecho de nada por ser vagamundo; pero sé que en el fondo de tu alma me estás adorando.

Yo no puedo pensar que tu amor se me acabe; ni el dinero, ni nada, ni nadie podrá separarnos.

Hay recuerdos que nunca se borran y así son los nuestros; pa' tener que olvidar tantas cosas tendrían que matarme.

Si de veras te vas me lo dices de frente, y si piensas mandar una carta mejor ni la escribas.

Este adiós, corazón, te lo explico mirando tu cara; y si ya no hay amor en tus ojos me voy de tu vida. You don't let me sing at your window like the others do; You don't let me display that I love you With great tenderness.

Because of who I am
I'm losing your love;
Because I haven't made a

Because I haven't made a fortune in this world

I'm being defeated.

I can't hope to have anything Cause I'm just a nobody; But I know that deep down in your heart Your love is all mine.

I can't imagine
That your love for me will end;
There isn't any money, or anything,
or anyone that can split us apart.
Some things can never be forgotten
Like the memory of our love;
To erase those things from my mind
They'd have to kill me.
If you really are leaving
Say it in front of me;
If you thought of sending a letter
Don't even bother writing it.

I'll say this good-bye, my dear,

And if there's no love in your eyes

Looking you in the face

I'll be gone from your life.

14. ANGEL MIO

Te vas, angel mío, ya vas a partir; dejando a mi alma herida y un corazón a sufrir.

Te vas y me dejas un inmenso dolor; recuerdo inolvidable me ha quedado de tu amor.

Pero ahí cuando vuelvas no me hallarás aquí; irás a mi tumba y allí rezarás por mí.

Verás unas letras escritas allí, con el nombre y la fecha y el día en que fallecí.

16. GRITENME PIEDRAS DEL CAMPO

Soy como el viento que corre alrededor de este mundo; ando entre muchos placeres, ando entre muchos placeres, pero de tuyo [sic] ninguno. Soy como el pájaro en jaula preso y unido en tu amor; aunque la jaula sea de oro, aunque la jaula sea de oro, no deja de ser prisión.

14. MY ANGEL

You are leaving me, angel of love, You are about to go; You're leaving behind my wounded soul And an aching heart.

You are leaving and I'm left With a great hurt; All I have is the memory Of your love.

If you come back You won't find me here; You'll go to my tombstone And there you'll pray for me.

There you'll see an inscription With a name and the date Of the day when I died.

16. ROCKS OF THE FIELD

I'm like the wind Blowing all over the world; Finding all kinds of pleasures, Finding all kinds of pleasures, And no enjoyment at all.

I'm like a bird in a cage, Prisoner and chained to your love; Even if it were a golden cage, Even if it were a golden cage, It would still be a prison. Háblenme montes v valles gritenme piedras del campo; como [sic] había visto en la vida querer como estov queriendo, llorar como estoy llorando, Morir como estov muriendo. A veces me siento un sol v el mundo me importa nada: luego despierto y me río, luego despierto y me río, sov mucho menos que nada. En fin, sov en este mundo como la pluma en el aire, sin rumbo voy por la vida, sin rumbo voy por la vida, v de eso tú eres culpable. Háblenme montes etc.

18. TU NUEVO CARIÑITO

Deja libre mi camino sigue tú por tu sendero, mi destino es la pobreza tu ambición es el dinero, búscate otro cariñito porque yo ya no te quiero. Pensabas amejorarte con los amores de un rico; qué feliz te la pasaste con tu nuevo cariñito! pero luego lo dejaste porque no era de tu tipo.

Mountains and valleys, speak to me, Rocks of the fields, shout at me! Was it ever possible To love the way I'm loving, To cry the way I'm crying, To die the way I'm dying. Sometimes I feel like a sun And could care less about the world: Then I wake up and I laugh, Then I wake up and I laugh, I am little less than nothing. And so, in this world I'm like a feather in the air: Wandering aimlessly through life, Wandering aimlessly through life, And you are to blame for this. Mountains and valleys etc.

18. YOUR NEW SWEETHEART

Leave me free to go my way,
You take your own little path;
I will always be poor
And your ambition is money;
Go find yourself another sweetheart
'Cause I don't love you anymore.
You thought the love of a rich man
Would bring you a better life;
What a good time you had
With your new sweetheart!
And then you got rid of him
'Cause he just wasn't your type.

Vienes a que te perdone vienes con tus imprudencias; no se me olvida tu nombre, no se me olvida tu ausencia; yo soy pobre, no soy rico, pero si soy de vergenza.

22. VUELVE A QUERERME

Vuelve a quererme como antes me querías, vuelve a adorarme mujercita consentida, vuelve a besarme como antes me besabas, vuelve conmigo pedazo de mi vida.

Aquí en labios tu nombre está grabado porque tú eres mi cariño y mi ilusión; vuelve conmigo, no me hagas desdichado, dale un consuelo a mi pobre corazón.

Sin tu cariño no soy nada en éste mundo.

Sin tu cariño no soy nada en éste mundo, sin tu cariño no soy nada en esta vida; dale un consuelo a este pobre moribundo, dale un consuelo, mujercita consentida. Now you come asking my forgiveness, You sure have a lot of nerve; I haven't forgotten who you are, I haven't forgotten how you left; I'm a poor man, not a rich man, I'm a man of self-respect.

22. LOVE ME AGAIN

Love me the way you used to love me Love me again, woman of my life; Kiss me the way you used to kiss me, Come back to me, piece of my heart.

Your name is engraved on my lips Because you are my love and hope, Come back to me, don't make me unhappy, Have compassion for my poor soul.

Without your love, I'm nothing in this world,

Without your love, I'm nothing in this life Have compassion for this lovesick man, Give him some hope, woman of my life.

(Oh, honey.) Repeat

Songs transcribed and translated by Guillermo Hernández and Yolanda Zepeda, except for (1) by Jaime Nicolopulos.

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"Ay Te Dejo En San Antonio"

(I'm Going to Leave You in San Antonio)



Over 60 Minutes of Classic TEJANO MUSIC

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- 2. Juárez (Danzón)
- 3. Mentiste Cuando Dijiste (Ranchera)
- 4. El Barrelito (Polka)
- 5. Las Gaviotas (Cancion)
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Total time: 64:18

his is Flaco limenez's GRAMMY winning record with the addition of selections from the album "El Sonido De San Antonio." It includes the whole rich spectrum of Mexican-American dance music played by one of it's most famous performers. From Polkas to Redovas, Rancheras to Cumbias, Boleros to Huapangos, they are all here accompanied by Flaco's remarkable accordion artistry and authentic vocal duets. This is Flaco limenez at his best, the way he has played at dances for his south Texas audiences for almost 40 years.

Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez - vocals and accordion and his conjunto

Cover photo: Austin City Limits

Cover by Wayne Pope

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