

EL OBSERVADOR

de Portland

Irene Larrera "Soy de Ti" CD Release Tour Stops in Portland

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 8 PM St. John's Theater, 8203 N. Ivanhoe with SONiA (of desappear fear) 503/283-8520 5 PM In Store CD Release Party Music Millennium 810 NW 23rd @ Johnson 503/248-0163. For information, call: Same Sea Productions 541/484-6140.

"Soy de Ti" is a fiery, fascinating album that perfectly showcases Irene (pronounced ee-re-neh) Farrera's unique, percussive style of singing and playing the guitar. Although her infectious rhythms and deep, rich voice first capture one's attention, the poetry of Farrera's music demands that the listener linger. Farrera's lyrics (sometimes sung in English, sometimes in Spanish) are thought-provoking and heartfelt. The themes of her songs encompass the whole of human experience, expressing

equal concern for passionate longings of the heart and pressing social issues as race, poverty, and the loss of compassion for each other.

Farrera combines her poetic lyrics with an original, arresting style of playing the guitar. She explores the possibilities of her instrument with a master's confidence and skill, fascinating listeners with the intricate drum patterns that emerge as she strums. "Soy de Ti" is a treat for percussion-lovers. The album is produced by steel drum master Andy Narell, and features Afro-Latin percussion by Michael Spiro, Jesus Diaz, and Jackeline Rago. "Soy de Ti" is her third album.

Born in Caracas, Venezuela, Farrera grew up singing and playing *cuatro* (a traditional, four-stringed guitar). The driving rhythms of the *joropo* and *gaita*

permeate her songs, providing a tangible link to the music of her homeland. Farrera now makes her home in Eugene and is a Northwest favorite. She also tours extensively throughout North America. Farrera returns to Oregon following a 3 week tour of the Midwest which included dates at the Latin Fest in Chicago and the Lotus World Music Festival where she opened for Barbarito Torres of Buena Vista Social Club fame.

Irene Farrera performs songs from the new CD at a Release Party at Music Millennium's Northwest store (801 NW 23rd), 5 PM on Friday, October 15th. Later that evening she'll join SONiA of desappear fear at St. John's Theater, 8203 N. Ivanhoe. Showtime is 8 PM. Tickets are available at all FASTIX outlets. For more information, call 503/283-8520.



The Services to Children and Families is looking for Foster and Adoptive families for Hispanic children who are under the state of Oregon custody.

If you are interested in becoming a Foster or Adoptive parent for minority children, please contact Judy Orellana at 503/731-3075, ext. 405.

La División de Servicios para Niños esta buscando familias temporales y adoptivas para los niños hispanos que estan bajo la custodia del estado de Oregon. Si usted esta interesado en adoptar a un niño por favor llame a Judy Orellana tel. 503/731-3075, ext. 405.

CAUSA

Protest Against the Guest Worker Proposals

Senator Gordon Smith (R) Oregon and Senator Bob Graham (D) of Florida are preparing to introduce legislation to reinstating the old BRACERO Program by claiming there is a shortage of farmworkers.

Lee G. Williams, one time director of that Program called it "noting short of legalized slavery." We expect the Smith/Graham bill to be submitted very soon; it will propose streamlining the current H-2A program claiming that it's not working and must be

fixed.

The fact of the matter is that the current H-2A program has provisions that protect workers. It sets standard which growers who want to use H-2A must follow. When they talk about fixing the current H-2A, what they are saying is, "let's do away with the worker protections/standards and make it easier for employers to bring in guest workers."

In 1997, the Government Accounting Office, (GAO) study concluding that there is "no national agriculture labor shortage."

Guest worker programs increase worker abuse, depress wages and destroy efforts to unionize farmworkers. Both in Oregon and nationally an increasing number of migrant farmworkers are indigenous people from Mexico and Central America.

Any expanded Guest Worker program will rely heavily to recruit and abuse these indigenous people.

For more information, contact Ramon Ramirez, PCUN at 503/982-0243 or 989-0073.

The Latino Summit Education

In response to the community, the Offices of Commissioner Serena Cruz and Superintendent Ben Canada had hosted the second Latino Education Summit, the School Kick-Off on Tuesday, October 12 at Portland State University's Smith Memorial Union.

The summit was a joint effort by students, educators, administrators and community members who had taken the initiative to better the education of Latino youth in Multnomah County.

The first summit occurred in June of 1999 to create goals, ideas and solutions for the rising drop-out rate among Latino students.

Theresa Fay-Bustillos, Vice President of Legal Programs at the Mexican American Legal Defense & Education Fund (MALDEF)

gave the keynote address.

Ms. Fay-Bustillos advocates to protect and advance the civil rights of over twenty-six million Latinos residing in the United States. The summit was free and open to the public.



The Portland Observer

WANTS YOU TO KNOW
 WHAT IS HAPPENING IN
 YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD...
 ...AND AROUND
 THE WORLD!



¡Sí! ¡Ya le toca a usted! No pudo haberlo soñado mejor si lo hubiera intentado. Ha aprendido que esas largas horas de trabajo duro definitivamente valieron la pena, y que es más fácil salir adelante cuando lo respalda la familia. Así es con American Family Mutual Insurance. Como usted, nosotros sabemos que el buen desempeño día tras día crea reputaciones sólidas. Es sólo una de las razones por las cuales, año tras año, mantenemos el rango A+ (Superior) de la autoridad en la puntuación de agencias de seguros, A.M. Best. Antes de que haga su próxima movida, haga una llamada, y un agente amable con mucho gusto le dará más detalles. Entonces, salga a conquistar el mundo...nosotros lo respaldamos.

Usted tiene una familia que lo respalda

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La póliza que usted adquiera sólo está disponible en idioma inglés.
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