

PACÍFICO

DANCE COMPANY

Adriana A. Gainey

Founder & Artistic Director

Chris Flores

Company Stage Manager

Oscar Gómez Ríos

Company Lighting Designer

Carlos Parra

Musical Director, Mariachi Los Toros

Camila Mier, Zarene Marie Nuñez

Repertoire Mentors

Alina Hernández

Wardrobe Coordinator

Kailey Tapia

Wardrobe Assistant

Cristina Morales

Social Media & Content Coordinator

Rachel Cohen, Cadence Arts Network, Inc.

Bookings

Dancers

**Alexia Antuna, Nataly Barba, Daisy Brambila, Josealfredo Bustamante,
Kendra Campos, Vanessa Castillo, Renata Cuevas, Alina Hernández ,
Esmeralda Magaña Montión, Camila Mier, Zarene Marie Nuñez, Denise Oñate,
Daphne Oñate, Leslie Ortega, Lizeth Ramírez, Eduardo Ramírez, Nazul Ramírez,
Tizitl Ramírez, Joseph Rosales, Valerie Sainz, Kailey Tapia, Ileana Vásquez, Arturo
Manjarrez, Filibert Mejia, Candelario Montión**

Musicians

**Esteban Andrade, Roberto García, William Lares, Vincent Morales,
Carlos Parra, John Vargas, Raúl Vidal**

Orgullo Oaxaqueño

Orgullo Oaxaqueño is a celebration of Oaxaca's many regional voices, from the festive streets of Oaxaca City to the rugged Mixteca and the sunlit Costa Chica. The suite honors the joy, strength, and generosity that unite Oaxacan communities, while centering women as visible keepers of celebration, movement, and tradition.

The dancers begin with Las Chinas, whose flower baskets, graceful carriage, and lace-trimmed Costa Chica attire evoke the welcoming energy of Oaxaca's community festivities. A female ensemble then dances Jarabe Mixteco barefoot, using fast, playful steps and shared movement to celebrate the spirit and resilience of women dancing together. Son Alegre carries the audience to the Pacific coast, where relaxed rhythms and lively footwork reflect the cultural richness of Oaxaca's Costa Chica, including Indigenous and Afro-Mexican influences.

Las Chinas - Female Ensemble
Jarabe Mixteco - Female Ensemble
Son Alegre - Company

Choreography by Adriana Gainey

Entre Río y Encanto

Entre Río y Encanto journeys to Chiapas, a lush southern region where rivers, forests, birds, and waterfalls shape both daily life and the imagination. The suite follows women along the riverbank, where work, laughter, courtship, and the natural world become part of a shared story.

In *El Pijiji*, *Pacífico* transforms music named for a water bird into a humorous riverside scene: young women washing clothes leave an eager young man with more laundry than he bargained for. *El Alcaraván* turns the courtship of a bird into a playful exchange between partners, while *El Sapo* fills the stage with lively frogs, bringing quick jumps and comic energy to the river's edge. The suite ends with *Vals Chiapas*, whose elegant turns and lyrical waltz rhythm honor the grace and quiet strength of Chiapaneca women.

El Pijiji - Female Ensemble & Joseph Rosales

El Alcaraván - Alina Hernández, Camila Mier, Kailey Tapia, & Tizitl Ramírez

El Sapo - Company

Vals Chiapas - Female Ensemble

Choreography by Adriana Gainey

Fandango Veracruzano

Fandango Veracruzano celebrates Veracruz, Mexico's Gulf Coast, where tropical landscapes, community gatherings, and musical exchange have shaped the vibrant tradition of *son jarocho*. The suite reflects the many cultural roots that came together in Veracruz: Indigenous knowledge, African rhythm, and Spanish music, poetry, dance, and clothing traditions.

From *El Coco* and *El Cajón* to *La Bamba*, dancers and musicians create the lively conversation at the heart of a *fandango*. On the wooden *tarima*, dancers use rhythmic zapateado to create percussion with their feet, helping drive the music forward. Together with playful partner work and sung storytelling, these dances reveal how Veracruz transformed many cultural influences into something unmistakably its own: joyful, rhythmic, and alive.

El Coco - Company

El Cajón - Company

La Bamba - Camila Mier & Tizitl Ramirez

Choreography by Adriana Gainey

Original choreography for “El Cajón” by Matthew de León, restaged by Adriana Gainey

Las Que Bailan: A lo Norteño

Las Que Bailan: A lo Norteño celebrates how northern Mexican dance is carried from generation to generation. Women—mothers, grandmothers, daughters, and sisters—are at the center of this story, teaching the steps, creating the costumes, and gathering families around tradition.

From the classic Chihuahua polka *La Loca* to *El Jalón*, the energetic calabaceado of Baja California, the suite moves from cherished roots to a newer expression of Norteño dance. With lively partner work, quick turns, driving bootwork, and bold movement, these dances show tradition not as something frozen in time, but as something each generation receives, reshapes, and carries forward.

El Toro Mambo - Female Ensemble

La Loca - Company

El Jalón - Female Ensemble

Choreography by Adriana Gainey

Original choreography for “La Loca” by Joel Sandoval, restaged by Adriana Gainey

¡Viva Jalisco!

¡Viva Jalisco! brings our program to a joyful close in the western Mexican state known for mariachi music, charro traditions, and blue-agave landscapes. The suite celebrates the elegance, strength, and festive spirit of Jalisco through commanding zapateado, lively ensemble work, and the women’s radiant red de gala dresses, which shimmer with sequins as they move across the stage. Mariachi music originated in Jalisco, and the region’s dance traditions have become enduring symbols of Mexican culture.

From the playful energy of *La Culebra* and *El Tranchete* to the elegant movement of *El Gusto*, the suite builds toward *El Jarabe Tapatío*, widely known as the “Mexican Hat Dance.” These dances honor Jalisco’s deep cultural pride and invite audiences of all ages to share in the joy of the finale. ¡Viva Jalisco!

Live music by Mariachi Los Toros

La Culebra - Male Ensemble
El Tranchete - Male Ensemble
El Gusto - Company
El Jarabe Tapatío - Company

Choreography by Adriana Gainey

Biographies

Adriana Astorga-Gainey

Founder and Artistic Director of Pacífico Dance Company, a Los Angeles-based Mexican folk dance company established in 1992 to preserve and reimagine traditional Mexican dance through performance, education, and community engagement. Trained in Mexico City with Amalia Hernández and Rafael Zamarripa at the Escuela del Ballet Folklórico, and with additional study in ballet, modern dance, and flamenco, she leads a company of more than 40 dancers and musicians with a 30-year performance history across the United States, including a residency at the John F. Kennedy Center and international cultural exchanges in North Korea, China, and Paris. As a teaching artist with the Los Angeles Music Center, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, and The Broad Stage, she has served K-12 audiences across Southern California for more than twenty years, mentoring young dancers and bringing Mexican folklórico into classrooms, theaters, and communities throughout the region.

Pacífico Dance Company is a Los Angeles-based Mexican folk dance company founded in 1992 by Artistic Director Adriana Astorga-Gainey to preserve, present, and reimagine the rich cultural traditions of Mexico. Rooted in classical folklórico technique and shaped by decades of research into regional music, story, and ritual, Pacífico's repertory brings the dances of Jalisco, Veracruz, Oaxaca, Guerrero, Michoacán, and beyond to audiences across California and around the world. The company has performed at the John F. Kennedy Center, the John Anson Ford Amphitheatre, The Getty Center, the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, and on international stages in Paris, North Korea, and China. Through longstanding education partnerships with the Los Angeles Music Center, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, and The Broad Stage, Pacífico brings folklórico into K-12 classrooms across Southern California, honoring the artists, familias, and living traditions that carry Mexican culture forward.

Carlos Parra, Director, Mariachi Los Toros

Carlos Parra is the Musical Director of Mariachi Los Toros, an ensemble he founded from a childhood dream of performing and composing mariachi music. Under his direction, Mariachi

Los Toros has performed at major Southern California venues and events, including KCET's *Holiday Celebration* at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion and Mariachi USA at the Hollywood Bowl, and has performed nationally and in Mexico. Mr. Parra's experience performing with leading mariachi musicians informs his compositions, which he describes as "La Nueva Era del Mariachi," a fresh approach to the form.