

= Fotos y Recuerdos =

" Fotos y Recuerdos " ( English : Pictures and Memories ) is a song recorded by American recording artist Selena for her fourth studio album , Amor Prohibido ( 1994 ) . It was released by EMI Latin in January 1995 , as the fourth single . A cover version of the Pretenders ' 1983 single " Back on the Chain Gang " , " Fotos y Recuerdos " was written by Chrissie Hynde with Spanish @-@ language lyrics by Ricky Vela . Lyrically , the song describes a lonely female protagonist who " kisses the photo of her [ lover ] each night before falling asleep . "

" Fotos y Recuerdos " is a Rock en Español song with influences of dance pop and house music . The song garnered acclaim from music critics , who called it an improvement over the Pretenders ' original version . The song peaked at number one on the United States Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart for seven consecutive weeks , her fourth successive number one song . " Fotos y Recuerdos " also peaked at number one on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart , her second consecutive number one . " Fotos y Recuerdos " became Selena 's first posthumous number one song , following the shooting death of the singer in March 1995 . The recording became the second @-@ most successful Latin single of 1995 and ranks as the twentieth best Hot Latin Songs chart single of all @-@ time . Many musicians have since recorded the song and released it on their respective albums including Dominican salsa singer Jose Alberto " El Canario " and Mexican pop singer Paulina Rubio .

= = Inspiration , production and songwriting controversy = =

While flying back from New York , A.B. Quintanilla ? the brother @-@ producer of Selena ? heard the Pretenders ' 1983 single " Back on the Chain Gang " on the radio . At the time , A.B. was having a nervous breakdown after realizing he was running out of materials to record for Selena 's fourth studio album , Amor Prohibido ( 1994 ) . He likened the idea of reworking " Back on the Chain Gang " into a Spanish @-@ language cumbia song . Keyboardist of the group , Ricky Vela wrote the Spanish lyrics into a cumbia @-@ style that A.B. envisioned for the recording . The Amor Prohibido album was pressed for a release date of March 13 , 1994 , and was halted for distribution due to the copyrighting issues with " Fotos y Recuerdos " . Vela retold in a 2002 interview how he was awoken by Selena and A.B. because they did not have the clearance for " Fotos y Recuerdos " . Singer @-@ songwriter Chrissie Hynde 's music producers reported the song to Hynde who did not allow Selena to continue with " Fotos y Recuerdos " until she received an English @-@ language writing of the song . It was only after Vela re @-@ wrote the song into English that Hynde gave Selena the clearance for the recording . Musicologist James Perone , noticed how the song was the shortest track off of Amor Prohibido . He further wrote how Vela " stripped some of the edge off of Hynde 's text but retained the basic premise of [ " Back on the Chain Gang " ] " Perone found A.B. ' s arrangement to be " an example of [ his ] universal Latin approach " .

= = Music , theme and lyrics = =

" Fotos y Recuerdos " is a mid @-@ tempo cumbia and rock song with influences of dance pop and house music . Cary Darling of the The Buffalo News noticed the mixture of house and ranchera music in " Fotos y Recuerdos " . Author and contributor to The New York Times , Joe Nick Patoski found the song to use the same melody of the Pretenders ' new wave sound . Author Lori Beth Rodriguez , also found similarities between the Pretenders ' mainstream sound and " Fotos y Recuerdos " but noticed how the song enchoed a cumbia undertone with " lyrics [ that ] are similar in theme , yet different from those in the original English version . " The song features a synth @-@ driven violin , ostinatish @-@ percussion , and a steel drum under a cumbia beat . Perone found the song to have " small hints " of music found in Jamacia , Cuba , and Trinidad and Tobago . BuzzFeed contributor Brian Galindo , called the song " upbeat and dancy " . Written in the key of D minor , the beat is set in common time and moves at a moderate 90 beats per minute . Rebecca Thatcher of the Austin American @-@ Statesman , found the lyrical content of " Fotos y Recuerdos " to be a "

lilting ode to a lost love " . Lyrically , the song describes a lonely female protagonist who " kisses the photo of her [ lover ] each night before falling asleep . "

= = Critical reception = =

" Fotos y Recuerdos " garnered acclaim from music critics , who called it an improvement over the Pretenders ' original version , and called it one of Selena 's most well @-@ known recordings . According to author Pat Bar @-@ Harrison , it was one of Selena 's most successful United States singles . Writing for the San Antonio Express @-@ News , Ramiro Burr called " Fotos y Recuerdos " an " interesting cover " . The York Dispatch believed the song " outshines " all other tracks on the Amor Prohibido album . Author Ed Morales believed the song " has a lot of personality " . Don McLeese of the Austin American @-@ Statesman wrote how the song became a popular radio song in South Texas and believed it to be one of her signature songs . Musicologist Frank Hoffman , called it a " hard @-@ edge rock " song . The Monitor editor Jon LaFollette , wrote differently ; calling the song a " simultaneous effort to celebrate multiculturalism " in a way to " grow her bank account " . Nonetheless , he listed the song as part of his " key tracks " for the Amor Prohibido album . Zach Quintance , also from The Monitor , wrote how readers of the newspaper chose Selena 's 1994 single " No Me Queda Más " and " Fotos y Recuerdos " ; citing that " fans loved the feeling and musicianship in those two songs . " Federico Martinez of La Prensa , called the song an " enduring hit " . Since its release , the song has been included on many music critics " best of Selena songs " list including the BuzzFeed ( at number six ) , and Latina ( at number eleven ) .

= = Chart history = =

" Fotos y Recuerdos " was released in the week of January 28 , 1995 , serving as the fourth single released from Amor Prohibido . The track debuted on the U.S. Hot Latin Songs chart at number 29 on February 4 , 1995 . In its second week , the song jumped to number 12 , receiving airpower honors . As a result , it subsequently debuted on the U.S. Regional Mexican Airplay chart at number ten . " Fotos y Recuerdos " rose to number two on the Hot Latin Songs and Regional Mexican Airplay charts , trailing Grupo Bronco 's " Que No Me Olivde " by 557 Nielsen points on February 18 , 1995 . In the following week , " Fotos y Recuerdos " remained at number two on the Hot Latin Songs chart , while the single fell to number four on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart . In its fifth week , the song reclaimed the second position on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart , while remaining at number two for a third consecutive week on the Hot Latin Songs chart . Staying at number two for its fourth consecutive week on the Hot Latin Songs chart , " Fotos y Recuerdos " fell to number three on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart . The song fell to number three on the Hot Latin Songs chart , while it remained at number three on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart on March 18 , 1995 .

Selena was shot and killed by Yolanda Saldívar , her friend and former manager of the singer 's Selena Etc. clothing boutiques , on March 31 , 1995 . At the time of her death , " Fotos y Recuerdos " was positioned at number four on the Hot Latin Songs chart . In the week following the singer 's death , " Fotos y Recuerdos " peaked at number one on the Hot Latin Songs ( her fourth consecutive ) and Regional Mexican Airplay chart , her second consecutive . According to disc jockeys , " Fotos y Recuerdos " was the most requested song in South Texas throughout April of that year . In its second week atop the Hot Latin Songs and Regional Mexican Airplay charts , " Fotos y Recuerdos " debuted at number twelve on the U.S. Latin Pop Airplay chart . After two consecutive weeks at number one , " Fotos y Recuerdos " was dethroned on the Regional Mexican Airplay chart by La Mafia 's " Toma Mi Amor " . After spending seven consecutive weeks atop the Hot Latin Songs chart , " Fotos y Recuerdos " was displaced by Mexican group Los Bukis ' single " Te Amo Mama " . " Fotos y Recuerdos " ended 1995 as the second most successful Latin single . Billboard magazine began monitoring digital downloads of Latin songs beginning with the week ending January 23 , 2010 . " Fotos y Recuerdos " made its debut on the Latin Pop Digital Songs chart following the twentieth anniversary of the singer 's death ; positioned at number 19 .

Over at the Regional Mexican Digital Songs chart , the song debuted and peaked at number 14 .

= = Cover versions = =

Dominican salsa singer Jose Alberto " El Canario " covered the song for the tribute album Familia RMM Recordando a Selena ( 1996 ) . Mexican mariachi group Banda El Grullo recorded the track for their album 30 Números 1 en Banda . Mexican group Liberación recorded the song for the tribute album Mexico Recuerda a Selena ( 2005 ) . Mexican singer Gerardo Williams covered the song for his album Nuevas Voces de América . Mexican pop singer Paulina Rubio performed and recorded " Fotos y Recuerdos " for the live televised tribute concert Selena ; VIVE ! in April 2005 . Michael Clark of the Houston Chronicle wrote that Rubio used her " sex appeal " while performing the song . Ramiro Burr of the San Antonio Express @-@ News called Rubio 's version a " techno / hip @-@ hop number " . Rubio performed " Fotos y Recuerdos " once more during her tour in Texas that same year .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from Amor Prohibido liner notes .

= = Charts = =