



LAUREL PROJECT

VENTURA COLLEGE FACULTY
& GUEST ARTIST CONCERT SERIES

DANZAS Y CANCIONES A JOURNEY THROUGH SPAIN AND LATIN AMERICA



MONDAY
MARCH

2

12:00 PM
2 0 2 6

Ovanes Arakelyan, Piano
 Wendy Castellanos, Dance and Choreography
 & Flamenco 805 Dancers
 Hugo Nogueira, Guitar
 Christina Ramsey, Mezzo-Soprano
 Victoria Sabonjohn, Oboe
 Scott Wolf, Guitar
 Maia Zander, Violin



VC PERFORMING
 ARTS CENTER
 YUNKER AUDITORIUM
 4700 LOMA VISTA RD
 VENTURA, CA 93003

FREE ADMISSION

DANZAS Y CANCIONES

MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2026 / 12:00 PM
VC PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, YUNKER AUDITORIUM

Ovanes Arakelyan, piano	Wendy Castellanos, dance/choreography
Flamenco 805 Dancers	Hugo Nogueira, guitar
Christina Ramsey, mezzo-soprano	Victoria Sabonjohn, oboe
Scott Wolf, guitar	Maia Zander, violin

PROGRAM

"Inspiração".....Aníbal Sardinha Garoto (1915-1955)

Choro no. 1 (1920).....Heitor Villa-Lobos (1887-1959)

"Oriental" - Danza Española No. 2 (1890).....Enrique Granados (1867-1916)

Histoire du Tango (1986).....Astor Piazzolla (1921-1992)

"Bordel, 1900"

"Café, 1930"

"Nightclub, 1960"

"Concert d'aujourd'hui"

"Oblivion" (1982)

"Libertango" (1974)

Selections from *El Amor Brujo* (1915).....Manuel De Falla (1876-946)

"Canción del Fuego Fatuo"

"Canción del Amor Dolido"

"Danza Ritual del Fuego"

Selections from *Siete Canciones Populares Españolas* (1914)

"El Paño Moruno"

"Asturiana"

"Nana"

"Polo"

Alegrías.....Traditional

FLAMENCO 805 DANCERS:

Danielle Brown, Christele Cazin, Masami Cowling, Lori Montoya,
Adela Oregon, Pilar Ortega, McKenna Parcher, Tracye Williams

ARTIST BIOS

Ovanes Arakelyan began his music studies in Armenia and Russia and later studied with Daniel Pollack (USC) and Stewart Gordon (Claremont Graduate University). He has performed throughout the United States and internationally at venues including Weill Recital Hall at Carnegie Hall and the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion. Dr. Arakelyan is on the faculty at Ventura College, Oxnard College, and Glendale Community College, where he teaches piano, chamber music, keyboard harmony, and music appreciation. His research focuses on Armenian piano repertoire, and he is currently writing a college-level keyboard harmony textbook.

Hugo Nogueira is a classical guitarist and educator who won the 2011 American Guitar Society Competition in Los Angeles. He holds a DMA in Classical Guitar Performance from UNLV, where he studied with Ricardo Cobo, as well as degrees in composition, teaching, and performance from Brazil and APU. Nogueira has performed throughout the U.S. and internationally, recorded two albums, and presented lecture-recitals on Spanish repertoire. He currently teaches classical guitar at Los Angeles Pierce College, LA Valley College, Ventura College, and Oxnard College.

Christina Pezzarossi Ramsey is a mezzo-soprano praised for her “smoky mezzo” and compelling stage presence. She has performed nationally with companies including Opera Santa Barbara, Pacific Opera Project, Central City Opera, and Opera in the Heights, portraying roles such as Dorabella (*Così fan tutte*), Margaret (*The Light in the Piazza*), Wellgunde (*Das Rheingold*), and Kate Pinkerton (*Madama Butterfly*). In 2024, she made her debut with Opera San Luis Obispo as Carmen and returned to Opera Santa Barbara as Marcellina in *Le nozze di Figaro*. She serves as adjunct faculty at Oxnard and Ventura Colleges.

SPECIAL THANKS:

Luca Lewis, Anthony Mansueto, Brent Wilson, Gabriel Aragon, Cecelia Arias, Jamie Birkett, Matthew Cho, David Howarth, Brian Hotchkin, Anne Paul King, Sandy Mason, Janeene Nagaoka, Paloma Salas, Tyson Sauthoff, Vanessa Stotler, Laura Solis-Teteris, Jeanne Tanner

ARTIST BIOS

Victoria Sabonjohn (she/her) is a professional oboist and educator dedicated to advancing music education and live performance in Southern California. She performs with local orchestras and chamber ensembles and actively engages with the community. Victoria is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in oboe performance at UCLA, with a focus on increasing accessibility and equity in school music programs. She maintains a private teaching studio and serves as adjunct oboe faculty at Oxnard College, Pierce College, and Los Angeles City College.

Scott Wolf is a guitarist, educator, and arranger known for his teaching, performances, the podcast *All Strings Considered*, and the *Basics of Music* learning tool. He has served for over a decade as lead music faculty at Oxnard College and is a founding member of OC LIVE. Wolf holds a DMA from USC, an MM from New England Conservatory, and a BA from UC San Diego. A flamenco specialist, he co-authored *Flamenco Explained*, and performs widely as a soloist and chamber musician.

Maia Zander teaches at Oxnard and Ventura Colleges and serves as orchestra director at Malibu Middle and High School. A freelance violinist in the Los Angeles area, she is a member of the Opera Santa Barbara Orchestra and has performed on numerous film projects. Maia has taught with the Suzuki Strings of Madison, the Boston Youth Symphony Orchestra's Intensive Community Project, and the Brookline Extension School. She holds a Doctor of Musical Arts from Boston University and is the author of *Intermediate Violin Repertoire: A Teachers' Guide*.

Wendy Castellanos is a versatile dancer and choreographer trained in Classical, Contemporary, Jazz, Flamenco, and Latin dance. A graduate of UCLA's Department of World Arts and Cultures, she also studied Flamenco in Madrid at Amor de Dios and in Sevilla and Granada. Wendy has performed at major Los Angeles venues, including the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion with LA Opera, the Fountain Theatre's *Forever Flamenco* series, and Opera Santa Barbara, and has toured internationally. She is the founder of *Flamenco 805*, teaching in Ventura and producing the city's first Flamenco Tablao series.