# GINA CHÁVEZ

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, AND SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2022 PASANT THEATRE

Gina Chávez will be performing with

# Nate Villegas

keyboard, bass synth, musical director

### Michael Gonzales

drums, harmony vocals

Sponsored by Delta Dental of Michigan with additional support from Jackson National Life Insurance Company; and MSU Federal Credit Union. Media Sponsor Michigan Radio.



View the digital program at whartoncenter.com/program

#### **SET LIST**

Embrujo

Ella

Bienamada

Quita La Cadena

Caigo

Gotta Get

Miles De Millas

I Will Survive (Yo Viviré)

Fire Water

Hard to Love A Woman

Lightbeam

La Que Manda

She Persisted

Siete-D

Pitaya Roja

Let It Out

Tonight's performance will run approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission.

### **GINA CHÁVEZ**

In an industry that looks to define artists, Gina Chávez refuses to fit into a box. From features on NPR's *Tiny Desk* to Brené Brown to Colbert, this queer, bilingual, genre-bending musician has become a force to be reckoned with. Chávez—a truly independent recording artist—saw the fruits of her labor pay off last year where she was not only nominated for a Latin Grammy but was tapped to open the Latin Grammy premiere show. Now, the Texas native can be seen everywhere as one of the faces of LifeWTR's #LifeUnseen campaign—with her own bottle and a commercial airing nationwide. There's no way around it: Gina Chávez won't be ignored.

Only the second Austinite and the third Latina born in the continental U.S. to receive a Latin Grammy nomination in the history of the awards, it has been thrilling for Gina to push boundaries and break barriers without the support of a label. And for this year's Pride Month, she's continuing to do just that. In the midst of her own creative rebirth, she's coming out with a fist pumping club remix of her 2020 feminist anthem "She Persisted," a rallying cry born out of the moment that Elizabeth Warren was silenced on the floor of the Senate by Mitch McConnell in 2016.

Gina's music is deeply personal and unfiltered, filled with unwavering candor, including personal details about her wife Jodi, their journey as Catholic Latinas who met at the University of Texas Catholic Center, their 15-year relationship and mission work in El Salvador where they founded Ninas Arriba, a college fund for young women in Central America.

Gina has harnessed her power to make space for those who can't be defined. From her identity as a half-Mexican, half-Swiss German, Catholic lesbian, to her music, which she sings in both English and Spanish, the Latinx pop-rock artist is unapologetically herself—and wants that for others. Someone has to open the door, and Gina is doing just that.

As a part of LIFEWTR's #LifeUnseen, a campaign to champion and fight for fair representation in the arts, Gina is one of 20 artists being given a platform to showcase their work and voices. It's another opportunity for Gina to blow open the door for other creators. For the campaign, she invited gueer Latinx artist and activist Broobs to bring her bottle artwork to life; a bottle that is now available in stores everywhere. Then she collaborated with electro-cumbia king Camilo Lara (aka: Mexican Institute of Sound) to create the bombastic bilingual track "Pitaya Roja," which celebrates her "self-awakening to the power of being a woman." And Gina's not stopping there. Through LifeUnseen, she found the work of Allie Cuerdo, an award-winning Filipino/Chinese filmmaker whose own LIFEWTR bottle features the trans flag. Gina flew Allie to Austin to direct the music video for "She Persisted (Remix)."

During the past few years, Gina's accomplishments have solidified her place as an industry powerhouse. In addition to being a 12-time Austin Music Award winner—including 2015 Musician of the Year and 2019 Best Female Vocals—as well as

receiving a 2020 Latin Grammy nomination for her first all-Spanish EP, La Que Manda, Gina has more than padded her resume in the past few years. She was a featured performer at the 2020 Latin Grammys premiere show, has an hour-long PBS special, was a 2020 NPR Tiny Desk judge with a Tiny Desk concert of her own (which has garnered more than 1.3 million views), performed on the Colbert Late Show Play At Home Series and was a featured musician at the Texas Women's Conference. But Gina's presence has transcended music. As a Cultural Ambassador with the U.S. State Dept, she embarked on a 12-country tour throughout Latin America, the Middle East and Central Asia. She is also a prolific voice featured on Brené Brown's Unlocking Us podcast, for which she also co-wrote the theme music, and became the sole subject of a 12-foot mural in East Austin.

## POLICIES AND SERVICES

#### PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

Wharton Center offers a diverse selection of arts entertainment. Not all productions may appeal to or be appropriate for every person or for all ages. Patrons are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the shows we offer in order to make informed decisions prior to purchasing tickets.

#### IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

Please observe the lighted exit signs located throughout the building and theatre(s). All patrons should note all exits, especially those closest to your seat location. Our staff and ushers are trained to assist patrons through multiple emergency situations.

#### FIRST AID

See your usher or House Management Room 209 (in Grand Foyer).

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- Consumer Alert Avoid being ensnared by resellers
- Directions and Parking Nearby parking ramps and lots
- > Engagement Programs
  After Chats and Insight
  Previews
- Security Prohibited items and security checks
- > COVID-19 Safety
  Patron Safety Protocols

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