
SOUNDS OF LATIN AMERICA

LATIN FOLKLORIC MUSIC • CHAMBER ENSEMBLE • WORLD MUSIC

Araya's debut album, reimagines iconic folkloric and traditional songs from across the Latin American diaspora through intimate, cinematic arrangements that honor beloved classics while offering a fresh, chamber-influenced sound shaped by the ensemble's diverse musical backgrounds.

1. **La Bikina** Beloved across Mexico, this waltz ranchero tells the story of the proud and sorrowful Bikina, and has become one of Araya's most cherished fan favorites for its sweeping emotion and cultural pride.
2. **Media Luna Andina** This Venezuelan waltz, steeped in tender longing and dreamlike imagery, becomes one of Araya's most romantic and cinematic offerings as a long-imprisoned feeling takes flight into the clouds, returns as newfound tenderness, and under the half-moon resting on the hillside, two gazes meet and love is born.
3. **Manhã de Carnaval** Debuted in the 1960 film *Black Orpheus*, this classic Brazilian bossa captures the radiant morning of Carnaval, and in our rendition, marks the moment Araya embraced the clarinet as a second voice, completing the ensemble's now-signature quartet sound.
4. **Amarraditos** A playful Peruvian waltz, *Amarraditos* paints a nostalgic scene of two lovers strolling arm-in-arm as neighbors gossip about their old-fashioned style, bringing a spirited and lighthearted pause to the album's heavier themes.
5. **Tonada de Luna Llena** Inspired by Venezuela's pastoral work songs, our version deepens the original's voice-and-cuatro simplicity with cinematic cello textures, echoing the singer's dialogue with the moon as it watches over land, labor, and longing.
6. **Barcelonesa** The album's sole instrumental, this Venezuelan waltz becomes a graceful dialogue between clarinet and cello, each voice weaving around the other in a tender, expressive dance.
7. **Alfonsina y el Mar** This classic Argentinian zamba evokes the poet Alfonsina Storni's last steps toward the ocean, with the music illuminating her solitude as the sea receives her like a quiet, merciful companion.
8. **Amor Mío** In this Mexican bolero, the singer cherishes a love so powerful it's best kept between two people, and Bianca's warm approach to its slightly dissonant lines brings added depth to its themes of intimacy, devotion, and quiet happiness.
9. **Como Lloro Una Estrella** This Venezuelan tonada closes the album with a powerful lament in which the singer begs the night star to carry a message to the beloved who cannot hear him, confessing that a single word from her would rewrite his fate as he suffers in love's lonely shadow.

RELEASE INFO

Artist Araya

Release Name *Sounds of Latin America*

Release Date November 30, 2025

Genre Latin American Folkloric Music / World Music

Track Name	Composer	Length
1 La Bikina	Ruben Fuentes	02:50
2 Media Luna Andina	L & M: César Prato	05:05
3 Manhã de Carnaval	Luiz Bonfá	04:27
4 Amarraditos	Margarita Durán & Pedro Belisario Pérez	02:40
5 Tonada de Luna Llena	Simón Díaz	04:10
6 Barcelonesa	Enrique Hidalgo	04:54
7 Alfonsina y el Mar	A. Ramírez & F. Luna	05:50
8 Amor Mío	L. & M.: Álvaro Carrillo	03:26
9 Como Lloro Una Estrella	Antonio Carrillo	05:56

Bianca Catalán Vocalist (tracks 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9)

Keric Alvarez Zapata Venezuelan Cuatrista (all tracks)

Zoe Lee Cellist (tracks 2, 4, 8, 9)

Casey Quon Cellist (tracks 1, 3, 5, 6, 7)

Sarah Korneisel Jaegers Clarinetist (tracks 3, 6, 7)

Music Arrangements by Manuel Hurtado Dueñez (all tracks)

Recorded at 25th Street Recording, Oakland CA, November 2022 & August 2025

Recording Engineer: Karishma Kumar

Mixed and Mastered by Danilo Álvarez (tracks 1, 3, 5, 6), Karishma Kuma (tracks 2, 4, 7, 8, 9)

Produced by Bianca Catalán & Keric Alvarez Zapata

Artwork Cover: Bianca Catalán

Instagram https://www.instagram.com/araya_sounds

YouTube https://youtube.com/@araya_sounds

SoundCloud <https://on.soundcloud.com/naXbVSoqddtIbHMA9L>

Website <https://sekjaegers.com/sounds-of-latin-america>