

# *¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara!*

## MÚSICA, DANZA, Y MUCHO MÁS



### PRESS RELEASE

#### Patricio Hidalgo and el Afrojarocho Celebrate African Roots in Music and Dance of Veracruz

##### Summary Facts:

- **Seven-member group from Veracruz perform jarochoo music, dance and verse**
- **Free family performance Friday, October 2, 7 pm, Isla Vista School, 6875 El Colegio Rd., Goleta, Information (805) 893-5037**
- **Free family performance Saturday, October 3, 7:30 pm, Guadalupe City Hall Auditorium, 918 Obispo Street, Guadalupe, Information (805) 343-2455**
- **Free family performance Sunday, October 4, 7 pm, Marjorie Luke Theatre, Santa Barbara Jr. High, 721 E. Cota Street, Santa Barbara, Information (805) 884-4087 x7**
- Photos and refreshments with the artists at receptions after performances
- **UPDATE - Special free event: El Corazón Jarocho: music and poetry with Patricio Hidalgo, Thursday, October 1, 5:30 -6:30 pm Santa Barbara Museum of Art. Co-presented with the Santa Barbara Museum of Art**
- **Special free event: Jarocho Workshop, Sunday, October 4, 2 – 4 pm, Casa de La Guerra, Co-presented with the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Presevation**
- Like ¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara! on Facebook [www.facebook.com/VivaelArteSB](http://www.facebook.com/VivaelArteSB) for updates

Patricio Hidalgo is a world-renown musician and poet, and a third-generation *jaranero*, a master of the music and dance of the Veracruz region of Mexico. **¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara!** presents **Patricio Hidalgo and el Afrojarocho** in free family concerts at Isla Vista School, Friday, October 2, 7 pm; at Guadalupe City Hall on Saturday, October 3, 7:30 pm; and at The Marjorie Luke Theatre at Santa Barbara Junior High on Sunday, October 4, 7 pm. The Santa Barbara Museum of Art co-presents a session of poetry and music with Patricio

**Hidalgo and el Afrojarocho on Thursday, October 1, 7 pm. Come learn jarocho music and dance at a free workshop with the artists, Sunday, October 4, 2 -4 pm, at Casa de La Guerra, co-presented with the Santa Barbara Trust for Historic Preservation.**

Patricio Hidalgo is one of the great emerging poets and widely recognized master musician of jarocho, a three-hundred-year-old tradition from the Veracruz region of Mexico. He was born in the remote rural town of Apixita and grew up with “the sun, the wind, the moon, liberty and determination,” in an area rich with uniquely beautiful flora and fauna as well as ongoing political struggles.

Patricio’s grandfather was the great Don Arcadio Hidalgo, a revolutionary who fought with his *jarana* at his side, and became a central figure in the jarocho revival movement of the 60s and 70s. Although rooted in history, after a brief commercial boom in Mexico City in the 30s and 40s, jarocho was all but extinct in the countryside. Arcadio’s profound knowledge of would inspire not only his grandson, but other leaders of *el movimiento jarocho*, including Gilberto Gutierrez of Mono Blanco and others who have brought jarocho and the fandango back to the community.

Patricio Hidalgo began playing with Don Arcadio and Mono Blanco as a young man, touring every state in Mexico and travelling to England and Portugal. In the 90s Patricio joined another ensemble, Chuchumbe, and discovered personal liberation in composing songs and writing verse, a pursuit practiced in his family for generations. In 2013, he published *Rebeldía del alma*, verses that draw inspiration from a rural youth, the voices of his ancestors, and the maturity of a lifetime spent in music and tradition.

Since the 90s Patricio Hidalgo has focused on exploring the African roots of jarocho and he founded el Afrojarocho in 2008. Their performances pay tribute to the notable contributions from African culture which came to the Americas in past centuries. As a composer and collaborator Patricio Hidalgo has created and performed with Colombian pianist Claudia Calerón on El Piano Xarocho project, with Temembe Ensemble Continuo, and with Hespèrion XXI and Jordi Savall on *Folías Criollas*.

Besides founder Patricio Hidalgo, el Afrojarocho features Miguel Cicero on percussion and piano, Enrique Palacios Vega on requinto and vocals, Juan Rogel on *pandero* (hand drum), dun-dun drums, cajón, and *quijada* (donkey jaw), dancer Maria Esparza, Sergio Pulido on *leona* (jarocho bass), and Yaratze Hidalgo on vocals and jarana.

¡Viva el Arte de Santa Bárbara! is sponsored by SAGE Publications, Lynda Weinman and Bruce Heavin, the National Endowment for the Arts, the McCune Foundation, the California Arts Council, UCSB Office of Education Partnerships, the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission Community Arts Grant Program, with funds provided by the City of Santa Barbara, in partnership with the Santa Barbara County Arts Commission. Additional support comes from The Marjorie Luke Theatre's Dreier Family Rent Subsidy Fund, the Wells Fargo Foundation, the Stone Family Foundation, the Roddick Foundation, and the William E. Weiss Foundation, Mary and Gary Becker, Patricia and Jim Selbert, and Eric Kronvall. The program is supported in part by the Santa Barbara Independent, the Santa Maria SUN, El Latino CC, Radio Bronco, Univision, the Best Western South Coast Inn, Pacifica Suites, and Ramada Limited. Viva is co-presented by The Marjorie Luke Theatre, the Guadalupe Cultural Arts & Education Center, the Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes Center and UCSB Arts and Lectures, in partnership with the Isla Vista School After School Grant.

**END**

Contact me for interview and high resolutions photos [cathy.oliverson@sa.ucsb.edu](mailto:cathy.oliverson@sa.ucsb.edu), 805-893-3382 (press contact only - please do not publish this number). I look forward to working with you.