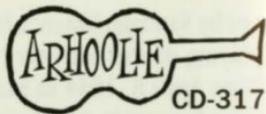


# SANTIAGO JIMENEZ

"El Mero, Mero de San Antonio"  
Over 60 Minutes of Classic Tex-Mex



1. **Ester de Mi Amor** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Polka)(3:05)
2. **Los Barrandales del Puente** (DAR)(Cancion)(4:05)
3. **Pa Que Andas Diciendo** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Ranchera)(3:57)
4. **Chipina** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Vals)(3:21)
5. **Morena, Morenita** (DAR)(Ranchera)(3:04)
6. **California Polka** (DAR)(Polka)(2:50)
7. **Flor del Dalia** (DAR)(Mazurka)(2:07)
8. **Porque Eres Mujer Casada** (DAR)(Ranchera)3:33)
9. **El Alacran** (DAR)(Cumbia)(3:10)
10. **Por Quien Me Dajas** (Cuco Sanchez)(Ranchera)(3:30)
11. **Tejano Huapango** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Huapango)(1:39)
12. **Los Huajolotes** (DAR)(Redova)(2:47)
13. **Cada Vez Que La Tarde** (DAR)(Ranchera)(2:41)
14. **Negra Ausencia** (DAR)(Vals)(2:39)
15. **Rosa de San Antonio** (DAR)(Polka)(2:30)
16. **Mercado El Paso** (DAR)(Chotis)(2:48)
17. **El Tono de Mi Rancho** (DAR)(Huapango)(2:53)

18. **Por Ti Mujer** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Ranchera)(3:22)
19. **Cumbia Nortena** (Santiago Jimenez Jr.)(Cumbia)(2:49)
20. **Autotonilco** (DAR)(Polka)(3:17)
21. **Tienes Que Pagar** (DAR)(Bolero)(2:58)
22. **Viva Seguin** (Santiago Jimenez)(Polka)2:40)

Santiago Jimenez Jr. - accordion and vocals with:  
#1, 6, 9, 12, 16 & 17: Juan Viesca - string bass; recorded at Zaz Studios, San Antonio, Tx. 1988;  
#2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8 & 15: Juan Arocha - vocals; Juan Garcia - bajo sexto; Juan Viesca - string bass; recorded by Chris Strachwitz with Nagra IV-S & 2 Neuman KM 861 mikes in San Antonio, Tx. June 5, 1983;  
#10, 11, 13 & 14: Arocha, Garcia & Viesca - same as last but San Antonio, Tx. April 23, 1981; #18, 19, 20, 21 & 22: Juan Garcia - bajo sexto; Juan Bosquez - drums; Juan Arocha - vocals; Mauricio Balderas - bass; Recorded at ZaZ Studios, San Antonio, Tx. June 2, 1981.

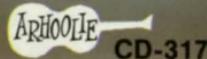
#1, 6, 9, 12, 16 & 17 previously unissued, remaining selections previously on Arhoolie LP/C 3016 & 3020.

All recordings produced by Chris Strachwitz.  
Cover photo by Philip Gould  
Cover art by Elizabeth Weil.

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# SANTIAGO JIMENEZ JR.

## *El Mero Mero de San Antonio*



OVER 60 MINUTES OF CLASSIC TEX-MEX

# Santiago Jimenez Jr.

Santiago Jimenez Jr. plays accordion and sings very much in the tradition of his late father Santiago Jimenez who was a pioneer Tex-Mex, or "Conjunto" musician in San Antonio from the 1930s into the 50s. This music, popular in the Texas-Mexican community since the late 1940s, is South Texas dance music which replaced various regional orchestras and string ensembles at street dances, in bars, ballrooms, and at community functions of all kinds. Santiago Jr. grew up not only in the shadow of his popular and well liked father, but also of his older and now internationally famous brother, Leonardo "Flaco" Jimenez. Still Santiago Jr. was determined to carry on his father's tradition. With his engaging personality and distinctive sound he has become a popular musician and conjunto leader and has devoted his life to the music.

Santiago Jimenez Jr. has traveled to Europe, Canada and appeared at folk festivals and clubs all over the USA. This CD/Cassette features his best vocal and in-

strumental selections recorded for Arhoolie over the past ten years including many infectious lilting polkas, rancheras, cumbias, huapangos, boleros, redovas, and other regional dances.

It's Friday night at Lerma's Night Club on San Antonio's West Side. The large dance floor is crowded with couples dancing counterclockwise around the floor. The music is loud and comes from a set of drums, an electric bass, an amplified bajo sexto (a heavy 12 string guitar), and an accordion whose right side is held up to the PA mike and squeezed right into it, making for a piercing, slightly distorted sound. The accordion drives the music the entire evening. The tunes vary from medium tempo bouncy waltzes, to cumbias, huapangos, schottishes, redovas, to the ever popular polkas. Most songs are performed in the traditional duet style with the bajo or the bass player joining the leader. Some songs, especially boleros, Santiago likes to sing solo. This is "conjunto music" or Tex-Mex at its best, dished

out by Santiago Jimenez Jr. who has been playing dances for over twenty years. Born April 8, 1944 in San Antonio, Santiago Jimenez Jr. has recorded for various San Antonio labels, sometimes under the name of Jimmy Jimenez (for the Corona label in the early 1960's) while his father was still an active recording artist. Over the years Santiago Jr. has recorded for Disco Grande, Jose Morante's Lira and Sombrero labels and more recently for Salome Gutierrez's D.L.B. label. In the last few years Santiago's records have appeared on Toby Torres' CRS label, Arhoolie and on Rounder. He even recorded some duets with his older brother Flaco Jimenez on Lira. In 1989 Santiago Jr. started his own record label, Chief, which has released several cassettes and 45s.

Being the youngster in this family of musical giants obviously has not been easy but Santiago Jr. has developed a large following with his friendly personality and his very traditional accordion style. You may detect a lot of his father's and even a bit of Flaco's style in Santiago's accordion work but that is part of his conscious desire to continue in his father's tradition.

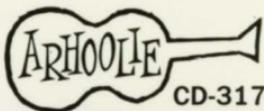
This CD/C contains the best selections from Santiago's two Arhoolie LP/C releases (ARH 3016 & 3020) and a number of instrumentals recorded in San Antonio in 1988, but not released until now. I have never met a better and more energetic string bass player than Juan Viesca who started with Don Santiago Jimenez and spent many years with Fred Zimmerle of the conjunto Trio San Antonio (note Arhoolie CD 311). Mr. Viesca is one of the great bass players of all time and his playing adds enormously to the drive and feeling of the whole group. Juan Arocha is about the best duet vocalist to ever sing with Santiago Jr. and you hear them on several Rancheras, an essential part of "conjunto music." In recent years Santiago Jimenez Jr. has appeared at concerts, clubs, and folk festivals here in the United States, in Canada and in Europe and is quickly becoming one of our best ambassadors for traditional Tex-Mex accordion music.

(Chris Strachwitz-1990)

(Notes edited by Dix Bruce)

# SANTIAGO JIMENEZ JR.

"El Mero, Mero de San Antonio"



CD-317

## OVER 60 MINUTES OF CLASSIC TEX-MEX

1. Ester De Mi Amor (Polka)\*
2. Los Barrandales Del Puente (Cancion)
3. Pa' Que Andas Diciendo (Ranchera)
4. Chipina (Vals)
5. Morena, Morenita (Ranchera)
6. California Polka (Polka)\*
7. Flor De Dalia (Mazurka)
8. Porque Eres Mujer Casada (Ranchera)
9. El Alacran (Cumbia)\*
10. Por Quién Me Dejas (Ranchera)
11. Tejano Huapango (Huapango)
12. Los Huajolotes (Redova)\*
13. Cada Vez Que Cae La Tarde (Ranchera)
14. Negra Ausencia (Vals)
15. Rosa De San Antonio (Polka)
16. Mercado Del Paso (Chotis)\*
17. El Tono De Mi Rancho (Huapango)\*
18. Por To Mujer (Ranchera)
19. Cumbia Norteña (Cumbia)
20. Atotonilco (Polka)
21. Tienes Que Pagar (Bolero)
22. Viva Seguin (Polka)

Santiago Jimenez Jr. - accordion & vocals, with Juan Viesca - bass, Louis Gonzales or Juan Garcia - bajo sexto, Juan Arocha - 2nd voice, and others.

\* = previously unreleased. All other selections previously issued on Arhoolie LP/C 3016 & 3020.

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Produced by Chris Strachwitz

Cover photo by Philip Gould

Cover art by Elizabeth Weil

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CD-317