



April 7, 2008  
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## Lura Brings Cape Verde Islands Music to Cal Poly

SAN LUIS OBISPO -- International singing star LURA is coming to Cal Poly on Thursday, April 17, 2008 at 8 p.m. in the Spanos Theatre.

"Now Cape Verde's rising star brings her own island roots to world stages...(with a) poised and beguiling performance...(Lura) throws in a little R&B as a nod to her own generation." (Rock/Paper/Scissors)

Critics and world-wide fans alike are talking about Lura – the sultry, street-wise singer from Cape Verde whose music embraces urban sensuality infused with the passionate roots of Africa for an island sound that is captivating.

Rolling Stone magazine concurs: "In Lura, Cape Verde has a beautiful face – and a steely, seductive voice – to represent its traditions."

Originally born in Portugal to parents from the Cape Verde Islands off the coast of West Africa, Lura draws on the islands' pungent blend of trade route cultures that have created a unique musical tradition embracing French Afro-pop, Brazilian rhythms, and earthy, traditional African music.

Lura is part of a new generation of musicians rediscovering these hidden traditions of her ancestral homeland and she has breathed new life into this Cape Verdean music first made famous by Cesaria Evora. Riding on the tide of Cape Verde's rediscovery of its African roots, Lura has the star quality to bring this music to a wider audience.

Lura mixes the familiar Morna style with the little-known rhythms of the accordion-driven Funana and of the Batuque: it is the music of women from the remote interior of Cape Verde, now infused with jazz and Brazilian influences.

Lura's songs also reflect the concerns of this far-flung nation.

"In the poems and lyrics of Cape Verde, we speak a lot about immigration," explains Lura. "A lot of people move away to make a better living. We talk a lot about rain because there is so little rain. And we talk about food, because sometimes it is very difficult to get food. A lot of things you have to buy from outside; from Portugal, the U.S., Holland. And we talk about the relationship between parents and their children, because so many families are far apart."

Lura released her critically-acclaimed, international debut album/two-disc DVD set, *Di Korpu ku Alma* (Of Body and Soul) in May 2005 and has since toured North America, South America, and Europe.

All general public tickets for the performance range are \$28, with student discounts available on all seats, and may be purchased at the Performing Arts Ticket Office, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays.

To order by phone, call 805/756-2787; to order by fax: 805/756-6088.

Order on-line at [www.calpolyarts.org](http://www.calpolyarts.org).

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