

GlobalFEST on the Road spotlights two leading and cutting-edge Latin bands

GlobalFEST on the Road: The New Golden Age of Latin Music featuring two leading Latin bands, Las Cafeteras and Orkesta Mendoza, will come to the Weis Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 3.

GlobalFEST on the Road is a flexible touring and curating concept based on GlobalFEST's annual flagship festival in New York City, a one-day event that showcases a dizzying range of musicians from around the globe. GlobalFEST: The New Golden Age of Latin Music reveals the global energies now at work in the American Latin music scene.

The six-piece band Las Cafeteras began as a group of students at Eastside Cafe, a community space in East Los Angeles, California, where they learned to play son jarocho, a traditional music style from Veracruz, a state in the Gulf of Mexico. All of the band's members are children of immigrants.

The group features traditional Mexican folk instruments including the jarana, an 8-string guitar; the qui-jada, a donkey jawbone (which serves as a percussive scraper) and a tarima, a wooden platform for dancing. While rooted in son jarocho, the LA Times called their sound a "uniquely Angeleno mishmash of punk, hip-hop, beat music, cumbia and rock." It's a mix-and-match of styles and sources that serves to deliver socially conscious lyrics, in both English and Spanish.

They have released two recordings. Their song "La Bamba Rebelde," a politically-charged remake of "La Bamba" (perhaps the most famous son jarocho) from their CD *It's Time* (2012) became a theme song for the telenovela *Bajo El Mismo Cielo* on the Telemundo network. Las Cafeteras' second album, *Tastes Like LA*, featuring the powerful song "If I Was President," was released in April 2016.

Orkesta Mendoza, originally founded by singer and guitarist Sergio Mendoza in 2009 to play a 20-minute tribute set honoring Cuban mambo king, Dámaso Pérez Prado, is a dapper sextet that plays a high-energy combination of mambo, cumbia, psychedelia and rock. The Orkesta's music, arranged to suggest a big band with a touch of lo-fi electronics, speaks of a borderless world in which US culture and Latin traditions come together.

It's the music of ¡Vamos a Guarachar! (Let's Party!), the band's most recent release and an invitation to dance with a travelogue of styles that goes from surf rock to mambo and pop rock.

GlobalFEST: The New Golden Age of Latin Music is the second national touring extension of globalFEST and the first to spotlight Latin artists based in the





United States. In addition to concert performances, the tour will include outreach programs at universities across the country and matinee performances for young audiences. It continues the mission of globalFEST to bring the world's music to America.

Tickets can be purchased online at Bucknell.edu/BoxOffice or by calling 570-577-1000.

For more information about this performance contact Lisa Leighton, marketing and outreach director, at 570-577-3727 or by e-mail at lisa.leighton@bucknell.edu.

For more information about the Weis Center for the Performing Arts, go to Bucknell.edu/WeisCenter or search for the Weis Center on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter or YouTube.