# Conzuela!

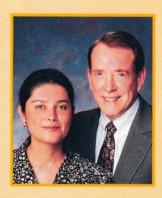
Luis Alonso

June 24, 25, 26, 27, 2004

Stagebill

Jarvis Conservatory

# A word from your President and Director



To make this Zarzuela production happen our Conservatory President Leticia Jarvis brought in from Spain our choreographers Mario La Vega and María del Sol. After they finished their first season here, she recognized their talent and when I found a Zarzuela all about a dance master, *Luis Alonso*, Mrs. Jarvis suggested we give them full responsibility for the dances of *Luis Alonso*, as well as for the Anthology. You will see the splendid results in today's production.

Mrs. Jarvis also brought in a new conductor José Antonio Irastorza and even lowered the front rail of the orchestra pit, so the full audience could see his clever conducting! (At the same time, unbeknown to us, the Royal Opera House of London was also lowering the front of their orchestra pit.)

Previously Mrs. Jarvis had acquired our beautiful, authentic wardrobe to support our productions, and obtained all the music from the reluctant Spanish organization SGAE. She has also selected a new chef, Cecilia Mendez, to provide tasty and economical meals to all workshop attendees. When we had to change technical directors and stage crew she came through again, with the idea to train a new crew under the direction of foreman Martin Becerra. This solved a perennial problem of having a trustworthy technical crew.

With such original thinking on her part, my job as Conservatory Director has been to support the directors she found, coordinate their work with our stage director Daniel Helfgot, and then watch the artistic process take place with all our talented singers, dancers, musicians and dedicated Conservatory company.

William Jarvis

# So, what exactly is a Farzuela?

The Zarzuela has been described as the best guarded secret in the history of music. It is a unique combination of musical theater and opera, outstanding in the field of entertainment, but rarely presented in fully staged productions in the United States. To make the Zarzuela more available to our English speaking audience we present the spoken parts in English and provide English subtitles for the music which is sung in its original Spanish. The Spanish speaking members of our audience of course delight in the music composed in their own language.

There are two distinct types of Zarzuelas, the short, one-act variety like today's *Luis Alonso* which have some aspects of comic operas, and then the longer more serious three-act productions more comparable to Italian opera. Both types of Zarzuelas are performed at the Jarvis Conservatory and have a lot in common with one another, both being based on Spanish regional dance music and on sincere believable stories.

The Zarzuela as we know it today emerged about 1850 and reached its peak at about 1900 (almost the same time frame as that of Verdi's opera compositions). However, some delightful Zarzuela works date as late as the 1930's. The Spanish Civil War in the 1930's pretty well marked the end of the classic era of Zarzuela composition.

During the grand European era of composing operatic works, the Spanish composers were actually more prolific than their European counterparts, having composed almost 10,000 Zarzuelas. Of this large number, about one hundred of the most enduring Zarzuelas exist in today's repertory. One hundred is a good sized number, considering that 90% of the operatic repertory performed today consists of fewer than 20 different operas, mainly Italian.

# Synopsis

# Luis Alonso

In the parlor of Luis Alonso's dance salon there are suggestions everywhere of the upcoming wedding of Luis Alonso, the middle aged dance instructor who is marrying a younger María Jesus. The parents of María open the scene discussing the merits of the bridegroom. Then Luis Alonso arrives with his best man, Don Paco, and welcomes the important guests with the introductory song "Entren Ustedes". The first guest is the Marquis announced by his chauffer, Frasquito, who commands attention with his buggy whip.

While they are all waiting for the bride to finish dressing, Luis Alonso asks his dance students to run through their wedding dance number, the famous "Intermedio" music by Giménez. Finally the bride arrives and sings her aria which commences with the words "Luis Alonso". When she finishes singing, the Marquis approaches her in great secrecy and asks her to introduce him to one of the young dance students. This is to be a very secret meeting at the following day's dance.

When the guitarist, Tinoco as usual a bit tipsy, makes a gypsy toast to the couple it arouses the suspicion of Luis Alonso who asks María to reaffirm her faith to him which she does. The parlor is opened up to the dance salon and the grand wedding dance commences with María singing a habanera. During the following polka dance, the marriage vows are made and the rings are exchanged during the dance.

The next day, preparations are being made for a grand dance featuring all the dance students. Before the dance, Tinoco, the gypsy guitarist, gives María some diamond earrings which she accepts, but then in a duet featuring gypsy rhythms he also propositions her! She declines his proposition declaring that she must be a loyal wife to her husband; and furthermore she says she will give the diamond earrings to Tinoco's wife!

As the dance begins the two daughters of Manuela dressed with giant ribbons in their hair provide comic relief. This dance, with its varied dance steps, is a stunning musical number of the Zarzuela. At the dance break, things happen fast. The wife of Tinoco arrives, dangling the diamond earrings in her hand, sings her gypsy lament and vows vengeance for her husband's infidelity. Meanwhile María takes the cigarette girl, Amparo, by the hand to meet the Marquis. Frasquito, the Marquis chauffer, happens also to be there hoping himself to romance Amparo. When Amparo sees an apparition in a cape she shouts "A ghost, a devil" and recoils. All sing about seeing a fat ghost. As Amparo recoils, she backs into the chauffer's arms, who then goes after the apparition with his buggy whip and beats him off the stage.

The Marquis appears very flustered and bemoaning that he had removed his cape in order to meet Amparo and some intruder who had gotten past the guards stole his expensive cape. The thrashing of this intruder with a buggy whip served him right, but the Marquis now must reveal himself, and furthermore he never got to meet Amparo. The scene ends in grand confusion with Luis Alonso's final words to the Marquis. "How well was it said: The World is but a stage...and the best actors go on performing even after the curtain has fallen.." Then returning to the lively dance session in the grand dance salon, the lead dancers close the work with an exicting zapateado.

# Luis Alonso

Zarzuela in One Act, Music by Jeronimo Giménez Libretto adapted by William Jarvis from original librettos of Javier de Burgos

Character	
Luis Alonso	
María Jesus	
Marquis	
Frasquito	
Don Paco	
Picúa	
Chano	
Juana	

Moma
Quica
Tinoco
Miguelito
Tarugo
Pilili
Amparo
Ramona

Manuela

Ramona
Pepe
Priest
Altar Boy
Apparition
Bridesmaid

#### Role

Elderly dance instructor
Bride of Luis Alonso
Elderly Aristocrat
Marquis' chauffeur
Best Man of Luis Alonso
Mother of María Jesus
Father of María Jesus
Tinoco's wife
Client of Dance Salon

Manuela's daughter Manuela's daughter Guitarist

Friend of Luis Alonso Friend of Luis Alonso Friend of María Jesus

Cigarette Girl Woman of Madrid Friend of Frasquito

#### Cast Member

Luis Galvez

Abdiel Gonzalez Adrienne Starr Johnny Warriner Nicolas Aliaga Christopher Bengochea

Diana Kehrig

Celeste Mann
Daniella Carvalho
Celeste Mann
Heather Calvete
Igor Vieira
Jimmy Kansau
Brendan Daly
Amanda Hall
Marie Bafus
Andrea Carey
Brendan Daly
Timothey León
Jeremy Bolin

Weston Olson

Fabienne Wood

Tenors Christopher Bengochea, Brendan Daly, Luis Galvez,

Jimmy Kansau, Timothy León

Baritones Nicolas Aliaga, Jeremy Bolin, Abdiel Gonzalez,

Weston Olson, Igor Vieira

Sopranos Marie Bafus, Heather Calvete, Daniella Carvalho,

Amanda Hall, María Jesus Sevilla, Fabienne Wood

Mezzo Sopranos Andrea Carey, Diana Kehrig, Celeste Mann, Adrienne Starr

Actor Johnny Warriner

Male Dancers Manuel Castillo, Antonio Martinez, Avelino Cazallo

Female Dancers Raquel Carrillo, Aurora Frias, Isabel Pérez

## Meet the Cast

#### Nicolas Aliaga - Baritone



Nicolas Aliaga, now living in San Francisco, is a graduate of Tufts University in Boston. He most recently performed for Opera San Jose as Wagner in Faust and The Gypsy in Il Trovatore. For Oakland Lyric Opera, he sang the roles of Spinelloccio in Gianni Schicchi and Aeneas in Dido and Aeneas. Companies for whom he has sung include the Pocket Opera (directing and performing), Lamplighters, Berkeley Opera, and others.

#### Marie Bafus - Soprano



Marie Bafus, soprano, has sung in Greece, South Africa, Germany and all over the West Coast. Roles include Carmen, Cenerentola, Isabella, Magdalena (*Rigoletto*), Elizabeth Proctor (*Crucible*) and others. Most recently she has performed as a young artist with the Portland Opera in such main stage roles as Mercede, Carmen and Paquette (*Candide*).

#### Christopher Bengochea - Tenor



Christopher Bengochea, irom Montana, has been praised by Gianni Raimondi as "a voice most brilliant and romantic; a voice that will become very important in the future of opera." Bengochea's roles include Turridu in Cavalleria Rusticana, Arturo in Lucia Di Lammermoor, Don Ottavio in Don Giovanni, and Ruggero in La Rondine.

#### Jeremy Bolin - Baritone



Jeremy Bolin recently graduated from Chapman University studying music. He has performed the roles of Figaro in Le Nozze di Figaro, Sid in Albert Harring, and Shuanard in La Boheme and others. Jeremy plans on furthering his education in New York at the Manhattan School of Music.

#### Manuel Castillo - Dancer



Originally from Alicante, Spain, Mr. Castillo first studied classic ballet in Brussels and in Madrid and then specialized in Classic Spanish dance and flamenco. His professional career has included the Spanish Ballet Company of Maríadel Sol and Mario La Vega. He has made worldwide tours doing numbers from the famous Anthology of the Zarzuela of José Tamayo.

#### Heather Calvete - Soprano



Ms. Calvete holds a Master of Music degree in Vocal Arts from USC. Her roles include Tatyana in Eugene Onegin, Gilda in Rigoletto, Adina in L'Elisir d'Amore, Mimi in La Boheme and Rosalinda in Die Fledermaus among others. She has appeared throughout the West Coast and regularly performs with the Los Angeles Opera's community touring productions and recitals.

#### Andrea J. Carey - Soprano



Andrea Carey graduated from the New England Conservatory and is now a graduate student at the University of Missouri. At UMKC she performed the roles of Elizabeth Proctor in *The Crucible*, and Musetta in *La Boheme*. She has done Arsemenes in *Xerxes*, Cherubino in *Le Nozze di Figaro*, and Anita in *West Side Story*.

#### Raquel Carrillo - Dancer



Ms. Carillo commenced her studies of Spanish dance in Granada Spain in the Professional Conservatory of Dance. She continued her training in Madrid with Maestros including Jose Granero, Maria Magdalena, and Jose Antonio Irastorza. Since 1993 she has performed in various companies of dance and of Zarzuela in Spain and abroad.

#### Daniella Carvalho - Soprano



A native of Rio de Janeiro. Daniella received her BA and Masters in voice from the Manhattan School of Music. Her performances include Countess in Le Nozze di Figaro, Donna Elvira in Don Giovanni, 2nd Lady in The Magic Flute, Mimi in La Boheme, Suzel in and Belinda in Dido and Aeneas. She has appeared in Milan, Rome, Salzburg and Brazil.

L'Amico Fritz, Needa in Pagliacci

#### Avelino Cazallo - Dancer



Avelino Cazallo was born in Cordoba Spain where he commenced his studies of dance, completing them later in Madrid. After performing in various ballets he took part in the Anthology of the Zarzuela under the direction of María del Sol and Mario La Vega. Avelino's dancing has taken him to five continents.

#### Brendan Thomas Daly - Tenor



Atlanta native Brendan Daly has performed opera and oratorio roles spanning the Baroque to the contemporary. Recent appearances include Mozart's Impresario with the Boston Classical Orchestra, Tamino in The Magic Flute and Elijah. He has been a masterclass student of Elly Ameling and is a frequent guest artist with ensembles throughout the Northeast.

#### Aurora Frias - Dancer



Aurora Frias studied classic Spanish dance in her hometown of Malaga, Spain, as well as in Madrid. Her important artistic career includes many ballet performances and Zarzuela anthologies where she has appeared along with such notables as Plácido Domingo, Alfredo Kraus and Monserrat Caballe. This is her second season with the Jarvis Conservatory.

#### Luis Antonio Galvez - Tenor



A native of Lima, Peru, Luis Antonio Gálvez-Alcántara has done leading roles in La Boheme, Madame Butterfly, Carmen, Die Fledermaus and many others including Zarzuelas. He has received the most distinguished award from the Association of Peruvian Institutions in the U.S. and Canada for his work in promoting Peruvian music and

#### Abdiel Gonzalez - Baritone



Puerto Rican Baritone, Abdiel Gonzalez, returns to the Jarvis Conservatory in the title role of Luis Alonso. He is currently finishing his BA in music at La Sierra University in Riverside, CA. He has sung lead roles in Cosi fan Tutte, Die Zauberflöt, Amahl and the Night Visitors, Mikado, The Pirates of Penzance, The Barber of Seville and Man of La Mancha.

#### Amanda Hall - Soprano



Amanda Hall, a native of Nebraska, will be completing her final year as an undergraduate this fall at La Sierra University in Riverside, CA. She performed Nerdes of Yum-Yum in Mikado, Mabel in The Pirates of Penzance, 1st lady in The Magic Flute and the title role in Massenet's Candrillon.

#### Jimmy Kansau - Tenor



Jimmy Kansau, from Venezuela, returns to the Jarvis Conservatory for his third season. Mr. Kansau recently received his Master's Degree from the San Francisco Conservatory of Music, and has been soloist in Mozart's Requiem and Handel's Messiah. His many roles include Eisenstein in Die Fledermaus, Rodolfo in La Bohème, Nemorino in The Elixir of Love and Fernando in Jarvis Conservatory's Doña Francisquita.

# Meet the Cast (continued)

#### Diana Kehrig - Mezzo-Soprano



Diana Kehrig sang ten seasons with the New York City Opera and returns to the Jarvis Conservatory for her third season. Her roles include Carmen, Suzuki in Madame Butterfly, Hostess in Gordon Getty's Plump Jack with a tour to Moscow, Italy and Germany with the Russian National Orchestra, Cyrobel in Thais, and Gouvenot in Adriana Lecouvreur with Plácido Domingo.

#### Antonio Martinez - Dancer



Antonio Martinez, born in Seville, Spain, studied under Pedro Azorin, Mario la Vega, Maria del Sol and Goyo Montero. He has also worked with such notable directors as Antonio Gades and José Tamayo, and has participated in many Zarzuela anthologies since 1984. This is his second year with the Jarvis Conservatory.

#### Timothy León - Tenor



Timothy León, from Los Angeles, has been featured with the L.A. Philharmonic, Nevada Opera Theater, Ojai Music Festival, and New Opera Festival of Rome, Italy. His roles include Don Octavio in Don Giovanni, Alfredo in La Traviata, Ernesto in Don Pascuale, Tamino in Die Zauberflöte, Alfred in Die Fledermaus, Jesus in Jarvis Conservatory's Gigantes y Cabezudos, Pinkerton in Madame Butterfly, and Beppe in 11 Pagliacci.

#### Weston Olson - Baritone



Weston Wells Olson grew up in South Dakota, and transferred to Chapman University in 2002 to experience college "elsewhere". Coming from a family of seven, I have tons of support based in the Midwest. I love to snow-ski, go to the beach, experience new things, and eat. Previous roles include Samuel in Pirates of Penzance, Figaro in Barber of Seville, Sid in Albert Herring, Gianni Schicchi in Gianni Schicchi, and Aeneas in Dido and Aeneas.

#### Celeste Mann - Mezzo



Celeste Mann, from New York, has played La Menegilda in thirty performances of Broadway/La Gran Vía, appeared as Nursemaid in Street Scene, both to critical acclaim. Other roles performed include Principessa in Suor Angelica, La Abuela in La Vida Breve, and Doña Simona in Agua, Azucarillos y Aguardiente. Also, Celeste studied in Brazil and the Dominican Republic.

#### Isabel Pérez - Dancer



From Madrid, Spain, where she studied both Classic Ballet and Spanish Dance, Ms. Pérez has performed in operas such as Zeffirelli's production of La Traviata with Placido Domingo. She has danced in most of the important Zarzuela theaters in Spain and made professional tours to the Americas, Europe and Africa.

#### Adrienne Starr - Mezzo-Soprano



Adrienne Starr has performed with the Nachez Festival of Music, DiCapo Opera, National Lyric Opera and Pine Mountain Music Festival. Roles include Siebel in Faust, Beatrice in Beatrice and Benedict, Hansel in Hansel and Gretel, and Cherubino in Le Nozze di Figaro. She has performed South American Art Song throughout America and Europe.

#### Johnny Warriner - Actor



Johnny Warriner is delighted to be asked back this summer, having captivated audiences in 2002. He has acted and directed professionally throughout the U.S., including *Macbeth* at the La Jolla Playhouse, and *Floyd Collins* in Dallas. With a Ph.D. in Fine Arts, Johnny recently headed the Musical Theatre Program at Santa Clara University.

#### Igor Vieira - Baritone



Igor Vieira, from Brazil, made his operatic debut at age 17, singing the role Dancaire in Carmen. Other roles include Dulcamara in L'Elisir D'Amore, Don Giovanni in Don Giovanni, Eisentein in Die Fledermaus. At the young age of 26, Mr. Vieira has performed 27 different roles in six languages.

#### Fabienne Wood - Soprano



British soprano Fabienne Wood, now living in the U.S., has a masters degree from San Francisco Conservatory of Music, sung the roles of Laticia in *The Old Maid and the Thief* and Mother in *Hansel and Gretal*, and won first place in the NATSAA All Star round.

Ms. Wood can next be heard playing Giannetta in *L'Elisir d'Amore* with Livermore Valley Opera.

### Directors

#### Daniel Helfgot - Stage Director



Daniel Helfgot has directed over 160 productions in Argentina, Germany, Austria, Canada, Mexico and the USA. He is the author of the libretto for the opera *The Tale of the Nutcracker*, premiered in 1999, and his book *The Third Line: The Singer as Interpreter*, now in its second edition. He is the Director of Opera at the University of Missouri in Kansas City and of the Middle America Opera Apprentice Program. He has just directed

Waterbird Talk Argento, for the San José Chamber Orchestra; Un Ballo in Maschera, Verdi for Opera Memphis; and La Périchole West Bay Opera. Upcoming productions include Carmen for the National Opera of Costa Rica; The Marriage of Figaro for Opera Memphis; Don Giovanni for Rimrock Opera and The Crucible in Kansas City, MO.

#### José Antonio Irastorza -



Conductor/Music Director
Mr. Irastorza was born in San
Sebastián in the Basque region

Sebastián in the Basque region of Spain where he commenced his music education, playing the bassoon. After extended studies in Paris, he returned to Spain where he became the leading director of Zarzuelas for movies and television. He served as musical director of the renowned production of José Tamayo's The Anthology of the Zarzuela during it's tour of Hispano América in

1999. He is currently the musical director of Teatro Calderon in Madrid and other important theaters and music companies in Spain, including El Teatro de Baracaldas. This is his second season at the Jarvis Conservatory.

#### Carol Neblett - Master Coach



Ms. Neblett is a leading soprano with the Metropolitan, San Francisco, Chicago, New York, Buenos Aires, Teatro San Carlos (Naples), Salzburg, Hamburg, Covent Garden, La Scala, and virtually every other opera company in the world. Both critics and audiences alike have acclaimed Ms. Neblett as a singing star, equally at home in opera, recital, concerts, radio, television, recordings and films.

Ms. Neblett's signature roles include Puccini's *Tosca* and Minnie in *The Girl of the Golden West*. In 1976, she made her debut at the Lyric Opera of Chicago as Tosca with Luciano Pavarotti, and has sung this role more than 200 times.

Ms. Neblett currently teaches a series of master classes throughout the United States and Europe entitiled "The Complete Singer." She privately coaches young performers who are currently launching their careers.

#### Maria del Sol - Choreographer



Born in Laredo, Santander, Spain, Maria del Sol has been dancing since an early age. She started her career in the film industry, acting with renowned Spanish actors. She founded the Spanish Anthology Ballet with Mario la Vega that was to become the pioneer of today's Spanish National Ballet. She later joined La Compañía Lirica Nacional in the Zarzuela Theater with José Tamayo. Ms. del Sol trayeled with her Spanish

Anthology Ballet around the world with Choreographer Alberto Lorca, again joining Mr. Tamayo and his Zarzuela in a collaboration of 15 years. This is her fourth season at the Jarvis Conservatory.

#### Dr. John Ballerino - Asst. Music Director



John Ballerino grew up in Guadalajara, Mexico, and is fluent in Spanish. He holds a D.M.A. in Piano Accompanying from the University of Southern California where he studied Spanish and Latin American literature as part of his doctoral program. His principal teachers include Gwendolyn Koldofsky, Brooks Smith, Alan Smith, George Katz and Frank Wiens. Master classes and private coachings have enabled him to work with Martin Katz, Giorgio Tozzi,

Evelyn Lear, William Parker, Martial Singher, Dalton Baldwin, Roger Vignoles, Elly Ameling and Martin Isepp. Dr. Ballerino lectures and performs Spanish and Latin American music throughout the United States and the Caribbean. John is Assistant Conductor at the Jarvis Conservatory, Santa Barbara Opera and Sarasota Opera. He has also served as a repetiteur as well as a Spanish diction coach for the Los Angeles Opera. This year John will be an official pianist for Placido Domingo's world opera contest OPERALIA.

#### Mario La Vega - Choreographer



Mario la Vega was born in Córdoba, Spain, and initiated his career as a flamenco guitarist, later becoming a renowned dancer. Along with his wife Maria del Sol he founded the Spanish Anthology Ballet with choreography by Maestro Alberto Lorca. This ballet was eventually absorbed by the Spanish Minister of Culture as an embryo of today's Spanish National Ballet. Mr. la Vega, along with Maria del Sol joined José Tamayo culminating in the

presentation of *Doña Francisquita* with Alfredo Krauss. His most recent work is with a Carlos Saura film *Buñuel, Lorca and Dali*. This is his fourth season at the Jarvis Conservatory.

# Conservatory Company

Artistic Director Set Designer Lighting Designer

Costumers Wigs/Makeup

Asst. Wigs/Makeup

Coach Accompanists

Asst. Stage Director Stage Manager Technical Director Master Electrician Video Production

Cinematography

Audio Graphics

House Manager

William Jarvis Peter Crompton Ellen Brooks

Shea Parker, Raven Rosbert

Lisa Patnoe

Maria Isabel Fregoso

Fran Fanelli, Kristin Pankonin, Brian Shaw

Andrew Seifert Sarah Motschall Martin Becerra John Draginoff

Bob Burton, CAV Media

Dan Cascino

Dave Kent, Synergy Recording Studios

Lisa Saper, Saper Paper

Kim Anenson

# Jarvis Conservatory Orchestra

Violin 1 Yasushi Ogura Concertmaster

Sharon Calonico Adrienne Duckworth Bass

Clifton Foster Vivian Warkentin

Violin II Carla Picchi Alice Kennelly Kathryn Marshall

Viola Margaret Titchener Darcy Rindt

Cello

Wanda Warkentin Liz Struble

Pat McCarthy

Flute I Sue Waller

Flute II/Piccolo Lenora Warkentin

Oboe

Denis Harper

Clarinet

Diane Maltester Bob Calonico

Bassoon

David Granger

Horn

Meredith Brown Marc Wahrhaftig

Trumpet

William Harvey Mark Nemoyten Trombone

**Anthony Collins** 

Bass Trombone Kurt Patzner

Harv

Donelle Page

Timpani Kevin Neuhoff

Percussion Ward Spangler Beverly Dorcy



# Jarvis Conservatory

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