Leonardo Favio □ – Antologia Musical (1992)



01 - Ella ya me Olvido 02 - Quiero aprender de memoria 03 - Lo mismo que tu 04 - O quizas simplemente te regale una rosa 05 - Hola Che 06 - La conoci en un parque 07 - Fuiste mia un verano 08 - El niño y el canario 09 - Ni el clavel ni la rosa 10 - No juegues mas 11 - Asi es carolita 12 - No ser dios y cuidarlos 13 - Amanecer y la espera 14 - Para saber como es la soledad 15 - Anny 16 - Alguna vez una cancion 17 - De pronto sucedio 18 - Ding Dong 19 - Y el mundo sigue girando 20 - La foto de carnet

Leonardo Favio was one of Argentina's foremost film directors and a popular singer-songwriter throughout Latin America. He was also a close ally of Juan Perón.

Fuad Jorge Jury was born on May 28 1938 into a family of Syrian-Lebanese origin at Luján de Cuyo, in the western Argentine province of Mendoza. He had a turbulent childhood, marked by his father leaving the family home. His mother struggled to make ends meet and Favio, as he became known, was frequently in trouble with the law.

As a young man, Favio trained at a seminary and enlisted in the Navy before trying his luck as an actor in Buenos Aires. He worked under the director Leopoldo Torre Nilsson, and his good looks helped him establish a reputation as the Argentine James Dean. Favio quickly developed an ambition to be on the other side of the camera, however, and directed his first short film in the late 1950s.

His first feature film, Crónica de un niño solo (Chronicle of a Lonely Child, 1965), drew on his experiences as an adolescent, portraying sombre scenes in Argentine youth detention centres and gritty social problems which he himself had encountered.

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It was also during the 1960s that Favio built a reputation as a singer-songwriter. He had several hits in Latin America, including the romantic ballads Ella ya me olvidó (She Has Forgotten Me Already) and Fuiste mía un verano (You Were Mine One Summer).

He was later swept up in the political drama that roiled Argentina as Juan Perón returned to the country following almost two decades in exile in Spain. A lifelong supporter of Perón, Favio accompanied the influential former leader on his flight back to Argentina for a brief trip in November 1972.

The following year Perón entrusted Favio with organising a ceremony to mark his formal, definitive, return at Ezeiza, near Buenos Aires international airport. The highly-charged event soon descended into bloodshed as one faction of Peronistas opened fire on another.

Amid the gunfire, Favio appealed for an end to the violence, but was unable to stop what was later dubbed the Ezeiza massacre, in which at least 13 people were killed. The filmmaker later directed a documentary entitled Perón, sinfonía del sentimiento (Perón, A Symphony of Feeling, 1999), a six-hour documentary greeted as high art or low propaganda depending on the political bent of its audience.

Perón died in 1974 and was succeeded by his wife, Isabel, until she was unseated by another coup in 1976. Favio went into exile during the subsequent dictatorship, settling in Colombia and leading concert tours of Latin America, finally returning to Argentina in 1987.

In the years before his death, Favio suffered from health problems which limited his mobility but did not stop him from directing. His last film, Aniceto (2008), was a remake of El romance del Aniceto y la Francisca, which he had made 40 years previously and which was itself an adaptation of a short story written by his brother, Jorge Zuhair Jury. Favio left an unfinished film project that would have revisited his impoverished childhood in Mendoza province.

In 2010 he was named his country's ambassador of culture by President Cristina Fernández de Kirchner. Leonardo Favio, born May 28 1938, died November 5 2012. ---telegraph.co.uk

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