

= Mi Tierra =

Mi Tierra (English : My Homeland) is the third studio album by Cuban @-@ American recording artist Gloria Estefan , released on June 14 , 1993 by Epic Records . Produced by husband Emilio Estefan , it is her first Spanish @-@ language album and pays homage to her Cuban roots . The album features Cuban musical genres , including boleros , danzón and son music . Recorded at Crescent Moon Studios in Miami , Florida , Mi Tierra features notable Latin musicians such as Arturo Sandoval , Cachao López , Chamin Correa and Paquito D 'Rivera .

The album was an international success , selling eight million copies worldwide as of 2006 . In the United States it was the first record to reach number one on the Billboard Top Latin Albums chart , and peaked at number twenty @-@ seven on the Billboard 200 chart . Mi Tierra has sold over one million copies in the US and Spain . The album received favorable reviews from critics , who praised the album 's production , songs and Estefan 's vocals . Its success won the singer a Grammy Award for Best Tropical Latin Album . Mi Tierra spawned seven singles : " Mi Tierra " , " Con Los Años Que Me Quedan " , " Tradición " , " Montuno " , " ¡ Sí Señor ! ... " , " Mi Buen Amor " and " Ayer " .

= = Background = =

Gloria Estefan had wanted to record a Spanish @-@ language album reflecting her Cuban heritage since the beginning of her musical career . Before recording in English , Estefan and her band performed at Latino nightclubs ; she also remembered her grandmother teaching her old Cuban songs . Music had an important role in Estefan 's family ; her paternal grandmother was a poet , and an uncle played the flute in a salsa band . The singer 's desire to record an album in Spanish was also influenced by her son , Nayib ; she wanted him to recognize his Cuban heritage .

= = Recording and production = =

Mi Tierra was produced by Estefan 's husband , Emilio Estefan , and fellow Miami Sound Machine members Clay Ostwald and Jorge Casas . It features notable Latin musicians , including Nestor Torres , Cachao López , Paquito Hechavarría , Chamin Correa , Paquito D 'Rivera , Arturo Sandoval , Luis Enrique and Tito Puente . Additional performers include Sheila E. and the London Symphony Orchestra . The album was recorded at Crescent Moon Studios in Miami , Florida . Celia Cruz was invited to perform , but was unable to do so because of her touring schedule . The album 's cover features Estefan in a black @-@ and @-@ white photo at a Havana nightclub before the Cuban Revolution .

= = Musical style and songs = =

The opening track on the album , " Con los Años Que Me Quedan " (" With the Years I Have Left ") , is a Cuban bolero song . Three other bolero tracks on Mi Tierra are " Mi Buen Amor " (" My True Love ") , " Volverás " (" You 'll Be Back ") , and " Hablas de Mí " (" You 're Talking About Me ") . The title track details the passion of Estefan 's homeland in a salsa arrangement . In " Ayer " (" Yesterday ") the singer finds a flower given to her by a lover and yearns for him to return , since life is short . Its music combines bolero and son music . " No Hay Mal Que Por Bien No Bien " (" Out of All Bad , Some Good Things Come ") is a danzón recalling a brief love affair .

" ¡ Sí Señor " (" Yes Sir ! ") is another son track featured on the album . The bolero " Volverás " was later covered by Mexican recording artist Alejandro Fernández on his album Me Estoy Enamorando (1997) , also produced by Emilio Estefan . " Montuno " takes its name from the musical genre of the same name . " Hablemos El Mismo Idioma " (" Let 's Speak The Same Language ") is an anthem , reaching out to other Latino groups , telling them that since they speak the same language they should leave their differences behind . The album closes with " Tradición " (" Traditional ") , which is performed as a guaguancó .

= = Commercial reception = =

= = = Album = = =

In the United States , Mi Tierra peaked at number twenty @-@ seven on the Billboard 200 chart . It was the first number @-@ one album on the Billboard Top Latin Albums chart , established when it was released . The album spent a total of fifty @-@ eight weeks atop the chart , until it was displaced by Selena 's album Amor Prohibido the week of June 11 , 1994 . It was more successful on the Billboard Tropical Albums chart , where it spent ninety @-@ one weeks on top . Mi Tierra debuted at number one on the Billboard Latin Pop Albums chart the week of July 10 , 1993 , but it was removed from the chart following week since it did not meet its criteria .

Mi Tierra ended 1994 as the best @-@ selling Latin album of the year in the United States . The album was certified 16 × platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America by Latin standards , for shipments of 1 @.@ 6 million copies in the U.S. According to Nielsen SoundScan , it sold 1 @,@ 198 @,@ 000 copies in the U.S. by 2007 ; according to Billboard , most purchasers did not speak Spanish . In Latin America , the album was certified double platinum in Argentina and triple platinum in Mexico . It sold over 30 @,@ 000 copies in Chile .

In Europe , Mi Tierra peaked at number fifty @-@ nine in Germany , number nine in the Netherlands , number one in Spain , number twenty @-@ five in Switzerland and number eleven in the United Kingdom . The album was certified 10 × platinum in Spain (for shipping one million copies) and certified gold in Switzerland . It also sold 200 @,@ 000 in England . Mi Tierra was the 60th @-@ best @-@ selling album of the 1990s , and sold over eight million copies worldwide by 2006 .

= = = Singles = = =

" Mi Tierra " was the first single released from the album . In the United States , it reached number one on the Billboard Hot Latin Songs chart and number five on the Billboard Hot Dance Club Songs chart . In Europe , the song peaked at number seventy @-@ seven on the Media Control charts in Germany , twenty @-@ seventh on the Mega Single Top 100 chart in Netherlands and thirty @-@ sixth on the UK Singles Chart . The second single , " Con Los Años Que Me Quedan " , also reached number one on the Hot Latin Songs chart in the United States . An English version , " If We Were Lovers " , was released as a single and peaked at number forty on the UK Singles Chart . The third single , " Tradición " , reached number one the Hot Dance Clubs chart in the United States .

" Montuno " was the fourth single released from the album , peaking at number fifty @-@ five on the UK Singles chart . The fifth single , " ¡ Sí Señor ! ... " peaked at number forty @-@ four on the Mega Single Top 100 chart in the Netherlands . The sixth , " Mi Buen Amor " , reached number one on the Hot Latin Songs chart in the United States . The last single released from the album was " Ayer " , which peaked at number five on the Hot Latin Songs chart .

= = Critical reception and accolades = =

Jose F. Promis of Allmusic awarded the album four stars out of five , calling it " one of [Estefan 's] most satisfying . " Mi Tierra was " a breezy , sunny album with moments of melancholy , " and " one of her most consistent albums to date . " Achy Obejas of the Chicago Tribune gave the album four out of four stars , praised it as " dispensing with the brash sound of more contemporary salsa " and lauded Emilio Estefan for the album 's production . Anne Hurley of Entertainment Weekly said that Mi Tierra " will whirl you through an intoxicating landscape of traditional Cuban rhythms and aromatic flavors , " and applauded the guest musicians on the album .

Parry Gettelman of the Orlando Sentinel gave Mi Tierra four out of five stars , commending the album as " uncompromising , offering up songs and arrangements firmly rooted in Cuban traditions . " He compared it to Estefan 's earlier recordings with the Miami Sound Machine , including her

musical style and songwriting : " She ditches the synths and employs the London Symphony Orchestra 's strings to graceful effect ... abandoning melodrama for real color and emotional shading . " John Lannert described Mi Tierra for the Sun @-@ Sentinel as " Estefan`s Latin ' unplugged ' album " and her " most satisfying effort to date . "

At the 36th Grammy Awards , Mi Tierra was the Best Tropical Latin Album . At the 6th Lo Nuestro Awards Estefan received two awards in the tropical category , for Female Artist of the Year and Album of the Year . The singer was Female Artist of the Year at the first Billboard Latin Music Awards , and Mi Tierra was Album of the Year in the tropical @-@ salsa category . At the 1994 Spanish Ondas Awards , Mi Tierra was the Best International Album and Estefan the Best International Artist . It was recognized as the best @-@ selling Latin album of the year with a 1993 ? 94 NARM Best Seller Award . In 2015 , Billboard listed Mi Tierra as one of the Essential Latin Albums of Past 50 Year stating that " Through son , she transports us to a magical place in the ? 50s where time stood still on her beloved island " .

= = Track listing = =

Official translations provided by Allmusic and by Gloria Estefan on the Mi Tierra liner notes .

= = Credits and personnel = =

The following credits are from Allmusic and from the Mi Tierra liner notes :

= = = Performance credits = = =

= = = Technical credits = = =

= = Release history = =

= = Charts = =

= = = Weekly charts = = =

= = = Certifications = = =