

# SAVAE

## 2016 Touring Overview • San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble



The San Antonio Vocal Arts Ensemble (SAVAE) made its debut in 1989 at historic San Fernando Cathedral, presenting Latin American world/fusion music from the colonial period. In the years since, SAVAЕ has recorded six albums, including two Billboard-charting CDs, *Guadalupe Virgen de los Indios* and *El Milagro de Guadalupe*. Director Ridley Scott included a track from *Ancient Echoes*, SAVAЕ's album of early Middle Eastern music (sacred spiritual roots) in his 2005 feature film, *Kingdom of Heaven*. SAVAЕ has been featured in soundtracks, including Academy Award-winning Tod Boekelheide's score for *Discovering Dominga*. SAVAЕ has been featured on NPR's *Performance Today*, *Weekend*

*Edition*, *Sound & Spirit*, *Latino USA*, *The Savvy Traveler*. SAVAЕ was featured in hour-long specials on the early music program *Harmonia*. John Diliberto travelled to San Antonio to record a "Living Room Concert" for his *Echoes* public radio show, and SAVAЕ recorded an encore appearance for the program at Indre Studio in Philadelphia. SAVAЕ has toured to 70+ cities across the USA. The International Baroque Festival of Bolivia presented SAVAЕ in its *Misiones Chiquitos* concert series, marking the ensemble's foreign debut. Reviews covering SAVAЕ and its vibrant approach to early world music have appeared in major papers including *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Dallas Morning News*, *Houston Chronicle*, *The Chicago Sun Times* and via API and wire services—coast-to-coast. SAVAЕ is comprised of seven musicians who sing and play a variety of world music string, woodwind, and percussion instruments.

**Contact:** Catherine Covita Moroney, General Manager — 210-573-6335 • moroneys@mac.com  
**Members:** Seven (7) singers/instrumentalists — three male and four female  
**Instruments:** Vocals, extensive hand percussion and drums, various wind/flutes, guitars, harps  
**Web/Video:** [www.youtube.com/user/savaevideo](http://www.youtube.com/user/savaevideo) • [www.savae.org](http://www.savae.org) • [facebook.com/sanantonio.vocalarts](https://www.facebook.com/sanantonio.vocalarts)  
**Availability:** Summer 2015 — United States, Canada, and Mexico  
Summer 2016 — North America, South America, Europe, Asia

### Booking Requirements:

- Presenter provides \$5000 stipend payable to Covita Moroney, SAVAЕ general manager
- Presenter(s) provides (or shares) air travel, ground transport and hotel for SAVAЕ.
- All inclusive flat-fee: \$7000

### Technical Specifications:

- Stage: 14' wide x 12' deep (minimum) flat surface
- Dressing room/storage: 2 secure dressing rooms, and a 10 x 10 room for instrument cases
- Sound: No sound reinforcement is needed for most performances. However, outdoor or large venues seating over 250, or poor acoustics, require amplification: 14 microphones with a 14-channel mixer.
- Lights: Warm flood
- Equipment: 1 electrical outlet; 7 chairs with no arms; two 6 ft. tables covered in black fabric
- CD Sales: Unless otherwise stipulated, SAVAЕ reserves the right to sell CDs at its concerts.
- Load-In time: 4 hours (includes stage set up)
- Rehearsal: 90 minutes of uninterrupted rehearsal time preferred, with sound tech if applicable
- Housing (if applicable): 4 rooms, each with 2 beds.
- Travel: (if applicable): 7 round trip passages from San Antonio, TX

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## Media Buzz about SAVAE

**"The music has been so beautifully preserved and then re-enacted for us."**

*Scott Simon, NPR's Weekend Edition*

**"SAVAE has been enchanting diverse audiences nationwide."**

*Associated Press*

**"Grade A - nourishing to the body and soul."**

*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

**"Ethereal choir meets conga drum."**

*Los Angeles Times*

**"Compelling."**

*Denver Post*

**Guadalupe, Virgen de los Indios** — *Los Angeles Times*

"The product is a fresh, new-old kind of sound that seems on this evidence musicologically plausible. The singing and playing of the seven multi-talented members of the ensemble is bright, sweet and eloquently pointed."

**El Milagro de Guadalupe** — *Dallas Morning News*

"This suave San Antonio ensemble has made a specialty of music from the post-conquest New World. You probably haven't heard anything like it unless you own the group's previous recordings....some of us want to sing along."

**Guadalupe, Virgen de los Indios** — *Los Angeles Times*

"SAVAE has made it onto the charts by re-creating compositions celebrating the patron saint of Mexico. Much of the music has been gathered together in a compelling recording titled 'Guadalupe, Virgen de los Indios.' [The CD]...became a world music mini-hit, appearing on the Billboard world music chart and drawing national attention of media ranging from National Public Radio to religious periodicals."

**Guadalupe, Virgen de los Indios** — *L.A. Weekly*

"Fascinating and lovely fusion of Indigenous American and colonial Spanish musical styles."

**Guadalupe, Virgen de los Indios** — *Houston Chronicle*

"... the ensemble has introduced listeners to some songs of newly converted Christian Indians that haven't been performed in 400 years or more. Along with the unique sound that the group has captured, the subject matter...is a large part of the recording's allure."

**Native Angels Review** — *The Kansas City Star*

"...The sixteen selections, culled from church music and museum archives, are all defined by the marriage of cultures. A piece written in the 17th century — has an Afro-Cuban flavor that seems light years removed from the singular high harmonies being heard in Spanish cathedrals."

**Musical tribute to Virgin of Guadalupe a worthy best seller** — *San Antonio Express-News*

"Indian and Mexican born composers of European descent celebrated the Virgin with church pieces presented here on the lagoon CD, many uncovered for the first time for performance and recording by research in Mexican archives. The effects are eerie, mystical and gorgeous."

**Native Angels Article and Review**

*The Dallas Morning News*

"...A new recording by the SAVAE Vocal Ensemble, which specializes in the carefully researched sounds of colonial Latin America, has sought to recreate the music sung centuries ago in the New Spain missions. "...The feeling at first is as if you were in a cathedral, with the spiraling, echoing harmonies of sacred music...But from somewhere 'over there' comes an insistent, throbbing counterpoint ... Native Angels is, in some ways, fusion church music — where the airy, ethereal choir meets the conga drum."