La Llorona

- The Weeping Woman -

A Musical Drama

by

Hector Armienta

"La Llorona is a superb, exciting musical…."

"Armienta's music is colorful and highly expressive"

The Monterey Herald

Anyone who has ancestral roots from Mexico knows the epic legend of ***La Llorona/The Weeping Woman***. This tale has been told and retold throughout central America and the southwest. Some would say, she is the Mexican Medea.

In this new musical drama, ***La Llorona/The Weeping Woman***, composer and playwright Hector Armienta tells us how it all began:

Mexico at the turn of the century.
A young Xochil Indian girl fell desperately in love with a man of Spanish lineage, and the great Xochil river has never forgiven her. Twenty years later she is married, and now the river will take its revenge upon her. Her husband will betray her, she will go mad, and the river will torment her until she sacrifices her only child, Sara. She will forever weep.

Photos from Western Stage 2008 production: Top right (Carla Pantoja), bottom left (Reina Cruz Vasquez, April L. Diaz, & Leticia Flores-Mcpherson), middle right (Cesar E. Flores & Kalean Ung)

DESCRIPTION
Length – One hour and forty minutes
Cast : 9 principals and chorus/ dancers
Number of musicians - 12

Settings: The dead forest, the court-yard of a hacienda, and underground river

Production History
With support from a 2007 NEA grant in artistic excellence, Western Stage Theater produced the work in October 2008. Hector Armienta served as playwright, composer, and lyricist. It was also one of Western Stage's most successful productions, in terms of audience development in the Latino community.