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Recording Artist/Guitarist Cesar Sets the Record Straight on Mario Vazquez

"Next Santana" Says Former "American Idol" Finalist Recorded Vocals on His "Worlds of Change" Disc before Appearing on Fox Hit

Clearing up speculation surrounding former "American Idol" finalist Mario Vazquez's sudden March 13 departure from the show, Argentine-born, Los Angeles-based pop guitarist and recording artist Cesar is setting the record straight about Vazquez's participation as a guest vocalist on Cesar's recently released pop/R&B recording "Worlds of Change." The album, released in mid-February by independent label Darque Records, features three guest vocal tracks by Vazquez -- "Save The World," "EveryTime" and "God Is Like A Mirror."

"There have been many inaccuracies in the media since Mario left the show," says Cesar. "My album was released a month before his departure, and it was recorded in 2003 and 2004, long before he was on 'American Idol.' The timing of its release and Mario being chosen as a finalist is purely coincidental."

"My friendship with Mario began through mutual friends here in Los Angeles in 1998," he adds. "I greatly admired his talent, I hired him to sing on those three vocal tracks, and he did a wonderful job. His many fans who were disappointed with him leaving the show will enjoy his great voice on 'Worlds of Change.'"

Considered by many "the next Santana" for his energetic guitar performances amidst a blend of pop, rock and Latin influences, Cesar writes all music and lyrics and performs all guitars while others sing the lead vocals. Another prominently featured artist on "Worlds of Change" is renowned touring and session singer Steve Real.

Billed by Music Connection as "an excellent guitarist (who) plays too fast for the human ears but is always in the pocket," Cesar is riding an incredible wave of success due to his popular song "Soldier of Glory," which pays homage to the courage of soldiers in battle as they long for a letter from home.

That caught the ears of the Pentagon, and in May, Cesar will embark on a month-long tour to perform for troops in Iraq and six other countries in the Middle East.

Cesar started young, a world renowned guitarist appearing throughout Europe as a solo artist and performing with the London Philharmonic Orchestra, Frank Sinatra and Al Di Meola.

Both Cesar and Steven Dunning, president of his record label Darque Records, are available for interviews.

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