



## FLAMENCO ON FILM 2022

Thank you for joining us and celebrating the return of the Flamenco Arts Festival with our first virtual event! This is a condensed version of each film and is only part of what is on the Lineup page on our website. For complete film details go to <https://flamencoarts.org/event-2022/>

Flamenco is a universal art form, and these 8 short films are meant to introduce you to flamenco traditions from around the world and the many people who devote their lives to the art form onstage, behind-the-scenes, and in the audience.

The Education page on our website is an additional resource and offers information into some of the most influential and important dances, museums, festivals, and flamenco rich neighborhoods in Spain and Santa Barbara that are part of this year's virtual film festival. Go to <https://flamencoarts.org/education/>

### PROGRAM 1 | APRIL 23 | 1:26 HRS.

#### FILM #1: MAKARINES

*Flamenco singing duo*

The Makarines are a flamenco singing duo formed by brothers José Ibañez and Maka Ibañez. Raised in the rich tradition of flamenco, their sound is at once classic and freshly modern, with beautifully layered vocals that give the music a celestial feel.

Their hallmark flamenco fusion and easy listening style defies categorization yet is still rooted in the tradition of flamenco cante.

Growing up in Triana, they attribute their love of music to their grandfather Segundo who instilled in the brothers a love of singing and harmony. Later, their musical education consisted of singing night after night in every corner of their neighborhood.

While their first performances were purely for fun, they soon started performing professionally, debuting at the flamenco tablao La Madrugá in Seville.

Since then, they've shared the stage with renowned cantaores and bailaores such as Diego Carrasco, Diego del Morao, La Tana, and María Jiménez, Juan de Juan, Joaquín Grilo, and Jesús Carmona, to name a few, and have also collaborated with Chiquetete and Radio Makandé.

The Makarines have also taken part in festivals such as the Mont de Marsans and Cante de las Minas de La Unión and have also performed at Teatro Alameda and Teatro Central.

In 2005, the Makarines recorded the self-titled album *Makarines* with pianist Pablo Suárez, bassist Pepe Bau, and percussionist Joaquín Migallón. Since then, they have recorded the albums *Prefiero*, *Dos Manos un Pincel*, and *Tierra*.

In 2019, they performed as backup singers for Rosalía at the Billboard Women in Music annual event in Los Angeles.

The Makarines came to Santa Barbara in 2013 when they performed as cantaores with Jesús Carmona's company for the U.S Premiere of *Cuna Negra y Blanca* at the Granada Theatre, with over 1,000 people in attendance. For the 2022 Flamenco Arts Festival, the Makarines will perform from the beautiful Casa Montalván in Sevilla.

## **FILM #2: FESTIVAL INTERNACIONAL DE DANZA IBÉRICA CONTEMPORÁNEA**

*Highlights of a popular festival in Mexico*

In just eight editions the Festival Internacional de Danza Ibérica Contemporánea has managed to cut out a place for itself among the great flamenco, Spanish, and contemporary dance festivals of the world and is certainly the most outstanding festival of its kind in Latin America. Held in the month of July, in a beautiful natural setting in Querétaro, Mexico, the varied program includes top stars in the field with a dynamic wide-open perspective that attracts avid followers of dance, many of whom eagerly sign up for the intensive courses given by guest artists. The event offers a unique opportunity to savor classic flamenco as well as experimental or avant-garde approaches. Dance companies and dance schools interact in a shared space making for a dynamic exchange of ideas and tendencies. Not limited to dance, the organization strives to include a wide variety of events such as fashion shows, gastronomy, and diverse visual arts, among other featured specialties.

Festival Internacional de Danza Ibérica Contemporánea is a biennial event and its next edition is in 2023.

The Festival Ibérica Contemporánea 2021 was filmed during a very active festival with rehearsals, rainy conditions, and lots of background noise. We shot it as we saw it - a festival in the making!

## **FILM #3: VOLVER**

*This is a short documentary film and is being shown courtesy of Felix Vazquez and Ibérica Contemporánea*

*Volver* was a special project of filmmaker Felix Vazquez, BuenaSombra Films, and is one film in a collection of different shorts titled Portrait Collection. *Volver* is an inspirational endeavor by Vazquez to reflect the significance of art during a very complex time in history.

*Volver* is urban and filmed in the solitude of night, in the streets of Sevilla and Madrid, and in slow motion to depict the paralysis and lethargy of art during the pandemic. It includes the special participation of dancers Eduardo Guerrero and Maria Moreno, the voice of Javier Latorre (dancer, choreographer, and flamenco legend), and text written by Manuel Segovia, Artistic Director of Ibérica Contemporánea.

## **THE DEATH OF CULTURE**

*by Manuel Segovia*

I'm going to tell you about the moment I was about to die one cold night in the month of March. I don't know how I got into that situation, but it has to do with the toxicity of the invisible, which is looming, that which can't be seen and which gets inside of us triggering asphyxiation and the collapse of the world's heartbeat

I've had to do some soul-searching in order to realize the importance of the quotidian, of the simple things... On that nearly eternal night I listened closely to the distant noises, of the man who is free, those things we normally don't take the trouble to notice, waking up, going to bed, making a meal, coming and going, laughing and crying or simply nothing at all. That symphony of noises filled my moments of agony for long moments, just think, I, who opened impossible spaces, who broke the limits of color on the canvass of life, who has traveled through the souls of poets in search of beauty. I, who released pentagrams so that notes might run free, who danced with the angels and struck the floor with my knuckles seeking that special rhythm and the Earth's heartbeat...

That night that I nearly died the theaters were closed, every closed door banged upon my ears with an infinite echo, and I thought the end was near, and I feared not having time to even finish my own story.

I won't answer the questions anymore, nor will I try to ask them, and if I'm really dying, they can bury me, and never more will they feel my presence. They won't talk about my achievements, nor the talent that inhabits inspired souls, and they will tell distant unreal stories about me, reflections of grey dreams, empty peaceful tales like the shadows of Plato's cave, and there won't be any contrasts in them, nor fever, nor passion...almost lifeless, like an empty broken artist trying to catch the moon of the gods.

I still wonder about the why of many things, and I would like to remember many others, but the otherness of this world gives me no respite, and frightened men put locks on their eyes in order not to see the old fog that surrounds them, and with their hands they close the doors of the temples of art.

Before going on, I've decided to briefly recall my current situation. I know the worst is over, and all I need is a small light, a firefly from the inhabited forest, which is the world, and in the end, I shall find the way out of this blackness at the top of the sacred mountain of the muses. That encounter is soon to be, perhaps today, perhaps it's happening as you listen to my errant voice in a rediscovery of the luminous truth of art. I am culture and I was about to perish...one cold night in the month of March...

## **FILM #4: MARIA MORENO**

*An experimental dance performance*

María Moreno's highly stylized performances unfold with a passionate cadence like a captivating story. Featuring everything from the subtlest nuances to the most exacting movements, she makes the dance look as natural as breathing.

It is not surprising that flamenco came naturally to Moreno from the start. Her career began when she was just 8 years old when she enrolled in the Professional Dance Conservatory of Cádiz. Moreno would then go on to train with Javier Latorre, Rafaela Carrasco, Antonio Canales, and Eva Yerbabuena.

In 2004, she joined Eva Yerbabuena's company, taking part in some of Eva's most emblematic productions. Bolstered by performing in this prestigious flamenco company, María Moreno launched her solo career in 2006.

She has since collaborated with some of flamenco's greatest artists, from Miguel Poveda to José Mercé to Marina Heredia and Arcángel.

In 2017, Moreno received the 'Best New Artist Award' at the Festival de Jerez. In 2018, she debuted her show *De la Concepción* at Seville's Teatro Central as part of the city's Flamenco Biennial. Featuring Eva Yerbabuena as stage director and Andrés Marín as musical director, Moreno was recognized with the Best New Artist Giraldirillo award for this production.

In 2020 she premiered her latest work, *MORE (NO) MORE*, at the Seville Flamenco Biennial, featuring the direction of Rafael R. Villalobos and costume design by Palomo Spain. It was awarded The Magic Moment Giraldirillo Award.

It is with great excitement that we welcome María Moreno to the FAF virtual stage with her most recent work, *soleá*.

## **PROGRAM 2 | APRIL 24 | 1:44 HRS.**

### **FILM #5: SEVILLANAS Santa Barbara**

*A traditional folk dance*

One of the most popular events in Seville, the Feria de Abril (April Fair), is a joyous celebration held in the spring. Thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds gather for seven days dressed in traditional costumes to dance Sevillanas, view horseback parades, and enjoy delicious food and drink.

It begins with the inaugural event of the "noche del alumbrado" (night of the lighting) when all the fairground lights are lit to create a magical atmosphere. The community gathers with excitement, waiting for the brilliant lights to commence the weeklong party.

And this is where our film comes in.

On a beautiful spring night, Santa Barbara dancers of all ages and dance levels, musicians, and friends came together to perform Sevillanas, in a scene reminiscent of the days following the "noche del alumbrado." Filmed in the Santa Barbara Historical Museum courtyard, it is an enchanting celebration of dance and music.

It's a fitting setting, as Spanish dance and music have been an important part of the culture and everyday life of the residents of Santa Barbara for decades. The city was founded by Spain and Spanish dance has stayed a historical cornerstone of Santa Barbara's artistic expression. And like Sevilla, Santa Barbara celebrates its rich history and traditions through many events throughout the year.

## **FILM #6: LUISA PALICIO**

*A classic flamenco dance performance*

Combining ethereal grace and earthy sensuality, Luisa Palicio is lauded for her adventurous expression that grows from her classical roots in flamenco. Described as simultaneously seductive and angelic in movement — and larger-than-life in every aspect of her performances — Palicio's range knows no bounds.

Born in Málaga in 1984, Luisa Palicio began her dance career at four, studying flamenco, classical ballet, and contemporary dance. Becoming a star on a televised children's talent show soon after, she continued her flamenco studies with the bata de cola with Milagro Menjibar at the age of 14.

In 2001, she won a flamenco dance contest to study at the Fundación Cristina Heeren. That same year, she won a famous dance award from the Peña la Perla de Cádiz.

Confirming her status as a rising new star to watch, she won the Giralddillo Artista Revelación of the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla in 2006. Palicio then presented her own show in the Festival de Jerez, in the Bienal de Málaga, and in Los Jueves Flamencos de Cajasol the following year.

Palicio won best dancer and was awarded the Miguel Acal Critics Award in 2008, presented a new show with artist Jose Luis Ortiz Nuevo, Cuatro Noches, and then embarked on her career as a soloist, performing throughout Spain and Europe.

In 2014, she presented her solo show titled Sevilla at the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla and at the Festival de Jerez, where she won the prize Premio Artista Revelación.

In 2017, she presented "BIZNAGA" at the Bienal de Málaga, which was then presented in Mexico City in 2018. In 2019, Palicio danced in the Festival de Cante Jondo of la Puebla de Cazalla, the Flamenco Real in the Teatro Real of Madrid, and with the Cervantes Institute in Fez and Ceuta.

In 2020, Palicio presented her new solo show "TEMPUS" at the Festival de Jerez to critical acclaim. The world tour of "TEMPUS" was put on hold due to the pandemic, so it is with added excitement that we welcome Luisa Palicio to our virtual stage with her most recent work. Luisa is currently a flamenco instructor at the Fundación Cristina Heeren.

Cristina Heeren came to Santa Barbara for Flamenco Arts Festival 2004 representing Rafael Campallo and his company in the West Coast premiere of Jovenes Flamencos, with guest artist Ursula Lopez

## **FILM #7: FESTIVAL DE JEREZ**

*Highlights of a very popular flamenco festival in Spain*

The Festival de Jerez attracts thousands of flamenco aficionados and practitioners from all over the world. In 2021, with COVID restrictions still in place, the organizers decided to produce their live annual event and the Flamenco Arts Festival decided to continue with their efforts to film and document this time in history. The attendance was significantly smaller than usual but the commitment of the organizers, artists, and enthusiasm of those who were able to attend remained strong.

Jerez de la Frontera is one of the most important flamenco zones of Spain. Its Festival de Jerez, founded in 1995, and devoted to Spanish and flamenco dance, has been held annually since then, despite the Covid epidemic. Oddly enough, Jerez is best-known for flamenco singing and guitar-playing, so the idea of staging a dance festival was originally seen as unusual. And yet, the event has been extremely successful. The program has always included world premieres and major stars as well as emerging or experimental artists. Shows are staged at a variety of venues, including the historic Villamarta Theater, and the so-called "Off" program includes free shows at the flamenco clubs, and small recitals at other locations throughout the city. One of the most important elements of the Festival de Jerez is the varied offering of intensive masterclasses given by famous artists. Flamenco fans from all over the world book tickets for shows and sign up for the courses many months in advance of the Festival.

The photo representing this film is a statue of Lola Flores in Jerez de la Frontera where she was born. She is a Spanish icon, actress, singer, and dancer who had a beautiful and charismatic onstage presence. She passed away in 1995.

## **GRAND FINALE! PEDRO RICARDO MIÑO**

*A flamenco piano performance and a tribute to Alan Kozlowski with an introduction by songwriter Jackson Browne*

While Pedro Ricardo Miño's music is rooted in the rich tradition of flamenco, it expands outward to encompass an exuberant global sound developed through years of musical exploration.

The son of famous flamenco artists, dancer Pepa Montes and guitarist Ricardo Miño, Miño was immersed in the sounds of flamenco music as a child. Born in the Triana neighborhood of Seville – known as the "Cava de los Gitanos" – Miño began his studies at Seville's Elementary and Superior Conservatories of Music, where he started performing in many premier musical events.

Since his first appearances in the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla (flamenco festival), Miño has performed in national and international theaters, accompanying top stars of flamenco cantaores such as Enrique Morente, Manuel Molina, El Pele, Arcángel, Pansequito, Pepe de Lucía, Lole Montoya, Luisa Ortega, Fernando Terremoto, and Estrella Morente.

Some of the works he has presented at the Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla over many years include "Mass Flamenco," "Piano con Duende," "Enclave," and "Universo Jondo."

In 1999, he made his debut in the United States with a series of concerts, which was followed by collaborations with prestigious musicians such as Ravi Shankar, Jackson Browne, and others who were profoundly inspired by his interpretation of flamenco music.

Pedro Ricardo Miño was nominated for a Grammy for his collaboration with Anoushka Shankar for best interpreter and composer in the category of World Music, and his collaboration in the album "Flamenco Chill Out," produced by Sony Music, also went platinum.

The Flamenco Arts Festival President and Founder, Vibiana, had the opportunity to first meet Miño in 2000 when Miño briefly resided in Santa Barbara. Vibiana was immediately impressed, and it was clear to see then that Miño would become one of the most accomplished flamenco pianists today.

Performing at his home studio with the accompaniment of three accomplished artists, the Flamenco Arts Festival is excited to bring the exquisite sounds of Pedro Ricardo Miño to the virtual stage.

## AUDIENCE SURVEY

An audience survey will be sent to your email address on file after April 29<sup>th</sup>. Your feedback is important to us, and we hope you will take a few minutes to complete the short form. The names of those who respond will be entered into a raffle and 5 names will be chosen to receive an official FAF t-shirt.

## SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

