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Leyendas y Raices

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Leyendas Y Raices

CARLOS GUZMAN AUGUSTIN RAMIREZ SUNNY OZUNA FREDDIE MARTINEZ



The word 'legendary' is a term best used judiciously, but its use is very appropriate in describing the Tejano music artists who have collaborated on a new release under the Freddie Records label. "LEYENDAS Y RAICES" is the title of a new album that features the voices of four of tejano music's most important influences: Carlos Guzman, Sunny Ozuna, Agustin Ramírez and Freddie Martínez.

The original idea and driving force behind the project came from Freddie Martínez, the former bandleader and music industry veteran of more than 30 years, and founder and President of Freddie Records. Martínez approached Augustin Ramírez and Carlos Guzman backstage at the Alamodome in San Antonio just prior to Martínez' and Ramírez' induction into the Tejano Music Hall of Fame in March 1997. The trio agreed in concept that the project should be attempted. But they also felt that the

project needed another artist to round out the package. Sunny Ozuna was approached and he agreed to be part of what was at first being called "The Legends Project."

Producing the album is Hugo Guerrero. A well known name in the contemporary tejano music scene, Guerrero has a Grammy nomination to his credit. The multi-talented Guerrero is an active vocalist and keyboardist with Fandango U.S.A. and has a wealth of studio experience arranging and producing material for his own group as well as such diverse artists as Ramon Ayala, Jr., Freddy Fender and La Sombra. When Martinez was faced with the decision of selecting a producer for the album, the name of Hugo Guerrero was uppermost in his mind. Incidentaly, many of the arrangements and all of the keyboard work on the album was turned in by Guerrero.

The four artists on the project are



among the most recognizable and respected band leaders in the history of tejano music. They each achieved tremendous success in the 60's and 70's and all had one primary concern during the production of "LEYENDAS Y RAICES". They wanted the project to be rendered in the besat possible way technically and artistically. They also wanted their collaboration to focus on new and unissued material, balanced by a touch of the classics that are associated with them as individuals, and steered away from any semblance of a greatest hits rehash collection.

The artists on "LEYENDAS Y RAICES" recorded well over a hundred albums over a thirty year period of time. Each one attained a tremendous level of success on his own. Their collaboration results in a classic that will once again bring Carlos Guzman, Sunny Ozuna, Augustin Ramírez and Freddie Martínez to the forefront of tejano music

Mr. Freddie Martinez explaines, "the power of "LEYENDAS Y RAICES" is that the material conveys the actual style that each of us had when we were active and on the circuit. Carlos always did wonderful work on ballads and he has a beautiful ballad on this CD. Augustin does good work on waltz's. And Sunny - he sounds as good as he ever has. Carlos Cardenas, who was my guitar player for a long time, and is himself a Hall of Famer, was in on some of the tunes. After knowing these guys for so many years that it feels like forever, and even knowing how good they are, I was still impressed with the way they came in here and in a couple of hours knocked out

their parts. And the results were excellent."

"LEYENDAS Y RAICES" contains the following titles. "Leyendas y Raices Popurri", "Vestida de Blanco", "Reina De Mi Amor", "Tres Ramitas", "Te Traigo Estas Flores", "Porque Te Amo", "Vas A Llorar", "Ya Volvi Paloma", "En Un Segundo Después", "Sin Lagrimas", "Quien Te Dijo", "Me Estoy Enamorando", "Nunca Es Tarde Para El Amor".





