

Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs
presents

APPlause!

K-12 Performing Arts Series

Ballet Folklórico de México

Wednesday, November 14, 2018



As an integral part of the Performing Arts Series, APPlause! matinees offer a variety of performances at venues across the Appalachian State University campus that feature university-based artists as well as local, regional and world-renowned professional artists. These affordable performances offer access to a wide variety of artistic disciplines for K-12 students. The series also offers the opportunity for students from the Reich College of Education to view a field trip in action without having to leave campus. Among the 2018-2019 series performers, you will find those who will also be featured in the Performing Arts Series along with professional artists chosen specifically for our student audience.



Before the performance...

Familiarize your students with what it means to be a great audience member by introducing these theatre etiquette basics:

- Arrive early enough to find your seats and settle in before the show begins (20-30 minutes).
- Remember to turn your electronic devices OFF so they do not disturb the performers or other audience members.
- Remember to sit appropriately and to stay quiet so that the audience members around you can enjoy the show too.

PLEASE NOTE:

***THIS EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO LAST APPROX 60 MINUTES.**

- Audience members arriving by car should plan to park in the Rivers Street Parking Deck. There is a small charge for parking. Buses should plan to park along Rivers Street – Please indicate to the Parking and Traffic Officer when you plan to move your bus (i.e. right after the show, or after lunch) so that they can help keep everyone safe.
- Adults meeting a school group at the show will be asked to sign in at the lobby and wait to be escorted to their group by a security guard.



Enjoy the show!

Ballet Folklórico de México Study Guide

Amalia Hernández and the Ballet Folklórico de México

In 1952, dancer and choreographer AMALIA HERNÁNDEZ founded the Ballet Folklórico de México, having embarked at a very early age on a never-ending quest to rescue the dancing traditions of Mexico. This vital search became a basic need to express not only in Mexico, but also in the rest of the world. Her goal was to share the beauty of the Universe in motion through Mexican dances from the Pre-Colombian era, the Hispanic Viceroy period, and the popular period of the Revolutionary years.

In 1954, Amalia began to garner recognition as a highly respected cultural representative of Mexico. In her earliest ballets, the audience sees the present time fade before their eyes, as they enter into a journey through the past: the lords of heaven and earth come back to life, the jaguars, the gods born of human flesh; and thirty different cultures that blossomed in centuries past leave behind a trail of color. All of these elements together gave Amalia Hernández the inspiration to create the Ballet Folklórico de México.

A weekly program on Mexican television sponsored by the government aired the Ballet's initial performances. Merely a few years into their formation, the company achieved a degree of international success that has been maintained for over fifty years. Amalia Hernandez and Ballet Folklórico de México have since created over forty ballets for upwards of seventy dancers. The music, technical rigor, elaborate costuming and Amalia's choreography have helped the Ballet and its followers disseminate the zest for rich Mexican tradition and folklore throughout the world.

Since 1959, the company has been permanently housed at the Palace of Fine Arts in Mexico City. The institution has two main artistic companies called The First Company and the Resident Company, both whom alternate tours and performances in Mexico and abroad.

The company has currently given over 5,000 performances, and both Amalia Hernandez and the Ballet Folklórico de México have been distinguished with more than 300 awards recognizing their artistic merits.

BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE MÉXICO
A Sample of the Dances

The work of Ballet Folklórico de México is folkloric dance. Folkloric dance, like its equivalent English term folk dance, means “dances of the people.” The dances reflect the traditions, customs, legends, beliefs and lifestyles of people in particular countries and regions. Folkloric dance expresses the life and spirit of a people through its movement and music. It is both historical and current, preserving tradition yet moving with the present times.

Ballet Folklórico de México founder Amalia Hernández wanted the dance company to reflect not only her love of her native Mexico but also provide a history of Mesoamerican culture. She set out to capture the beauty of the universe in motion as reflected in the pre-Colombian civilizations and through the Hispanic influences of the Viceroyal era up to the Revolutionary years of the early 20th century. Throughout her life, Hernandez continuously revised and renewed her work, a tradition continued today by her family. The result is a re-creation of Mexican traditions on stage, preserving the diversity and characters found throughout the regions of Mexico.



BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE MÉXICO DE AMALIA HERNÁNDEZ

Education Concert

OVERTURE

TLACOTALPAN'S FESTIVAL

February 2nd marks the celebration of the Candelaria Virgin in the town of Tlacotalpan. Stages are built in the main square where musicians and dancers dance to fandangos. This celebration is characterized by the use of the mojigangas, enormous puppets that symbolize different cultural figures and archetypal human characteristics. The music is characterized by the sound of drums such as congas, common in the festive carnival season of the Caribbean.

LIFE LIKE A GAME

In this dance, the game is controlled by the devil. He handles all characters as if they are marionettes and with their wires, he manipulates their destiny. Reality and fantasy interact when the devil uses both "cupid" and "death" to perform a tangled love story between a bride, her groom and her lover.

DEER DANCE

The Yaqui people, who have a reputation for being excellent hunters, have managed to be the only indigenous culture to preserve their cultural autonomy in the face of Spanish colonialism. Free from any racial mingling or modern cultures, the Yaquis continue hunting with bows and arrows, cultivating the land according to their ancestor's methods and celebrating their ritual dances with hermetic fervor. The Deer Dance is part of a rite that is organized in preparation for a hunt. It said to bring luck and a bountiful profit to those who participate.

FLOREO (ROPE DANCE)

One of Mexico's deepest traditions is Charreada, where men and women demonstrate their bravery in sports competitions, due to the work done in old Haciendas of Mexico. During a celebration full of color and fun, the Charro shows his beloved his abilities with the rope, captivating her to the rhythm of a Jarabe.

JALISCO FESTIVITY

The state of Jalisco is the land of the Charros, the Chinas and the Mariachis. Since the last century it has become a symbol of Mexican nationality. The Charros of Jalisco are known for their high spirits and joyous grasping of life. Jalisco's folklore captures the soul of Mexico in its sensual music, refined dances and dazzling costumes. For this reason the Ballet Folklórico de México culminates every performance with this ballet. It opens with a Mariachi parade playing lively sones at the start of a fiesta. In the background is the traditional gazebo found in all the provincial plazas of Mexico. During this colorful fiesta, the songs and dances of Jalisco: The Snake, El Tranchete, La Negra and El Jarabe Tapatío, the famous Mexican Hat Dance are performed. At the end of the performance, the dancers salute the audience with an abundance of colorful paper streamers.

BALLET FOLKLÓRICO DE MEXICO

Dance Company

Female Dancers

Silvia Acuña Enriquez
Meztlí Borbolla Osuna
Lourdes Angelica Braga Martin
Rosa Aurora Davila Briones
Fabiola Duran Ramirez
Brenda Flores
Pamela Guadalupe Fuentes Prieto
Alejandra Itzel García Alejandre
Ana Laura Guzmán Vega
Cynthia Del Carmen Hinojosa Paredes
Alexandra Huitron Pinillos
Andrea Jaime Villanueva
Anahí Landa León
Angelica Morales Fierro
Dulce Jenifer Mota Mata
Ana Lily Pinedo
Jessica Alejandra Resendiz Rodriguez
Citlalli Rodríguez Cervantes
Raquel Irene Vargas Lopez
Dafne Ivette Villalobos Corona

Male Dancers

Marco Antonio Aguirre Macias
Juan Ernesto Alvarez Hermosillo
V́ctor Elías Bustos Jarillo
Oscar Daniel Campos Rodríguez
Saulo David Gallardo Leyva
José Isaac García Marín
Ricardo Gonzalez Camacho
Antonio Gonzalez Gallegos
Edson Jair González Gonzaga
Roberto Carlos Gonzalez Martinez
Aaron Zalahui Hernandez Martinez
Tonatiuh Ricardo Hernández Martínez
Job Emilio Hidalgo Ochoa
José Agustín Lara Cortés
Gustavo Lemus Lemus
Alfonso Meraza Prudente
Juan Negrete Muñoz
Juan Francisco Rodriguez Torreblanca
Jose Alonso Rosales
Javier Missael Tellez Chamorro
Jorge Torres Chávez
Daniel Humberto Veraztica Ramos



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The performances are part of the APPlause! Series, presented by Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs. Featuring local, regional and world-renowned professional artists, the mission of the program is to share university arts resources with the public, private and home school network across our region. Study guide materials connect every performance to the classroom curriculum. With the help of the university's College Access Partnership, school groups can enjoy lunch in an on-campus dining facility, take a campus tour, or observe a demonstration by an Appalachian State professor.

For more information, contact:

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