

As in Canada, the film and television industry is characterized by short-term projects and, for practical purposes, many technical workers and performers are self-employed. For this reason, unions and associations are active in protecting the rights of the various participants. Important organizations in this Mexican industry include:

- *El Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Industria Cinematográfica, Similares y Conexos de la República Mexicana (Stic)*, Film Industry Technical Workers Union, represents a wide variety of film industry technical workers.
- *El Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Producción Cinematográfica (STPC)*, Film Producers Union, split from the *Stic* in 1945 to represent feature film workers.
- *Asociación Nacional de Actores*, National Actors Association, represents actors and interpreters.
- *Asociación Nacional de Intérpretes*, National Interpreters Association, represents interpreters.
- *Sociedad General de Escritores de México*, Mexican Society of Writers, represents writers.
- *Sociedad de Autores y Compositores de México (SACM)*, Mexican Society of Authors and Music Composers, represents authors and composers.
- *Asociación Nacional de Ejecutantes de Música*, National Musicians Association, represents musicians.
- *Sociedad Mexicana de Directores y Realizadores de Cine, Radio y Televisión*, Mexican Society of Film, Television and Radio Directors, represents film, television and radio directors.

MUSIC

The music industry is strongly supported by the Government of Mexico. The *Consejo Nacional para la Cultura y las Artes (Conaculta)*, National Council for Culture and the Arts, provides financial assistance and directly operates music programs. In particular, classical music, which does not have deep cultural roots in Mexico, is strongly supported, most notably through public assistance to three symphonic orchestras. Canadian artists are regularly booked for performances with these orchestras. There has also been increasing interest in the work of Canadian classical composers.

Popular music is more market-driven, as it is in Canada. About 60 percent of the live performances at the 10-thousand-seat *Auditorio Nacional*, National Auditorium, involve popular music. International stars, including Canadian artists such as Brian Adams, perform there regularly. Others perform at music festivals which are very popular in Mexico, or at nightclubs. For example, the Mexico City