

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



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Shakira Earns Lifetime Tribute

Latin singer joins elite roup

(AP) — Her hips don't lie and neither do her massive album sales.

International pop star Shakira was honored as the 2011 Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year in Las Vegas Nov. 9 during a star-studded tribute dinner that saw the Colombian singer share an intimate moment with her father and close the night in a burst of song dedicated to her hometown of Barranquilla.

A parade of Latin music's biggest stars paid homage to the 34-year-old "Hips Don't Lie" singer during the concert. They performed hits such as "La Tortura" and "Estoy Aqui" in a two-hour salute to a career that has spanned decades and continents.

Shakira gleefully took in the performances, occasionally bouncing in her chair to show her appreciation, or standing up to dance amid a maze of banquet tables. After each song, Shakira climbed on stage and embraced the performers that included Venezuelan singer Franco De Vita, Mexican rocker Alejandra Guzmán and salsa legend Gilberto Santa Rosa.

But it was a performance from her father, William Mebarak, that marked the emotional crescendo of the night. Mebarak, who sat next to Shakira for most of the show, took to the stage mid-way through the celebration and sang "Mi Nina Bonita" to his daughter. The song, which translates to "My Pretty Girl," is a staple father-daughter tribute often



Shakira performs in Las Vegas Nov. 9 at the Latin Recording Academy Person of the Year tribute in her honor. (AP photo)

heard at Hispanic weddings and birthday parties.

As Mebarak sang, pictures of the father and daughter flooded a screen hanging along the back of the stage. Shakira, visibly moved, buried her face in a tissue.

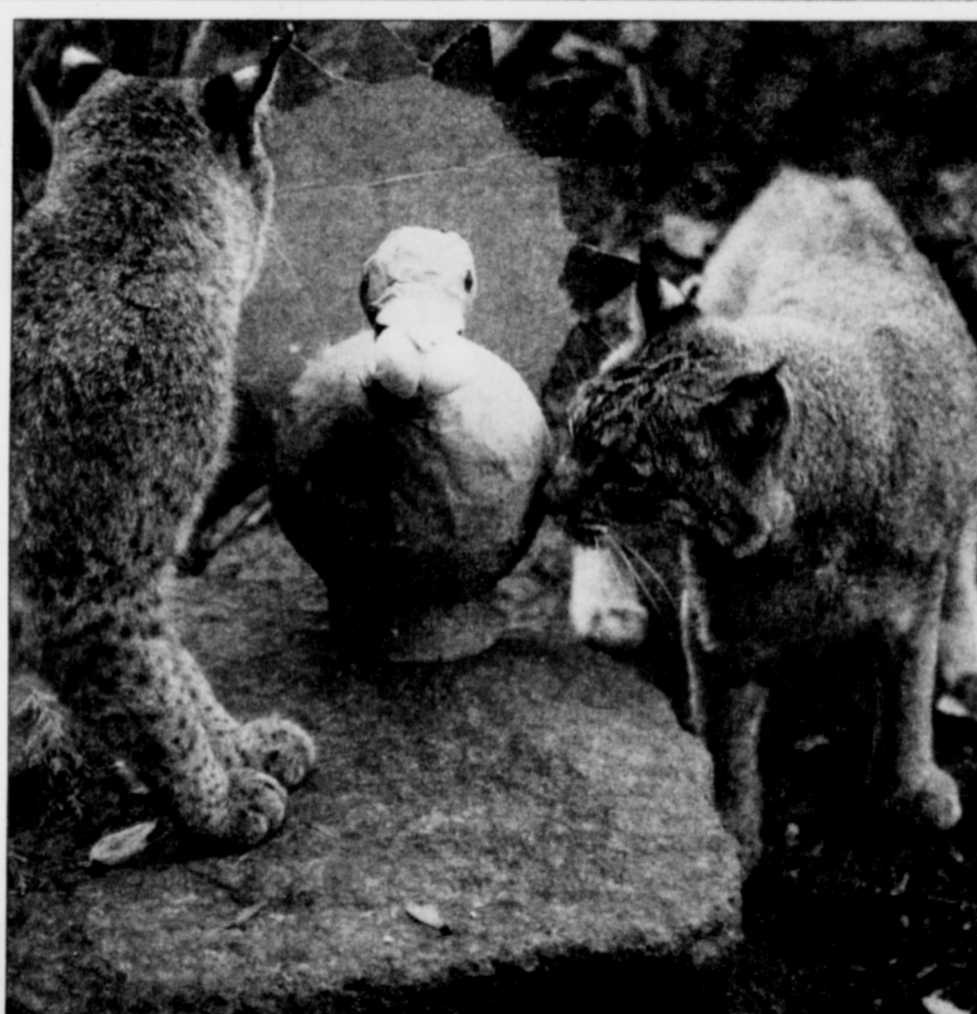
"Thank you, daddy, for that song," she told him later in Spanish.

Puerto Rican crooner Marc Anthony presented Shakira with a crystal plaque to mark the honor. He called her a close friend and a humanitarian. Shakira's Pies Descalzos Foundation has raised millions of dollars to fight poverty and educate the poor.

"We are in the presence of one of the most special human beings, one of the most talented human beings you will ever meet," Anthony said.

Shakira, who has sold more than 60 million albums in Spanish and English, is the youngest person to receive the Latin Recording Academy's most prestigious award. Previous honorees include Carlos Santana, Gloria Estefan and Ricky Martin.

"I'll carry this night with me always," she said in Spanish after receiving the award. "It's an honor that I am not sure I deserve, but you've made me very happy."



Zoo's Thanksgiving 'Beast Feast'

The Oregon Zoo's bobcats investigate a papier-mâché turkey stuffed with treats. Zoo animals will receive special treats and Thanksgiving-themed enrichment throughout the holiday weekend, Nov. 24-27. Another Thanksgiving Day event begins early on Nov. 24, when the Oregon Zoo hosts the annual Turkey Trot, organized by the Oregon Road Runners Club. This event includes a four-mile fitness run and walk, starting at 8 a.m., followed by a half-mile "Tot Trot" at 9:30 a.m.