

FALL FOR FLAMENCO

6th Atlantic Flamenco Festival
Halifax October 22-30, 2011



GUEST ARTIST FEATURE

DE ESPAÑA CON AMOR (From Spain with Love)

World Premiere

Friday October 28, 2011 / 8pm

Rebecca Cohn Auditorium, Dalhousie Arts Centre
6101 University Avenue, Halifax Nova Scotia

Tickets: \$38 / \$34 / \$30 / \$26 Available at the , Dalhousie Arts Centre Box Office
Mon-Fri 12-6pm; by phone at (902) 494-3820 (service charges apply);
online at Dalhousie Arts Centre Online: <http://artscentre.dal.ca/> (service charges apply)
Group discount price of \$25 available for groups of 10 or more, please contact the Box Office for
info.

Cast:

Miguel Tellez, Maria Osende: dance

Jose Vega: guitar

Maria Mezcle: vocals

Daniel MacNeil: percussion, guitar

Concept: Anthony Black, Maria Osende

Projection Design: Nick Bottomley

Artistic Direction: Anthony Black

Synopsis

Love, passion, humour and drama portrayed through powerful dance, passionate music and vivid imagery make this world premiere dance-theatre production an absolute must-see.

Internationally acclaimed flamenco dancer Miguel Tellez is back in Halifax by overwhelming demand. The “Fred Astaire of flamenco” dominates the stage with grace and astonishing sense of rhythm. Miguel will be joined by the popular Haligonian/Madrid-born dancer Maria Osende, whose dance has been described as “spellbinding”. The compelling sounds of the flamenco soul will be provided by the powerful voice of Maria Mezcle, who at only 24, has become one of Spain’s most promising and accomplished singers. On guitar, adding an authentic Spanish flavour, virtuoso guitarist Jose Vega, as well as the very creative Canadian musician Daniel MacNeil.

De España con Amor will be entirely produced and created in Halifax under the award-winning theatrical direction of Anthony Black (2b theatre). Projection design by Nick Bottomley.

Experience flamenco as you never have before.



De España con Amor - Artist Biographies

Miguel Tellez

Miguel began his training at age 10 in Spain, in his native town of Jerez de la Frontera, which is considered the birthplace of Flamenco. In 1995, he moved to Madrid to continue his career as a principal dancer with the companies of Joaquín Grilo, "El Güito" and Carmen Cortés among others. He has performed in numerous Festivals and in the best theatres in Spain and around the world. Miguel first visited Canada in February 2010 for his guest performance in Flamenco Valentine with Maria Osende Flamenco Company. His debut appearance in Canada was met with much enthusiasm and admiration.

Video link of Miguel Tellez dancing: <http://youtu.be/V2mae06pgMM?t=1m49s>

Maria Mezcle

Very few singers at such a young age have accomplished as much or established themselves as strongly as Maria Mezcle. Born in Sanlúcar de Barrameda, in Andalucía - the cradle of flamenco - she showed her talents in dance and singing at an early age, starting dance at age 6 and singing at age 11. Only 4 months after her first lessons, she won a competition. Since then, she has won numerous awards and has garnered much praise for her command of the flamenco repertoire of songs. The prestigious Festival de Jerez invited her to present her own show in 2010, when she was only 23. The same year, she launched her first album: "María Mezcle", produced by renowned guitarist Gerardo Núñez, a revered figure in the flamenco world.

Link to MP3 audio file of Maria Mezcle singing:

<http://www.flamencofestival.ca/artists/atardeceres-de-pintura.mp3>

José Vega "Niño del Puente"

José Vega's passion for flamenco began years ago in his hometown of Cadiz, Spain, where he began performing at age 16. An accomplished guitarist and a powerful expressionist, José has performed in the most prestigious peñas (flamenco clubs) and tablaos (concert halls) in Spain. In 2006 José moved to Canada. He has collaborated with many different flamenco companies across Canada and has consistently received a warm reception from the Canadian public.

Link to audio MP3 file of Jose Vega playing:

<http://www.flamencofestival.ca/artists/buleria-la-manolina.mp3>



Maria Osende

Born and raised in Madrid, Spain, Maria is a multi-faceted dancer and choreographer, renowned for her unique direction in flamenco dance. She started dancing ballet at the age of seven with various teachers and continued her studies as a teenager at the prestigious School of American Ballet in New York City (Fulbright Scholarship) and flamenco at the Centro de Arte Flamenco Amor de Dios in Madrid. Maria danced professionally as a soloist for ten years in two major European dance companies, the Ballet Nacional de España (Madrid) and the Deutsche Oper Berlin Ballet (Germany) to later turn her focus exclusively on flamenco. In 2003 Maria moved to Canada, transforming Halifax into an international flamenco hotspot. In 2004 she formed the Maria Osende Flamenco Company, which has become one of Canada's leading flamenco dance companies. Maria is also the driving force behind Halifax's Fall for Flamenco Festival. Maria is also a devoted flamenco dance teacher, and has developed several dancers in the community. <http://www.mariaosende.com>

Link to video of Maria dancing with Miguel Tellez:

<http://youtu.be/fCAQC-njdCo>

Daniel MacNeil

Born and raised in Cape Breton, Daniel plays both guitar and percussion in a wide variety of musical traditions, however he finds his heart rooted in flamenco. He began studying the form several years ago and has visited Spain repeatedly to expand his knowledge in flamenco guitar. Daniel has also studied classical Indian music (pakhawaj/tabla in the style of "Odissi") intensively in India with his Guruji "Padma Charan Dehury". Other background influences include Middle Eastern, Brazilian, jazz, folk, classical, blues, rock and many styles in world beat. As well as performing solo, Daniel is also a part of several Halifax based ensembles, such as the Maria Osende Flamenco Company and Con Brio, where he is guitarist and musical director.

Anthony Black (director)

Anthony Black is a versatile and award-winning artist who works as a director, actor, writer, designer, and as artistic co-director of Halifax's 2b theatre company. His play, *Homage* sold out its world premiere run in Halifax, and toured to Luminato and Magnetic North Festival (both in Canada). He has performed his solo show *Invisible Atom* in more than 100 presentations across Canada and internationally, including stops in Victoria, Halifax, Toronto, New York City (at the Public Theater), Edinburgh, Cork, and Sydney. His newest play, *When it Rains*, premiered in Halifax in April 2011. Anthony has received Theatre Nova Scotia Merritt Award nominations as a writer, director, set and sound designer. He won a Herald Angel Award for *Invisible Atom* in Edinburgh in 2010. Anthony is a graduate of York University and the National Theatre School's Directing Program.

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Nick Bottomley (Projection design)

Nick Bottomley enjoys making things with computers. He is a graduate of Dalhousie's Computer Science program and spent most of his youth (when not on a computer) in a theatre. He is currently working as a projection designer for the theatre and striving to complete a cycle of seven short films. His past credits include works with 2b theatre company, Neptune theatre, Chester Playhouse, and the Camerata Xara choir. He is very excited to be working on this dance/theatre collaboration project.

SPONSORS

Atlantic Flamenco Productions, presenter of the Fall for Flamenco Festival, gratefully acknowledges the support of the Nova Scotia Department of Communities, Culture and Heritage, the Department of Canadian Heritage, Halifax Regional Municipality, FEDER (European Union Regional Development Fund), España Cooperación Cultural Exterior, Lunares Flamenco and media sponsor The Coast.

Many thanks to our community partners Halifax Dance, Halifax Public Libraries, ViewPoint Gallery, Dalhousie University Department of Music, the Seahorse Tavern and FlamencoTV.