

Gareth Owen

Gareth Owen is a world-class flamenco guitarist based in Victoria, B.C. He has collaborated with many internationally renowned flamenco artists including guitarists Jesus Álvarez and Gaspar Rodríguez Roman, singers Coral de los Reyes and Miguel Rosendo, and dancers Domingo Ortega and María "Cha Cha" Bermudez.

Gareth has recorded two solo albums, "Gareth Owen Flamenco Guitar" and "El Cobre". He has also appeared on Alma de España's CD, "Flamenco Live". His third solo CD is currently in production and will be released later this year.

He has performed solo concerts in Calgary, Victoria and Haida Gwaii, as well as tablao performances in cities across Canada and at the "Tablao El Laga" in Jerez de la Frontera, Spain. Gareth has had the honour of performing in the Toronto and Vancouver International Flamenco Festivals, Dawson City Music Festival, and Victoria Flamenco Festival. Theatre-scale flamenco productions have included Café de Chinitas in Vancouver, Alma de España's Recuerdos and Pasajes in Victoria, La Palabra en el Tiempo in Victoria and Sonidos Gitanos' "Convivencia" at El Portal Theatre in Los Angeles.

Gerardo Alcalá

New Orleans born Flamenco guitarist Gerardo Alcalá is one of the few foreigners to be respected as a full-fledged Flamenco artist by the gypsy Flamencos of Andalucía, among whom he lived the authentic Flamenco lifestyle for many years. He learned his art from the masters: Rafael el Aguila, Parrilla de Jerez, Niño Jero, Rafael Alarcón, Eduardo de la Malena, and Pedro Bacan. In the intimate closed-door sessions, or Juergas, where the pure sound of Flamenco, el Duende, can surge forth in all its savage beauty, he has spent countless hours accompanying great gypsy singers such as Agujetas, Gitano de Bronce, El Garbanzo, El Monea, Salmonete, Chato de la Isla, Dolores, Antonio, Luis, Diego, El Gordo, and Paco Agujetas, and many others.

He has performed professionally in major theatres on three continents, including Carnegie Hall, as well as for television, radio and film. In the U.S. he toured extensively with the Spanish dance companies of Jose Molina and Teo Morca and did many recitals with the legendary Anzonini del Puerto. In Spain he performed with the all-gypsy company of Fernanda Romero and has had particularly long and close relationship with the Agujetas family, including Manuel Agujetas, who has preserved the deepest and purest singing in Spain. With them, he was featured as sole accompanist in the prestigious Circulo de Bellas Artes in Madrid and the Dutch film "Duende".

In 1990 he was honoured to become the first North American ever to be contracted to perform as a soloist in the Bienal de Sevilla, Spain's most important Flamenco Festival. In 1998 he accompanied Luis Agujetas on his CD "Entre tu Tierra Y La Mia". In 2000, he appeared accompanying Luis, Diego, and Paco Agujetas in the film "El Turista Soy Yo".

In 2002 he was first guitarist at Mexico's most important tablao "gitanerias" and did a tour of Spain and France accompanying the singer, Dolores Agujetas.

Gerardo performs both as a solo guitarist and with his group, Flamenco Alcala, (a singer and one or two dancers). He is based in Vancouver, BC.

Veronica Maguire

Dancer, singer, teacher and choreographer, Veronica Maguire, is the artistic director and co-founder of Alma de España Flamenco Dance Company and School in Victoria, B.C. In a career spanning over 45 years she has shared the stage with many acclaimed Canadian and International flamenco artists, produced a number of world-class flamenco productions for the stage, and has been an invited guest to festivals across the country. In 2013, Veronica received a Canada Council grant for Professionals and was chosen by peer assessment to win the prestigious Jacqueline Lemieux Award for her contribution to Dance in Canada.

Denise Yeo

Denise Yeo is a flamenco dancer and palmera out of Victoria, B.C. In 2017, she successfully launched her first flamenco production, La Palabra en el Tiempo, as principal soloist and artistic director. By invitation, Denise performs as a soloist in Vancouver tablaos as well as in shows around her native Vancouver Island. As a palmera she's performed with Gareth Owen Flamenco in solo concerts, a recorded album and with special collaborations.

Denise has had the privilege of training under many prestigious international and Canadian flamenco artists with primary tutelage and mentorship of nationally acclaimed dancer/choreographer, Veronica Maguire.