

## DANCE OF CHIAPANCA

### 9. Las Chiapaneca

One of the most popular Mexican dances is presented here.

### FIESTA IN JALISCO

Jalisco is perhaps the best known area of Mexico because of the mariachi music, the tequila and the famous Jarabe Tapatio (Hat Dance). In the mariachi orchestra guitars of varying sizes are used, the largest being the guitar-rón. This group of dances typifies the joy so characteristic of the State of Jalisco.

### 10. Las Alazanas

The group of dancers with the Mariachi ensemble.

### 11. The popular La Cucaracha and La Madrugada (Danza de los Machetes) in which men fight for the woman using big knives.

### 12. Palabra de Hombre

Vocal solo: Raul Hernandez.

### 13. Grand Finale

The entire Company dances El Jarabe de Jalisco. The national costumes of Mexico are used here: the China Poblana and the Charro.

Recorded in the CBS Studios, Mexico City, under the personal supervision of Rose N. Rubin



THE MARIACHI ORCHESTRA WITH VOCALIST RAUL HERNANDEZ

## JAVIER DE LEÓN'S "FIESTA MEXICANA"

*Starring*

PRINCESS TEO XOCHITL

*Dancers*

MARIO DOMINGUEZ • SALVADOR HERNANDEZ

MARISSA FUENTES • MELANIA

ENCARNACIÓN MARTINEZ

*and*

Maria Ortiz José Sevilla

Maria Luisa Ortiz Miguel Velez

Cristina Lopez Ricardo Gonzalez

Ysabel Ramirez Javier Millan

*Singer*

RAUL HERNANDEZ

*Floreador*

CHARRO VALENTINO

Mario Salguero José Rodriguez Lino Segura

Carlos Vazquez *and the* Aztec Rhythms

*Marimbas Rio Blanco Singers*

THE MARIACHI ORCHESTRA

*Soloists*

Juan Mata, Trino Vargas, and Hector Vargas

MONITOR PRESENTS JAVIER DE LEÓN'S

# FIESTA MEXICANA

A PANORAMA OF MEXICO, OLD & NEW



A MONITOR INTERNATIONAL COMPACT DISC

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MUSIC OF THE WORLD

MCD 61472

STEREO

MONITOR PRESENTS  
JAVIER DE LÉON'S  
**FIESTA  
MEXICANA**

*A PANORAMA OF MEXICO, OLD AND NEW*

Few countries of the world can match Mexico in the diversity and richness of its history and culture. Millions of tourists have sampled and savored some of Mexico's unique cultural contributions during vacation visits "south of the border." The widespread location and enormous variety of the museums and monuments, pyramids and paintings, customs and costumes, however, makes it unlikely that any visitor could gain more than a superficial understanding of all that is Mexico.

Therefore, it is especially significant and exciting that American audiences will have a chance to see and hear Javier de León's *FIESTA MEXICANA* as presented by Columbia Artists Management. On the stage and on this recording the broad sweep of Mexican history as depicted in music and dance is brought together in a convenient manner for enjoyment and edification. The results of painstaking research, arduous training and a high degree of professional skill all combine to regale the senses and impart a feeling of the vibrancy that is Mexico, past and present.

Mexican history may be roughly divided into two periods, before and after the arrival of the Spaniards. Pre-Hispanic Mexico was characterized by highly developed civilizations among which the Aztec and Mayan are the best known. With advanced social and political systems, these ancient civilizations reached a high degree of sophistication. *FIESTA MEXICANA* recreates some of the authentic music (using original instruments) and dance of the pre-Columbian period. Unusual flutes, wooden drums and shell horns are heard in the music of this period.

The widespread influence of Spain, and later France, on Mexican culture, resulted in new forms and styles of music and dance. But, while the new influences were European, they were locally blended and adapted until recognizable hybrid Mexican forms emerged. In the State of Jalisco, for example, the Mariachi ensemble came into being. This musical formation, consisting of violins, guitars and trumpets, received its name from the French word "mariage" meaning wedding because of the custom during the French period of having local bands play at weddings. The Mariachi sound, very well represented by the *FIESTA MEXICANA* group, has recently become the base for the currently popular sound of the Tia Juana Brass of Herb Alpert.

Perhaps the most beautiful and evocative Mexican musical sound is that of the marimba of the Tehuantepec Isthmus of Oaxaca State. This instrument is made of hard wood and has a sound similar to a xylophone. The marimba players of *FIESTA*

*MEXICANA* are fine exponents of this lovely instrument which is used in the Oaxaca Wedding Ceremony.

Here is a chance to take a trip to Mexico without leaving your living room. It will be a trip into the Aztec and Mayan past and into the country areas of the present day. As you listen to the sounds of our neighbors to the south, let your mind transport you to the colorful locales and let your mind's eye see the swirling skirts and stamping feet of a nation rich in tradition, proud of its achievements and confident of bright tomorrows.

*Notes by* JOHN M. REED

### SONGS & DANCES OF VERACRUZ

1. **Song of the Pollitos**  
The Rio Blanco Singers play the original instruments of Veracruz: the harp, the jarana (a small guitar), the requinto (a four-string guitar) and a regular Spanish guitar.
2. **La Cumbamba**  
Throughout this recording the listener may hear the actual sounds of the dancers, particularly the heel work, and in this selection the Company performs one of the most popular Veracruz dances.
3. **Song of "El Pajaro Carpintero"**  
The solo heel work in this selection is by Encarnación Martínez.

### DANCES FROM THE OAXACA & TEHUANTEPEC REGIONS

4. **The Wedding Ceremony**  
The bride and groom are accompanied with Mixteco songs and Jarabes from Oaxaca. During the ceremony it is the custom to throw flowers and to count them, indicating a long and happy life for the couple. We hear the authentic Oaxaca

music played by the marimbas of Mario Salguero and Carlos Vazquez.

5. **The Feather Dance**  
The dancers come to the Fiesta to offer the famous Oaxaca dance to the newlyweds.

### MUSIC FROM PUEBLA

6. **Serenata Mexicana**  
A scene of old Mexico with the beautiful Talavera costumes of Puebla. A special arrangement of the most popular Mexican songs where the musicians of Fiesta Mexicana join with the dancers and the singer to produce a romantic mood. The medley includes the "Danza de las Espuelas" (Spurs) and the vocal soloist is Raul Hernandez.

### DANCES FROM THE MAYANS & THE AZTECS

7. a) **Moctezuma**, the Aztec King, greets the Mayans in the Teocalli, the great temple. We hear the exotic music of the Aztecs; the musicians play the teponaxtli (instrument made of a carved tree), the huehuetl (the big drum made from a complete tortoise shell which used to give the call to war), the horn shells and the tiaipitzalli (a high-pitched bamboo flute), and the tzicahuatzli, a wooden rasp.  
b) **Dance of the Xtol**: the Mayans entreat their mighty chieftan in their oldest ritual dance. The dancers keep the rhythms of the dance holding tecomates on their hands - a big seed from a tree.
8. a) **Dance to the God of Music**  
Rite and ceremony were essential parts of the lives of the Mayans. They maintained special schools to train singers and dancers to learn the ceremonies of the Gods.  
b) **Finale**  
The entertainment for Moctezuma is finished. The King leaves.

Monitor Presents  
**JAVIER de LEON'S**

# **FIESTA MEXICANA**

## **A PANORAMA OF MEXICO, OLD AND NEW!**

### **SONGS AND DANCES OF VERACRUZ**

1. SONG OF THE POLLITOS 2:25
2. LA CUMBAMBA 1:10
3. SONG OF "EL PAJARO CARPINTERO" 1:46

### **DANCES FROM THE OAXACA & TEHUANTEPEC REGIONS**

4. THE WEDDING CEREMONY 7:15
5. THE FEATHER DANCE 1:50

### **MUSIC FROM PUEBLA**

6. SERENATA MEXICANA 6:45

### **DANCES FROM THE MAYANS & THE AZTECS**

7. A. MOCTEZUMA 3:32
- B. DANCE OF THE XTOL
8. A. DANCE TO THE GOD OF MUSIC 4:10
- B. FINALE

### **DANCE OF CHIAPAS**

9. LAS CHIAPANECAS 2:55

### **FIESTA IN JALISCO**

10. LAS ALAZANAS 1:35
11. LA CUCARACHA & LA MADRUGADA 3:40
12. PALABRA DE HOMBRE 2:12
13. GRAND FINALE 3:15

TOTAL PLAYING TIME: 43:38



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**SONGS & DANCES OF VERACRUZ**

1. SONG OF THE POLLITOS
  2. LA CUMBAMBA
  3. SONG OF "EL PAJARO CARPINTERO"
- DANCES FROM OAXACA & TEHUANTEPEC**
4. THE WEDDING CEREMONY
  5. THE FEATHER DANCE
- MUSIC FROM PUEBLA**
6. SERENATA MEXICANA

MONITOR PRESENTS  
Javier de León's  
**FIESTA  
MEXICANA**

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**DANCES FROM THE MAYANS & THE AZTECS**

7. A. MOCTEZUMA    B. DANCE OF THE XTOL
  8. A. DANCE TO THE GOD OF MUSIC    B. FINALE
- DANCE OF CHIAPAS**    9. LAS CHIAPANECAS
- FIESTA IN JALISCO**    10. LAS ALAZANAS
11. LA CUCARACHA & LA MADRUGADA
  12. PALABRA DE HOMBRE
  13. GRAND FINALE

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