

## **CANALES, LAURA (1954–2005)**

The undisputed “reina de la onda Tejana/Queen of Tejano music,” Laura Canales, hails from Kingsville, Texas. Her singing debut with Los Unicos took place a year after high school graduation. From that point on, she established her performance credentials singing with El Conjunto Bernal, Snowball and Co., and her own band, Felicidad. By 1981 Canales formed Laura Canales y Encanto, and proceeded to record her most significant album, “Si viv contigo,” which established her reputation as the foremost female artist in Tejano music. She won the Tejano Music Awards for Female Vocalist of the Year, and Female Entertainer of the Year, for four consecutive years. While under contract to Capital/FM Latin, she recorded “No Regrets” and produced “Cuatro camino,” “Dile a tu esposa,” and “Frente a frente.” Exemplary of her diverse interests, Canales earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Texas A&M University in Kingsville, and later pursued studies in psychology at the graduate level.