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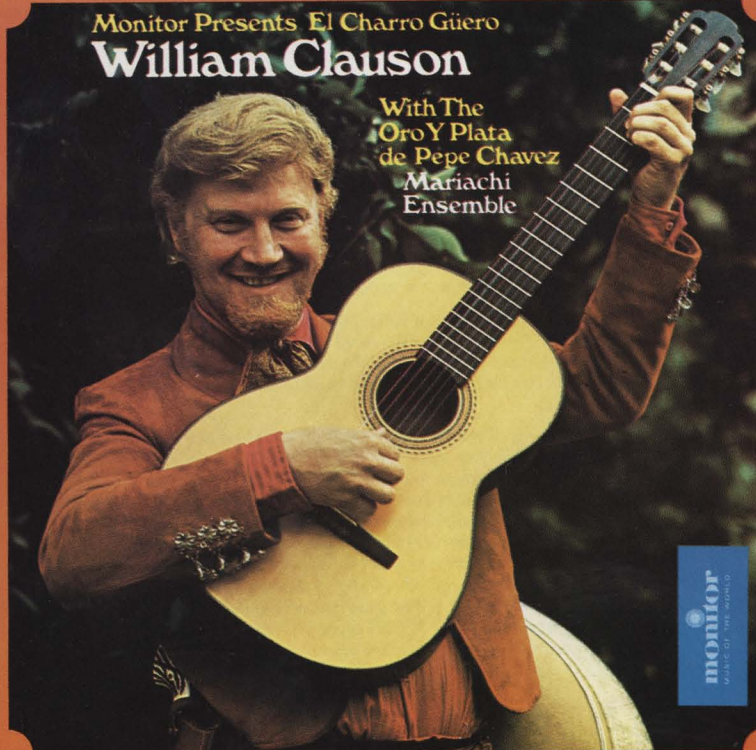
THE MARIACHI SOUND

MCD 71745 ^{NBS}
Mexican Songs

Monitor Presents El Charro Güero

William Clauson

With The
Oro Y Plata
de Pepe Chavez
Mariachi
Ensemble



A MONITOR INTERNATIONAL COMPACT DISC

The Mariachi Sound

The Mariachi Sound is sometimes imitated nowadays, but never duplicated. The evolution of the Mexican Mariachi from a couple of violins, a large five string bass guitar "guitarron," sometimes a clarinet thrown in, and the ever present trumpet alternating with the singer, to the polished Mariachi sound of today, is an interesting part of Mexico's history of music.

Mexico's colorful music is dominated by the Mexican-Indian influence which is most evident in the rhythms of the Mariachi, in *huapangos* and *sones*. It is a well known fact that the Indian adapted many a Spanish melody but the addition of native rhythm resulted in a completely different kind of music. In other parts of Latin-America, African rhythms provided the major influence, merging with the Spanish, resulting in *rumbas* and *sambas*.

At one time the Mariachi was a hastily thrown together group of poorly trained but enthusiastic music-loving locals who would travel from the State of Jalisco, where they originated, to play in a plaza, or at a wedding, a cafe, a dance-hall, or to simply serenade someone's girlfriend. They would customarily be received on all occasions with bravos as well as sufficient pesos. It was from groups of this kind that the living folk music of today evolved.

A typical Mariachi of today always includes a violin section of not less than four, a rhythm section of guitars (including a "vihuela"—a small guitar—and the original bass guitar, the "guitarron") and a couple of trumpets. The ideal number in a Mariachi group is ten but even today related instruments such as a pair of flutes (the clay flute was used in pre-Hispanic Mexico) and the harp are used for the desired sound.

The "Oro Y Plata de Pepe Chavez Mariachi Ensemble," whom I had the pleasure of entertaining at my restaurant, El Sombrero, while they were on their European tour in 1969, with the fabulous Maria de Lourdes, represent the essence of the polished Mariachi as they accompany me in such exciting favorites as the moving and sensitive *Cu-Cu-Rru-Cu-Cu-Paloma*, and the hauntingly romantic *Malagueña Salerosa*. The other songs included are not as well known internationally but represent a cross section of the type of music the Mariachi plays. There are "Boleros Rancheros—*Escondeme* by Felipe "El Indio" Jimenez and *Lo De Siempre* and *No Te Arrepientas* by Antonio de Marco. There are songs, with an added accordion and rhythm effects, typical of northern Mexico—*Sabes Que?*; an embittered paraphrase of the "cantina" *El Porrazo*; gay and spirited songs of love and life, *Viva La Vida!* and *Viva Mi Compañera!*, and a ballad typical of the revolutionary period—*Gabino Barrera*. All in all, this is an album displaying a variety of musical moods and the uninhibited authentic sound of the MARIACHI.

WILLIAM CLAUSON

1. LA MALAGUEÑA Girl from Malaga

Sung in the falsetto style typical of some Mexican songs, this exciting song says "what beautiful eyes you have . . . how I wish they would look at me . . . Even though I am poor I offer you all my love."

2. GABINO BARRERA

Victor Cordero, Mexico's leading composer of contemporary songs in folk idiom, describes the exploits of a revolutionary figure . . . in the corrido (ballad) style of the country.

3. SABES QUE? Do You Know What?

"Well, we're through and I don't love you anymore, ha-ha-ha! It's incredible but true. I couldn't care less, and I will surely find another" . . . A gay hearted ranchera typical of Northern Mexico.

4. ESCONDEME Hide Me

"Embrace me with all of your being, hide me in the depths of your heart." A typical bolero-ranchero.

5. SI! Yes!

"If you wish I will sing for you all that my heart longs to express . . . all you need to do is say yes."

6. NO TE ARREPIENTAS Don't Regret It

"Don't regret loving me as you do. The flower is born to give of its fragrance."

7. VIVA LA VIDA! A Cheer for Life

"A cheer for life . . . a cheer for love . . . and all things that make life worthwhile."

8. CU-CU-RRU-CU-CU-PALOMA The Little Dove

"Little dove, don't cry . . . they say I cannot sleep at night because of my longing for you. Only the stones on my path know how I too cry for my beloved."

9. EL PORRAZO The Knockout

"I cannot continue without your love; why did you leave me? You have destroyed my life and there is no returning."

10. LA CASITA The Little House

"I have almost everything in my little house except the one thing I desire most. Will you share it with me, my love?"

11. VIVA MI COMPAÑERA! Long Live My Love

"Long live my sweetheart, my love . . . I offer you a song of praise, light of my life."

12. LO DE SIEMPRE Always the Same

"Things have not changed and never will. Throughout our life my heart belongs to you . . . always unchanged."

Recording Engineer: Juan Manuel Moreno

Musical Arrangements: Pablo Gama

For complete catalog write: MONITOR RECORDS, 10 Fiske Place, Mt. Vernon, N.Y. 10550

MCD 71745
Mexican Vocals

Monitor Presents El Charro Güero
WILLIAM CLAUSON
with the **ORO Y PLATA de PEPE CHAVEZ**
MARIACHI ENSEMBLE

1. LA MALAGUEÑA (Ramirez Galindo) 3:41
2. GABINO BARRERA (Victor Cordero) 2:38
3. SABES QUE? (Antonio de Marco) 2:28
4. ESCONDEME (Felipe "Indio" Jimenez) 2:30
5. SI! (William Clauson - Luis Navarrete) 2:18
6. NO TE ARREPIENTAS (Antonio de Marco) 2:13
7. VIVA LA VIDA! (Barbosa - Roabastos) 2:52
8. CU CU RRU CU CU PALOMA (Tomas Mendez) 3:28
9. EL PORRAZO (William Clauson - Pepe Villa) 2:14
10. LA CASITA (Felipe Llera) 3:28
11. VIVA MI COMPAÑERA! (Antonio de Marco) 2:09
12. LO DE SIEMPRE (Antonio de Marco) 2:44



THE MARIACHI SOUND: William Clauson

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WILLIAM CLAUSON
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