

LILA DOWNS

press release / april 2011

LILA DOWNS is returning to Europe this summer for special appearances debuting music from her next studio album entitled, **PECADOS Y MILAGROS**. This will be the first the time this music is performed in concert and audiences will have the rare opportunity to hear new songs before the album is released.

The title and concepts are inspired by her infant son, which Downs considers miraculous, and its counterpoint, sin, which is prevalent in the corruption and violence in modern times.

The new songs are born of the motivation to find elements and symbols that give us strength. "With all that is happening, abuse of power, problems in our streets, and violence against women, once can wonder where a person can find their faith," says Downs. "I turned to a place I know and love. In Oaxaca, my mother often said, 'Look at these women making and selling tortillas; look at their strength, their courage.' Thus was born my idea to do a tribute to these women in a song called **Comalito**, because they represent the strength of the Mexican spirit.

Other new songs included in the repertoire are **La Reina del Inframundo (Queen of the Underworld)**, which is a character who is singing from the dead and was involved in the drug trade. **Mezcalito** is dedicated to the sacred agave drink of Oaxaca. Also featured will be the revered Mexican huapango, **Cucurrucucu Paloma**.

Downs and her husband, Paul Cohen, have also been writing songs for the musical theater production of "Like Water For Chocolate," based on the novel by Laura Esquivel, which premieres in Washington DC in the Fall, and then moves to Broadway, New York, in the Spring of next year. Audiences may get to hear songs from that production as well, including the passionate **Blood on the Rose**.

Audience favorites from previous albums will also be included in the performances.

Lila Downs will be available for scheduled advance press and radio interviews in May upon request.

CONTACT INFO: The Red House, Ariane Spiekermann, fon +49 30 6676 3340
mail@redhouse-agency.com, www.redhouse-agency.com