

For IMMEDIATE Release

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Salsa Sensation *Ricardo Lemvo* Gets Austin "On its Feet!" - Saturday, April 24th to Help Serve Austin Refugees

Austin, TX- Afro-Latin salsa pioneer **Ricardo Lemvo** joins ***On Your Feet! Music and Dance Extravaganza*** to headline the third annual benefit festival for Austin's refugee shelters – **Casa Marianella & Posada Esperanza**. Emcee host Jenny Hoff will guide the evening's guests through a diverse sampling of world class performers- from internationally acclaimed Lemvo, to award winning artists such as Blue Lapis Light, Olivia Baile Flamenco, Ritmo 3, Capoeira Evoluçãu, Fuerza Latina, Nritya Sangam, and Bollywood For a Cause. Help us celebrate this unique *carnival of cultures* that brings heightened opportunities to Austin's newest community members!

Join the raffle for a **one-week beach vacation to Porto Seguro, Brazil**, which includes airfare and vacation house accommodations. This year's silent auction boasts local Austin artworks, spa services, restaurant certificates, dance lessons, among countless exceptional items!

Doors open at 7:00pm

Location: Marchesa Hall & Theatre, formally Monarch Event Center
6406 N. IH-35, Suite 3100
Austin TX, 78752
www.themarchesa.com

Tickets may be purchased for \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door.

For advance ticketing, please visit www.onyourfeetworld.eventbrite.com

To learn more about and/or to donate to Casa Marianella directly, please visit www.casamarianella.org.

All proceeds from the evening benefit **Casa Marianella & Posada Esperanza** –providing shelter, resources, education, and support to immigrants and refugees in Austin since 1986.

About the World-Class Performances

***Ricardo Lemvo & Makina Loca:** World-renowned pioneer of Afro-Cuban salsa rhythms, Lemvo joins *On Your Feet!* for an evening of "seamless and infectious" dance contagion. www.makinaloca.com

*Aerial dance company, **Blue Lapis Light**, graces the stage with a riveting performance of fabric entwined stunts and arabesques...a sight not to be missed! www.bluelapislight.org

*Direct from Madrid, **Olivia Baile Flamenco's** guitarist/singer Isaí Chacón accompanies dancer Olivia Chacón for a passionate duet of traditional Flamenco and intoxicating visuals.

www.oliviabaileflamenco.org

*The **Ritmo 3** train of nine salsa musicians packs together timba inspired rhythms with traditional and contemporary Latin sounds in a unique and inspiring musical experience.

www.myspace.com/ritmo3

*Austin's own **Capoeira Evolução**, established in 1990, will perform traditional Afro-Brazilian martial arts with the true ability to "Stay on their feet!" www.capoeiraevolucao.com

***Bollywood For A Cause** harnesses social change and movements by promoting better awareness of global nutrition deficiencies through Bollywood dance and performance. Join the dancers on stage for a Bollywood style scavenger hunt! www.bollywoodforacause.org

*UT Austin's **Nritya Sangam**, a premier Indian dance troupe, brings a diverse array of traditional and contemporary Indian dances to exquisite elegance.

<http://studentorgs.utexas.edu/nrityasangam/home.html>

***Fuerza Latina Dance Company** combines salsa infused dance rhythms with hip-hop sound and footwork for a non-stop, energizing performance. www.myspace.com/fuerzalatinadanceco

About Casa Marianella & Posada Esperanza

Casa Marianella (www.casamarianella.org) opened its doors on January 6, 1986. The Austin Interfaith Task Force for Central America initiated the project in response to the arrival of refugees fleeing Central America. Marianella Garcia Villas, for whom the house is named, was a human rights lawyer in El Salvador who was slain by death squads in 1983. Casa Marianella has served guests from Mexico, Somalia, Honduras, Nicaragua, Ethiopia, Peru, Guatemala, Sudan, Eritrea, Tunisia, Cuba, Albania, El Salvador, Ghana, The Ivory Coast, Colombia, Nepal, Romania, Costa Rica, Brazil, Cameroon and Bosnia.

In 2003, Casa Marianella opened a new facility, Posada Esperanza, to provide emergency shelter and support specifically to homeless immigrant women and their children. The average stay for a family with Posada Esperanza is three to five months during which time the families work diligently with staff to meet individual goals and get back on their feet. Because of the perpetual need for sustainable funding for these programs, all profits generated by this event will directly benefit Casa Marianella & Posada Esperanza.

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This evening of culturally rich entertainment is designed and organized by an all-volunteer ensemble of passionately creative individuals, empowered to help others get back "On Their Feet!"