

Singing sisters near big break

Lorain natives under consideration for a Grammy

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Born in Lorain and raised in Westlake, sisters Diana and Elissa Coso dreamed as young girls about singing together in a band.

Decades later, the siblings under the name DeLissána are making good on that dream. Their debut album, "Embrace-Abrazo-Abbraccio," is under consideration for a Grammy Award.



Diana Coso



Elissa Coso

"We're not allowed to say which categories, but we can tell you our genre is typically pop," said

North Ridgeville resident Diana Coso, who graduated from Westlake High School in 1971. "We're sort of crossover, too.

"We do some songs like 'The Prayer,' the song Celine Dion sang that David Foster wrote but it's like in a pop version. We sing in Italian and in Spanish as well."

Diana Coso said she and her sister expect to hear later this month whether they'll be nominated for a Grammy Award.

"We are so thrilled to get this far," Diana said. "If we get to the actual nomination, in whatever categories we're in, our producer said, 'Forget it. People will be calling you asking you to do shows and you can pick and choose what you want to do.' A label would probably pick us up. I know there are no guarantees in that industry, but it's great to get the notoriety and the recognition."

DeLissána formed five years ago when Diana Coso returned to Northeast Ohio. She said she dabbled in music when she

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lived in California and Virginia.

"When I moved back home, we said, 'Let's do this' and we did," Diana Coso said. "We started performing and getting a following with the USO tour and local places around here."

Soon thereafter, Diana and Elissa Coso through an acquaintance were approached by Grammy Award-winning producer-arranger Pablo "Chino" Nuñez, who has worked with Tito Puente, Celia Cruz, Johnny Pacheco and Marc Anthony.

After auditioning for seven hours in Florida, the Coso sisters were signed by the high-profile producer. The result is "Embrace-Abrazo-Abbraccio," which includes three covers performed in foreign languages: "Notte di Luce (Nights in White Satin)," "Regresa a mí (Un-break My Heart)" and "Senza Catene (Unchained Melody)."

The Coso sisters also wrote several songs for the album. They include the jazzy "Are You For Real?" and the popish "Daddy Hold My Hand" and "Life Goes On." There also is the salsa-sounding "Life is Good."

Diana Coso said they sang Italian and

Spanish songs because they can.

"We understand the languages well and we like to appeal to other types of audiences," she said. "We think it's classy, romantic, especially things like 'Unchained Melody' in Italian with Chino's arrangement."

So if DeLissána receives a Grammy Award nomination, will Diana attend the shindig come February in Los Angeles?

"Absolutely," Coso said. "If we have to walk there, we'll be there."

For more information, visit delissana.com.

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