

MANSION
STRATHMORE

Music in the Mansion

MIRAMAR

Rei Álvarez, *voz & güiro*

Laura Ann Singh, *voz & synth*

Marlysse Simmons-Argandoña, *pianist & organ*

Bruno Alcalde, *electric guitar*

Dan Martinez, *electric bass*

Giustino Riccio, *bongó & cajón*

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 7:30pm



PROGRAM

1. Hiedra / Ivy

“I await a strength in my life with which I may evade another love like you.”

2. No Puede Ser / It Can't Be

“My heart still yearns for you, in spite of your apathy. Even with all of my love and affection, our love is not meant to be.”

3. Incertidumbre / Uncertainty

“Love, in its ever-changing, sometimes desperate movements, is a river difficult to navigate.”

4. Juntos / Together

“Without you, there is no destiny.”

5. Di Corazón / Tell Me Heart

Music & Lyrics: Sylvia Rexach (Puerto Rico, 1922–1961)

6. Urgencia / Urgency

“Tells of the desperation a heart feels when it is swept away by romance, but risks it all for fear of not having another chance at love.”

7. Lo Sabrás / You Will Know

“I will teach you the important lessons of life, you'll know what not to do through watching my mistakes and failures, and I'll teach you how to defend yourself to live your most authentic life.”

8. Sin Ti / Without You

“Everything feels empty without you, but I hold onto the promise and strength of coming back to myself, confident I will find my way again without you.”

9. Salida / Departure

“‘Salida’ means ‘a way out.’ It is a song about the surrender that comes after trying to break free from the darkest of places, of endless frustration and sadness. The lyrics allude, but never tell.”

10. Tu Peine / Your Comb

Music & Lyrics: Sebastian Cruz

“The things you left behind when you walked out torture me with memories of you.”

11. Un Astro / A Star

“A new being arrived to change our lives, bringing joy, light and purpose where before existed only sadness and darkness.”

12. Lo Que Me Das / What You Give Me

“The life you've given me has been an empty promise.”

13. Paradero / Resting Place

“There's a place I can always go to center myself without fearing betrayal or judgment.”

*All music by Rei Álvarez, Marlysse Simmons-Argandoña, and Laura Ann Singh, except where noted.
All lyrics by Rei Alvarez.*

ABOUT MIRAMAR

Miramar reimagines the Latin bolero and carries the torch of Bolero Beat—a genre that rose to international fame in the 1960s by blending nostalgic ballads with psychedelic rock, bossa nova, funk, jazz, and more. The ensemble features the acclaimed singing duo Rei Álvarez and Laura Ann Singh and is led by pianist and DC native Marlysse Simmons-Argandoña. Performing as a sextet, Miramar’s members are based between Richmond, VA, and Brooklyn, NY, with strong links to Puerto Rico, Chile, and Brazil. The band’s name, meaning “look to the sea,” evokes the postcard-perfect seaside towns common throughout Latin America, reflecting their desire to capture the humble poetry of everyday life in music.

Rooted in the golden-era bolero sound of 1950s Puerto Rican duo groups, Miramar is also deeply inspired by the romantic pop balada and Rockmántica movements that gained international acclaim during the 1960s and ’70s, creating a sound that is at once nostalgic, sophisticated, and contemporary. Originally an offshoot of the indie-salsa band Bio Ritmo, Miramar was one of the earliest Latin groups to perform on NPR’s *Tiny Desk*

and has since shared its distinctive take on bolero worldwide, performing across the US, Puerto Rico, and Europe often collaborating with string quartets and symphonic orchestras. Their music has been released on leading independent labels, including Brooklyn’s world music connoisseurs Barbès Records and renowned soul revival label Daptone Records. Their latest album, *Entre Tus Flores*, was released on the legendary tropical label Ansonia Records, originally founded in New York City in 1949 and recently revitalized by Emmy-nominated, LA-based music supervisor Liza Richardson. The album features a multitude of guest artists, including a chamber orchestra, and was described by *Sounds and Colours Magazine* as a “retro-tastic, string-driven take on the bolero.” It was hailed by Spain’s *Staf Magazine* as “one of the greatest discoveries of recent years” and praised by Sweden’s *Lira Magazine* as “crazy, updated, odd—and irresistible.”

To find more information online about Miramar and its members, visit www.miramar-music.com.

Instagram/Facebook: @miramarboleros

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