

Quique Escamilla's Day of the Dead Celebration

Friday, November 2, 2018 at 8:00pm

Pre-concert Ceremony at 7:00pm

This is the 875th concert in Koerner Hall

Quique Escamilla, guitar & vocals

Alexander Brown, trumpet

Nebyu Yohannes, trombone

Jeff Heisholt, keyboards

Andrew Frost, pedal steel

Chendy León, percussion

Marito Marques, drums

Quique Escamilla

Mexican singer-songwriter and Juno Award winner, Quique Escamilla, comes to Koerner Hall to deliver a unique performance of diverse styles of Latin American music, from his previous albums and a new CD, to be released on this special night.

This one-night-only, multi-disciplinary and curated show will include elements of theatre, dance, captivating storytelling, and music. The venue will be transformed into a portal between life and death by using traditional Mexican Day of the Dead decorations.

Escamilla and his band – through an entertaining and joyful, yet introspective narrative – will respectfully celebrate and honour Mexico's ancient and pre-Hispanic tradition, El Día de los Muertos. This ritual – as the Aztec ancient tradition and mythology suggest – allows us the opportunity to honour and remember our beloved departed ancestors as their spirits come back from the afterlife once a year, so as to enjoy their favourite earthly goods laid out for them on altars full of offerings, including food, beverages, flowers, candles, copal incense, memorabilia, and, of course, music.

With his commitment to support socio-political causes throughout his music, Escamilla will dedicate this performance to remember and honour some departed world figures that have fearlessly fought or given their lives to stand up for either justice, freedom, peace, or equality: Martin Luther King Jr., Emiliano Zapata, Malcolm X, Ché Guevara, Salvador Allende, Nelson Mandela, and many more.

Escamilla was born and raised in the southern state of Chiapas, Mexico. He breaks down language barriers through his powerful voice and passionate delivery while fusing traditional Mexican styles of music such as ranchera and huapango with modern flavours of rock, reggae, ska, pop, boleros, and other Latin American rhythms.

Quique Escamilla is making his Royal Conservatory debut tonight.