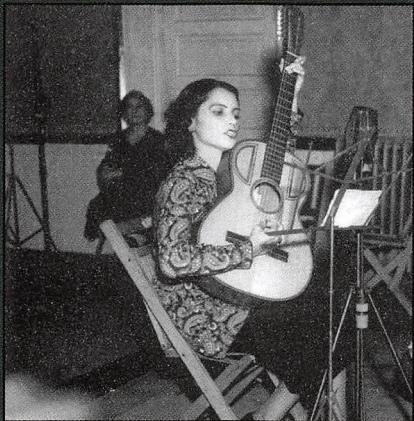




## American Latino Heritage



LYDIA MENDOZA

## LYDIA MENDOZA

Texan guitarist and singer, she is known as “La Alondra de la Frontera” (“The Lark of the Border”). She began her musical career as a part of her family group, Cuarteto Carta Blanca. In the early 1930s, Mendoza came to the attention of Manuel J. Cortez, a pioneer of Mexican-American radio broadcasting. Her recording, “Mal Hombre,” was an instant success. In 1982, she became the first Texan to receive the National Heritage Fellowship lifetime achievement (NEA) award. She was also awarded the National Medal of Arts (1999) and the Texas Medal of Arts by the Texas Cultural Trust (2003).