"...Onstage, offstage, digital or analog, I love Perla Batalla..."
-LEONARD COHEN

PERLA BATALLA

A Letter To LEONARD COHEN

tribute to a friend

Album Preview Link (stream/download)
https://s.disco.ac/aremlaryoyvh

PERLA BATALLA'S
A Letter to Leonard Cohen

Grammy nominated singer-songwriter, **Perla Batalla** has been bringing Leonard Cohen's timeless songs to life for over a decade, and the singers newest release demonstrates why Batalla is one of the Canadian poet laureate's most sought-after interpreters worldwide. In her upcoming release, **A Letter to Leonard Cohen**, Batalla celebrates Cohen's art legacy with an elegant intersection of deeply personal tribute and fearless originality.

What immediately sets this project apart from other Cohen tributes is that Perla's early career was guided by Cohen, who personally encouraged her journey as an artist. After touring and recording with Cohen for more than a decade, she brings her own unique perspective to Cohen's canon. Batalla's upcoming release, A Letter to Leonard Cohen, is a highly anticipated follow-up to her first Cohen tribute, **Bird on the Wire** and is a testament to resilience and creative passion.

Batalla embarked on this musical journey in Barcelona in early 2020, just before the onset of the Coronavirus pandemic. When the world reopened, she returned to Spain to discover that the project hard drives had vanished. Undeterred, she returned to her home in Ojai, California, and fueled by the remaining savings and bighearted contributions from friends and fans, she returned to the studio to start the recording project anew; this time including two of her own compositions inspired by Cohen.

Re-tracking in Barcelona, New York, Ojai, and Santa Monica, Perla's diverse sonic palette blends her magnificent voice with the ferocity of flamenco musicians, a moving gospel choir, string quartet, and in a bit of fortune, Broadway great **Patrick Page** (Hadestown, All the Devils are Here) made himself available to perform alongside her on Cohen's **"Democracy"**, an all too timely ode to the fragility of the American experiment. Multi–Grammy Award winning producer, **Mike Elizondo** (Eminem, Dr. Dre, Encanto) produced the chilling track.

A Letter to Leonard Cohen is a tribute also to Perla's dear friend, the legendary music producer **Hal Willner** who died early in the pandemic. Willner was infamous for his groundbreaking productions assembling unlikely casts to collaborate freely; deliberately obliterating the lines between genres and styles. Perla credits Hal's methods around artistic collaboration as a major influence on her own approach to creativity.

The upcoming release is dedicated to Willner's memory, and appropriately, the album is scheduled to drop **September 20, 2024** on what would have been Cohen's 90th birthday. As Hal Willner once told Batalla, "Chaos and collaboration go hand in hand." In this impressive endeavor, Perla's collaborative soul shines brightly through the beautiful chaos

A LETTER TO LEONARD COHEN

Track List - Credits

1. Awakened (P. Batalla/D. Batteau)
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Piano: Lee Curreri
Bass: David J. Carpenter
Drums: Michael Barsimanto
String Arrangement: Steve Weisberg

2. A Thousand Kisses Deep *(L. Cohen/S. Robinson)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Guitar: Mario Mas
Bass: Marc Prat
Percussion: Luis Cartes Ivern, Pete Korpela
Palmas: All

3 Democracy *(L. Cohen)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Track: Mike Elizondo
Vocals: Patrick Page, Perla Batalla
Chorus: Perla Batalla, Eva Batalla-Mann,
Sharon "Muffy" Hendrix, Jade Hendrix

4. Sisters of Mercy *(L. Cohen)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Piano: Luis Cartes Ivern
Bass: Marc Prat
Guitar: Mario Mas
Percussion: Pete Korpela
Backing Vocals: Eva Batalla-Mann,
Luis Cartes Ivern, Jade Hendrix

5. Everybody Knows *(L. Cohen/S. Robinson)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Piano: Luis Cartes Ivern
Bass: Marc Prat
Guitar: Mario Mas
Additional Guitar: Javier Colis
Percussion: Pete Korpela
Backing Vocals: Eva Batalla-Mann,
Sharon "Muffy" Hendrix, Jade Hendrix

6. Ain't No Cure for Love (L. Cohen)
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Piano: Karen Hammack
Bass: Marc Prat
Guitar: Mario Mas
Percussion: Luis Cartes Ivern, Pete Korpela
Backing Vocals: Eva Batalla-Mann,
Sharon "Muffy" Hendrix, Jade Hendrix

7. The Partisan *(A. Marley/E. d'Aster de le Vigerie)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Oud: Dimitris Mahlis
Guitar: Mario Mas
Bass: Marc Prat
Accordion: Luis Cartes Ivern
Percussion: Claud Mann, Pete Korpela

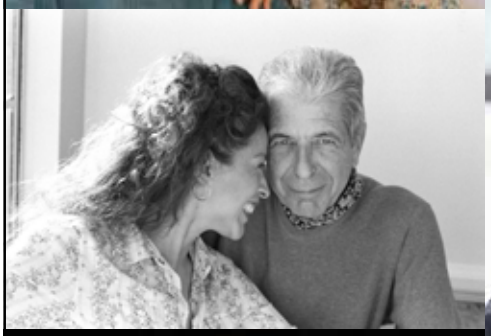
8. You Want it Darker (*L. Cohen/P. Leonard)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Guitar: Mario Mas
Bass: Marc Prat
Percussion: Luis Cartes Ivern
Backing Vocals: Perla Batalla, Luis Cartes Ivern,
Marc Prat

9. The L of Your First Name (*P. Batalla/D. Holland)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Piano: Karen Hammack
Bass: Bob Glaub
Drums: John Ferraro
Violin and Cello: Andy Studer, Ryan Studer
String Arrangement: Steve Weisberg

10. Take This Waltz (*L. Cohen/F. G. Lorca)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Guitar: Mario Mas
Bass: Marc Prat
Perc: Luis Cartes Ivern
Trumpet: Steve Bernstein
Backing Vocals: Eva Batalla-Mann,
Luis Cartes Ivern, Jade Hendrix

11. A Singer Must Die *(L. Cohen)*
Vocal: Perla Batalla
Bass: Marc Prat
Guitar: Mario Mas
Accordion: Luis Cartes Ivern

Produced by: Perla Batalla
Recorded at:
Medusa Studios, Barcelona, Spain
Groove Masters, Santa Monica, CA
Carbonite Sound, Ojai, CA
CDM Sound Studios, NYC
Mixed & Mastered by: Bernie Becker Mastering, Pasadena, CA
"Democracy" Produced by: Mike Elizondo
Executive Producer: Scott Holloway



PERLA BATALLA

Biography

While today Perla Batalla can be found sharing the stage with musicians such as Nick Cave, Rufus Wainwright and Jackson Browne, it was her early years touring and recording with the celebrated Canadian poet, Leonard Cohen that shaped her as an artist in her own right. With Cohen's encouragement, Perla began performing her own songs in Los Angeles clubs in the late 1990's. During this period, she was noticed by Elektra Records founder, Jac Holzman (The Doors, Queen, Judy Collins), and signed to the Discovery-Warner label.

Perla Batalla continues to forge her reputation as an essential interpreter of Leonard Cohen's music. Perla's first homage to Cohen, Bird on the Wire was recorded with Cohen's blessing; he attended the studio sessions, weighed-in on material, and uncharacteristically participated in a photo session at his Los Angeles home to help promote the project. Perla's powerful follow-up Cohen undertaking, A Letter to Leo picks up where she left off, and this time features Batalla's original compositions inspired by two decades of musical exchanges with Canada's Poet Laureate.

Perla Batalla was born in Los Angeles, California to an immigrant family immersed in music. Her Afro-Mexican dad was an itinerant mariachi singer, while her Argentine mom ran a family record store called Discoteca Batalla. There by her mothers' side, Perla was exposed to an education of non-stop music cutting across language and genre. Alone in the shop while her mom ran errands, Perla began dreaming of one day being a singer. Against her parents' wishes, she left home at sixteen, studying opera and theater during the day and performing in clubs at night.

Since then, Perla Batalla has appeared in a myriad of concert venues throughout the world as varied as The Sydney Opera House, Kennedy Center, Royce Hall, and The Brighton Dome. She has released seven albums and co-written and appeared in two one-woman shows: her celebrated Mestiza song cycle, exploring the intricacies of straddling different cultures as a person of mixed race, and Blue House, an exultant Frida Kahlo musical commissioned by LACMA and tapped for production by The Ojai Playwrights Conference.

In 2024, Perla was inducted into Focus on the Masters, dedicated to recognizing the works and lives of accomplished contemporary artists in California. She has also been honored with two affiliated U.N. awards: The Earth Charter Award for extraordinary devotion to social and economic justice and The Environmental Peacebuilding Award, for advancing social justice through art and music.

Perla currently divides her time between Ojai, California and Barcelona, Spain.

PERLA PRESS

"...A voice so full of love and longing it leaves you breathless..." ***–THE INDEPENDENT***

"...Spellbinding!..." ***–SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE***

"...Batalla brings the house down!..." ***–THE GUARDIAN***

"...Batalla is blessed with an assured and matured vocal instrument, rich, sonorous, and deep...."
–Joe Woodard, SB INDEPENDENT

"...Batalla's music caresses with its harmonies and gentle rhythms, then draws you in with an unexpected chorus or an unusual melodic resolution...a born storyteller with a rambunctious sense of humor"
–Ernesto Lechner, ***LA TIMES***

" ...Perla Batalla is now the ambassador of Leonard Cohen in Spain..." ***–EL PAIS***

"...Batalla has a glorious, supple voice, with the vocal power and finesse needed to bring new shadings to Leonard Cohen's songs…" ***–Steven Mirkin, VARIETY***

"...Perla Batalla is already known for her lovely, powerful voice. Now it is time to celebrate her songs as well." ***–PHILADELPHIA WEEKLY***

"...For those uninitiated to the glories of the songs of Leonard Cohen, this is a wonderful introduction. For the rest of us it is simply heavenly..." ***–Michael Tearson, SING OUT MAGAZINE***

" ...Perla Batalla is the official voice of the songs of Leonard Cohen..."
–180 GRADOS/BARCELONA

"...This is not merely a "talented" artist - I'm talking about someone who is"gifted". Gifted with a voice that does things most voices cannot do..." ***–Peter Jesperson, CRAWDADDY***

"...Perla's stories and songs enchant the audience..." ***–LA VOZ***

"...Impassioned, at times sublime..." ***–BILLBOARD***

"...Blessed with a rich-toned voice, fascinated with a broad range of music, Batalla tells an engaging story with everything she sings..." ***–Don Heckman, LA TIMES***

"...On Saturday night, Perla's passion and clarity brought the glow of the sacred into the room. Cohen would have been proud to hear it. Through Perla, Cohen's songs are becoming universal even without him..." ***–ATLANTA J.C.***

VIDEO /AUDIO LINKS

Suzanne
https://youtu.be/KyPRu5tFkL8

Dance me to the End of Love
https://youtu.be/0asBvxkaXw8

Balad of the Absent Mare (with Javier Colis)
https://youtu.be/Nk-ZfeQVNkU

You Want it Darker
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1unStvaGPFY

Hallelujah
https://youtu.be/uy1vaWwhzMY

Bird on the Wire
https://youtu.be/2N8pFSH8xYQ

Perla Batalla on Spotify
open.spotify.com/artist/4WbqfrEOTC6kNYOeDMDVOd

Perla Batalla YouTube Channel
https://www.youtube.com/@PerlaBatallaMusic

RECENT EUROPEAN TOURING VENUES

LONDON - Union Chapel (1000 seats)
DUBLIN - Vicar Street (1000 seats)
LISBON - Casino Estoril (900 seats)
ANTWERP - De Roma (1.300 seats)
STOCKHOLM - Cirkus (800 seats)
MALMO - Nojesteatern (700 seats)
ESBERG - Musikhuset (1.100 seats)
COPENHAGEN - dr Concerthall Studio 2 (550 seats)
RANDERS - Varket (500 seats)
GRONIGEN - De Oosterpoort (537 seats)
UTRECHT -Tivoli Vredenburg (450 seats)
GHENT - Vooruit (600 seats)
GENK - C Mine (469 seats)
LEUVEN - Depot (880 seats)
TILBURG - Schouwburg Concertzaal Tilburg (700 seats)
TIEL - Agnietenhof (800 seats)
AALST - Cultuurcentrum De Werf (600 seats)
OFFENBACH - Alte Schosserei (400 seats)

PAST NORTH AMERICAN VENUES (Partial list)

Arena Theater, Pt. Arena CA
The Dance Palace, Pt Reyes CA
Aspen Writer's Conference, Aspen, CO
Beatrice Wood CPA, Ojai, CA
Big Top Chautauqua, Bayfield Wisconsin
Brigham Young Univ. PAC, Honolulu, HI
Cal State Long Beach, Carpenter PAC
Cal State Monterey PAC
California State University, Chico
California State University, Monterey
California World Music Festival, Chico
California Worldfest, Chico, CA
CalTech, Bechman Auditorium, Pasadena
Cambridge Concerts
Centennial Hall, Tucson AZ
Cerritos Center for the Arts
Cervantes Institute, Albuquerque, NM
Churchill PAC, Fallon, VV
Chutzpah Festival, Vancouver, BC
City of Carlsbad, Schulman Auditorium
City Winery, NYC
College of Saint Benedict, St. Joseph MN
Davis arts Council, Layton, UT
Deer Valley Theater, Park City
Detroit Institute of the Arts
DROM, NYC
Eccles Perf. Arts Center, Park City
Firehouse PAC, Pleasanton, CA
First Avenue, Minneapolis, MN
Ford Amphitheater, L.A.
Freight and Salvage, Berkeley, CA
Grammy Museum Theatre, L.A.
Oats Park PAC, Fallon, NV
Grand Performances at Cal Plaza
Grand Theatre Center for the Arts
Grand Vision, San Pedro
Grass Valley Center for the Arts
Grass Valley Center for the Arts, CA
Guadalupe PAC, Guadalupe, CA
Historic Presidio Theater, San Francisco
Joe's Pub, NYC
Kenly Amphitheatre, Layton UT
Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
KiMo Theater, City of Albuquerque, NM
Kuumbwa Center, Santa Cruz, CA
L.A. County Museum of Art
Largo at the Coronet
Leavitt Pavilion, Pasadena
Leavitt Pavilion, MacArthur Park
Lensic Performing Arts Center, Santa Fe
Libbey Bowl, Ojai, CA
Mendocino Music Festival, Mendocino
TOCA, Torrance Cultural Arts Center
Cal State Channel Islands PAC
Mondavi Center, Davis CA
Montalvo Performing Arts Center, Saratoga
Napa Center for Thought and Culture, Napa
Napa Valley Opera House
Nat'l Hispanic Cultural Center, Albuquerque
Notre Dame, DeBartolo PAC
Philadelphia Museum of Art
Ojai Playwrights Conference
Reno ArtTown
Rio Grande Theater, Las Cruces
Riverside Municipal Auditorium
Royce Hall, Los Angeles
San Diego Book Festival
San Diego Repertory Theater
Sandpoint PAC, Panida Theater
Scripps College, Claremont CA
Segerstrom Center for the Arts
SOKA Performing Arts Center, LA
Sorting Room, The Wallis, Beverly Hills
Sunset PAC, Carmel, CA
Th. Raymond Kabazz/Lycee Francais, L.A
The Armstrong Theater, Torrance CA
The Breman Museum, Atlanta, GA
The Broad Stage, Santa Monica
Stanford University, Stanford Live
The Getty Center, LA
The Hothouse, Chicago, Illinois
The Knitting Factory, NYC
Thousand Oaks Civic Arts Plaza
Thunder River Theatre, Carbondale CO
UC Irvine, Barclay Theatre
UC Irvine, Winifred Smith Hall
UC Santa Barbara, Viva El Arte
Univ. of Hawaii, Manoa
USC, Bovard Auditorium
Utah Arts Festival, SLC, UT
Ventura Music Fest., Ventura College PAC
Yukon Arts Centre, Whitehorse Yukon

CONTACT INFORMATION

EUROPE / UK / AUSTRALIA
Booking Agent: Eli Casanova
Nova Touring International S.L.
Eli.casanova@novatouring.com
Tel: +34 93 3193 583
Mobile: +34 636 510 034

NORTH AMERICA/CANADA
Booking Agent: Rachel Cohen
Cadence Arts Network
Rachel@CadenceArts.com
Tel: +1 310 701 9191

ARTIST WEBSITE: www.perla.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/perlabatallamusic

MANAGEMENT
Claud Mann ClaudMann@me.com
Tel: +1 805 310 2123

NOVA TOURING INTERNATIONAL