



FANDANGO!

Art Form: Music, Dance

Style: Traditional

Culture: Mexican

Technical Needs

- ❑ Electrical outlets
- ❑ A flat cart for unloading and loading (if possible)

Meet the Artist

Tarima Son is traditional and contemporary musical group that was formed in 2002. This dynamic ensemble specializes in music from Mexico, specifically exploring the Indigenous, African, and Spanish influences on the rhythms, movement, and melodies of Mexico.

The group has performed in various venues around the Chicago, including the Old Town School of Folk Music, the Folk and Arts Fest in Evanston, The Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum, The Field Museum and others. They have also been seen in prestigious festivals like the Folklife Fest of the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C. and have performed throughout the United States.

The members of Tarima Son have rich experience in the field of education. They teach Mexican music and dance, conduct poetry and musical workshops, and lead students in the process of making instruments which include clay whistles, straw trumpets, drums, and maracas. This passion for education comes through in their school performances as they seek to create connections between this traditional art form and the lives of the students today.

About the Performance

The show introduces different styles and a variety of traditional instruments including: Guitar, Jarana, Mandolin, Huapanguera, Jarana Huasteca, Violin, Vihuela, Harp (string instruments), Marimbol, Donkey jaw, Cajon, Tamborita, Huehuetl, Tarima (percussion), flutes and ocarinas (wind) and more. Music is demonstrated from every region or state in Mexico including: Jarocho, Huasteco. Mariachi, Planeco, Calentano, Ranchero etc.

This exciting show has multiple sections which explore the different influences on traditional Mexican music. The show follows the following format:

1. THE NATIVE MEXICO (Feria, Mitote, Fandango y Huapango)
 - a. *The Song of Fire*
 - b. Salutations of the four directions using ancient indigenous instruments
 - c. Indigenous dance *xochipitzahuatl*, along with an explanation of when this dance was used in the culture
 - d. *El Tigre* song from the Tabasco state

2. THREE DIFFERENT WORLDS TOGETHER (Indigenous, Spanish and African)
 - a. *El Trenecito*, a song and dance from the state of Michoacan where a dancer portrays an old man with traditional attire and invites the audience to join in
 - b. *El Querreque*, Huapango Huasteco popular style of music from Tamaulipas, Hidalgo, and Veracruz
 - c. *Samba Chucha* and *La Iguana* along with explanations of how, when, and where this music is performed, featuring short stories related to each song
 - i. Instruments, attire, Spanish, and Indigenous words are introduced
 - ii. The audience is invited to participate with singing, dancing, and clapping
 - d. The show concludes with a performance of *La Bamba* in the traditional style, as well as a summary of the program

Fandango can be adapted to emphasize different occasions or themes including the Day of the Dead, Cinco de Mayo, Mexican Independence, African heritage, and more.

Vocabulary

Son: A style of Mexican music representing a fusion of indigenous, Spanish, and African musical elements, reflecting the population which evolved in the region from Spanish colonial times.

Tarima: A large elevated wooden platform used for percussive dancing.