

For immediate release:  
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Brava presents  
6<sup>th</sup> Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival  
Honoring the Women of Jarocho

Featuring  
Caña Dulce y Caña Brava from Veracruz, Mexico  
Entre Mujeres from Los Angeles & the Bay Area's own DiaPa'Son

January 30 – February 4, 2018  
Brava Theater Center



Explore the folkloric music style of Veracruz during a week-long festival of live music, community fandango, workshops with master artists, and youth activities when Brava presents the 6th Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival. This year's Festival features headliners Caña Dulce y Caña Brava who are making their first Bay Area appearance.

Calendar of Festival Events

**Friday, February 2 – 6pm to 12am**

**Community Fandango, Brava Theater Center**

Cultural convening ritual known as Fandango Jarocho, a late-night session of instruments, dancing, voices and verse.

Bring your instruments and your dancing shoes! This is a free community event.

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**Saturday, February 3 – 5:30pm – 10pm**

**Live Concert, Brava Theater Center**

Celebrate the women of Jarocho with a live concert featuring **Caña Dulce y Caña Brava**

from Veracruz, Mexico, **Entre Mujeres** from Los Angeles, and the Bay Area's own **DiaPa'Son**.

5:30pm – Reception with artists

6:30pm – Doors open

7:00pm – Concert

\$75 – Premium orchestra seating + pre-performance reception with the artists  
The event features a mezcal tasting, light hors d'oeuvres, live music, and a chance to mingle with the artists.

\$40 – Reserved seating in the orchestra; \$35 for seniors and students

\$25 – Reserved seating in the mezzanine; \$20 for seniors and students

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**Sunday, February 4 – 3:30pm**

**Youth Concert & Demonstration, Brava Theater Center**

\$7 youth; \$12 adults

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## **Workshops**

**Tuesday, January 30**

**Master Workshops, SoleSpace, Oakland**

7pm – 8pm: Zapateado with Master artist Violeta Romero

8:10pm – 9:10pm: Jarana with Master artists Raquel Palacios Vega and Anna S. Arismendez

Workshops are open to all skill levels. This is a FREE event.

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**Wednesday, January 31**

**Master Workshops, Brava Theater Center**

7pm – 8pm: Zapateado with Master artist Violeta Romero

8:10pm – 9:10pm: Jarana with Master artists Raquel Palacios Vega and Anna S. Arismendez

Workshops are open to all skill levels. \$15 for one workshop; \$20 for both.

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**Thursday, February 1**

**Master Workshops, Brava Theater Center**

7pm – 8pm: Percussion with Master artists Alejandro Loreda Ramirez and Martha Gonzalez (ALL skill levels)

8:15pm – 9:15pm: Requinto with Master artist Alejandro Loreda Ramirez & Canto/Versa with Master artist Raquel Palacios Vega (ALL skill levels)

8:15pm – 9:15pm: Intermediate/Advanced Zapateado with Master artist Violeta Romero & Intermediate/Advanced Jarana with Master artists Raquel Palacios Vega and Anna S. Arismendez

Workshop skill levels are noted in the descriptions above. \$15 for one workshop; \$20 for two.

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### Artist Bios

**Caña Dulce y Caña Brava** was founded in 2008 to perform traditional Son Jarocho music highlighting the female voice. Caña Dulce y Caña Brava consists of musicians Raquel Palacios Vega (Jarana, Voice, Zapateado), Violeta Romero (Jarana, Voice, Zapateado), Adriana Cao Romero Alejandro (Arpa, Jarana, Voice), Anna Sylvia Arismendez Gómez and Loredo Ramírez.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival marks Caña Dulce y Caña Brava's first appearance in the Bay Area. The group has appeared at various venues and festivals both nationally and abroad, including in South Africa, Canada, Venezuela, Korea, France and Turkey.

#### Raquel Palacios Vega (Jarana – Voice – Zapateado)

Raquel Palacios Vega is originally from the community of Boca de San Miguel, Tlacotalpan, Veracruz, where she was immersed in a musical environment from an early age, belonging to the fifth generation of a family of virtuous musicians who, over several decades, have made a valuable musical contribution to the cultivation of Traditional Son Jarocho. She currently resides in Mexico City where she is part of various projects that transmit the traditional Son Jarocho, teaching jarana and zapateado workshops, as well as performing. She is a member of the Los Vega Group, Caña Dulce y Caña Brava, participating and developing as a musician, singer and dancer. She has performed in the Tajín Summit Festival, Winnipeg Folk Festival, Winnipeg, Vancouver Folk Festival and International Caribbean Festival "Carifesta XI" Paramaribo among others.

#### Violeta Romero (Jarana – Voice – Zapateado)

Violeta Romero is a member of the group of Son Jarocho Los Utrera and the Dance and Percussion group of Guinea Maíz Negro from 2002 to date. Presenting in national and international forums such as Ollin Kan, Nuits d'Afrique Festival, Festival of Mexican Music in Slovenia, Festival Print Temps de Comedien in France and Arts Festival Midwest E.U.A. among others. Romero studied traditional dance in Guinea, Conakry in 2006, and studied traditional dances from Burkina Fasso, Guinea and Cote d'Ivoire in the African Dance School "Stemp's D'Art Africain" Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and in New York and San Francisco with master teachers Youssuf Koumbassa, Oumar N'Diaye Martinos, and Mominatou Camera.

Romero is part of the production and organization team of the Raíces Festival, a project of diffusion, education and cultural exchange Africa-Brazil-Mexico carried out annually from the year 2010 to the date in Coatepec, Veracruz.

#### Alejandro Loredó Ramírez (Musician –Instrument Builder)

Alejandro Loredó Ramírez is originally from Guadalajara, Jalisco. He began his musical studies in 1996 taking a classical guitar workshop at the School of Music of the University of Guadalajara. From 1998 he studied traditional Guinea Conakry percussion instruments with masters such as Koungbanán Conde, Fode Seydou and Mamady Keita among others. Starting in 2002, he studied Latin percussions with Cándido Hernández, Jesús Barrera and Yosbani Estepe. Since 2006 Ramírez has studied the traditional music and lauderia of Sotavento Veracruzano.

#### Adriana Cao Romero (Arpa - Jarana – Voice)

Adriana Cao Romero, from an early age, was interested in learning to play the harp jarocho in lyrical form. She participated in the groups Mono Blanco, Canate and Zacamandu with whom she recorded the album "Antiguos sonos jarochos." Romero was part of the musical group for the play "Lo que cala son los filos" (1989-1994) by author and director Muricio Jiménez, appearing in Mexico, the United States, Canada, Chile, Colombia and France. She has been a guest artist with the groups Son de Madera (1996) and Los Utrera (2006), to participate in performances in France and Ireland and was a member of the Chuchumbé group, from 1996-2003, touring in Mexico and abroad and recording on the group's second album, "Contrapunteo." She has recorded an album in Germany with the group Tembembe Ensemble Continuo and toured from 2006-2008 with the baroque music group The Others. In 2008 she founded the group Caña Dulce y Caña Brava and continues to be active with this group, bringing the jarocho music to countless national and foreign forums such as South Africa, Canada, Venezuela, France, Korea, Turkey and the United States.

#### Anna Sylvia Arismendez Gómez

Anna Sylvia Arismendez Gómez' first encounter with Son Jarocho was in 2010 in a workshop conducted by the group Son Armado (a non-profit organization focused on social justice) in a cultural center in Austin, Texas. In 2011 she joined the workshops held in Jáltipan, Veracruz, in the Seminary of Son Jarocho Luna Negra. In 2012 she acquired a large guitar from guitarist and laudero Don Leonardo Ramírez (La Cerquilla, Veracruz) in Tlacotalpan, Veracruz and a few months later during that same year she began her development as a leonera, joining the Colectivo Altepee (Acayucan, Veracruz). She has been an apprentice to traditional musicians Mario Doroteo (Soconusco, Veracruz), Orlando Hernández Reyes (Jáltipan, Veracruz), Don Leonardo Ramírez (La Cerquilla, Veracruz), Joel Cruz Castellanos (Santiago Tuxtlas, Veracruz), and traditional fandangos in communities like Chacalapa, San Juan Evangelista, El Aguacte, Comejen, Tatahuicapan, Cosoleacaque, Acayucan, etc. where she has been able to learn

empirically from musicians such as Delio Morales (Chacalapa, Veracruz). Currently, she plays with son jarocho groups: Caña Dulce and Caña Brava; Lalo Jaranas and the Fandanguero Collective. She resides in Mexico City.

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**Entre Mujeres** was founded by Martha Gonzalez (Chican Artivista/Quetzal) and Laura Marina Reboloso (Son De Madera/Mother of Three) as a translocal music composition project between Chicanas/Latinas in the U.S. and Jarochas/Mexican female musicians in Mexico. Entre Mujeres seeks to make the voices, ideas and translocal dialogues between Chicanas and Jarochas visible through the medium of song.

Performing with Entre Mujeres is Nikki Campbell, Martha Gonzalez, Rocio Marron, Xochi Flores, Marisa Ronstadt and Sara Rosencrantz.

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**DiaPa'Son** is a local Bay Area band that plays music from Veracruz, Mexico called Son Jarocho. All of the members are actively involved in teaching youth around the Bay Area in different areas of music and in promoting culture within the community. Members of the group have studied in Mexico and Cuba and have had the privilege of sharing a stage with master musicians such as Artemio Posadas and Andres Flores.

Performing with DiaPa'Son is Maria De La Rosa (Jarana, Zapateado, Quijara, Vocals), Raul Perales (Guitarra Bumburona, Requinto, Vocals), Lolis Garcia (Requinto, Jaranas, Pandero, Zapateado, Vocals), and Monica Fimbrez (Jarana, Guitarra Bumburona, Vocals).

**For Calendar Editors:**

What: 6<sup>th</sup> Annual San Francisco Son Jarocho Festival

When: January 30 – February 4, 2018

Where: Brava Theater Center, 2781 24<sup>th</sup> Street (at York), San Francisco 94110

Tickets: [brava.org](http://brava.org)