



## **Despedidas con Mariachi: COVID-19's Impact on Mexican Americans in Southern California**

Jessie M. Vallejo, PhD • Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology • Cal Poly Pomona

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14 • 2:00 - 3:30 PM**

**LATIN AMERICAN AND IBERIAN INSTITUTE, UNM • 801 YALE BLVD NE**

Although the trope of silenced mariachis was common in early COVID-19 news stories about Los Angeles County, many mariachis were actively performing and supporting community wellbeing between 2020 and 2022. This talk discusses pre-existing sociopolitical challenges and reflects on the pandemic's traumatic impact on Mexican Americans in the region.



**Jessie M. Vallejo, PhD**, is an Associate Professor of Ethnomusicology at Cal Poly Pomona. Her research areas focus on mariachi, music education, and Indigenous cultural-linguistic revitalization. Dr. Vallejo co-produced Smithsonian Folkways' 2013 release *iAsí Kotama! The Flutes of Otavalo, Ecuador*. She has also published in *Smithsonian Folklife Magazine*, *Ethnomusicology Forum*, *Sonocordia*, and *The Ethnomusicologists' Cookbook vol.2*. Jessie is a founding member of ICTM's Study Group for Music and Dance in Latin America and the Caribbean; she is a co-editor of the online and open-access *World Music Textbook*; and she is an active freelance violinist in Southern California.

*This lecture is free and open to the public. Individuals of all abilities are encouraged to attend LAll-sponsored events. If you require a reasonable accommodation to participate in one of our events, please visit [laii.unm.edu/events/accessibility.html](http://laii.unm.edu/events/accessibility.html) or contact [laiioutreach@unm.edu](mailto:laiioutreach@unm.edu)*