

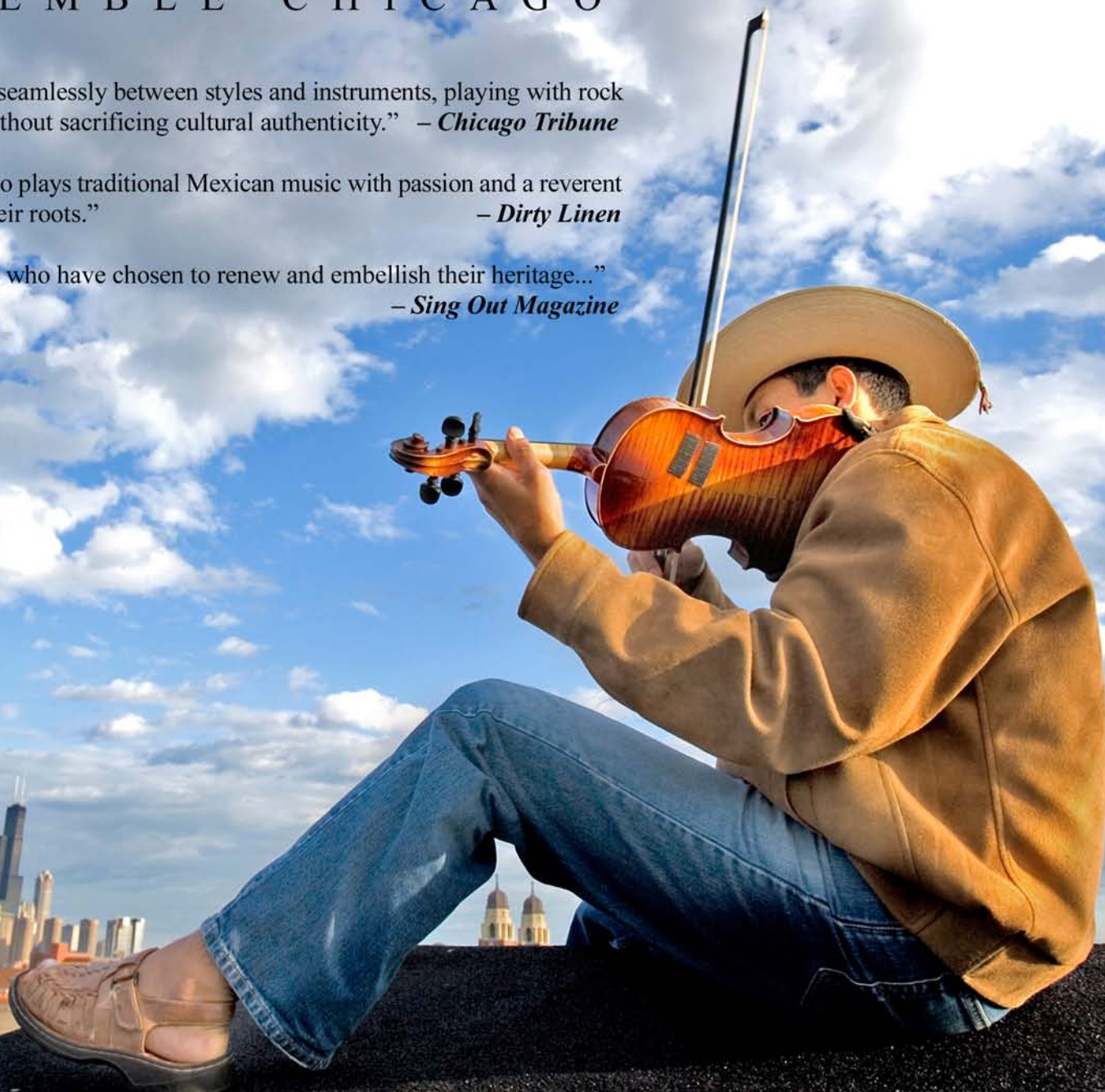
Sones de México

ENSEMBLE CHICAGO

"[They] ...move seamlessly between styles and instruments, playing with rock 'n roll energy without sacrificing cultural authenticity." – *Chicago Tribune*

"Sones de México plays traditional Mexican music with passion and a reverent knowledge of their roots." – *Dirty Linen*

"...serious artists who have chosen to renew and embellish their heritage..." – *Sing Out Magazine*



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Sones de México

E N S E M B L E C H I C A G O



SONES DE MÉXICO ENSEMBLE, a unique ensemble of seasoned Mexican folk musicians and educators, formed in 1994 to keep the tradition of Mexican “*son*” alive. “*Son*” is a term used to define a large family of regional Mexican music and dance styles. Every region has its own brand of “*son*” — *gusto, son jarocho, son huasteco, chilenas, huapango, etc.* — each with its own repertoire, instruments, and dancing and singing style.

In fourteen years, **Sones de México Ensemble** has developed a brand of Mexican “*son*” that is both unique and familiar: true to its roots, yet responsive to its surroundings. Their involvement in Mexican folk music is diverse, and includes independent studio work, film scoring, educational programs, live accompaniment of Mexican folkloric ballets, an exciting musical collaboration with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra brass quintet, as well as an ongoing, NEA sponsored project for Mexican immigrants. The group’s cross-cultural view of music links “*son*” to the diverse ethnic roots of Mexico’s *mestizo* culture: Native American, Spanish, and the often-overlooked influence of Black music in Mexico.

Sones de México Ensemble frequently teaches and performs for children, introducing a world of traditional Mexican music and dance to students of all backgrounds. The 2007 Latin GRAMMY®-nominated sextet has toured hundreds of schools, with age-appropriate English, Spanish, and bilingual programs, utilizing a curriculum mindful of the State of Illinois Education Goals for Music and Dance.

Experience living tradition as **Sones de México Ensemble** works its way through a collection of over twenty-five folk string, percussion, and wind instruments, bright four-part vocal arrangements, and acrobatic dance demonstrations. Audiences are easily moved to dance themselves as the group recreates the atmosphere of a traditional fandango (*dance fiesta*), where the most colorful, joyous, and upbeat “*sones*” are played and danced until sunrise!

