

Jill Russell is a flutist/multi-instrumentalist living in Vancouver, Canada. She completed a Music and Education degree at Western Washington University where she focused on Jazz Studies. Jill spent six years touring Western Canada with Brazilian musician Celso Machado, playing over six hundred shows and recording a duo album entitled "Musica do Brasil". In 1999 Jill recorded her own CD "Check the Beans" in Miami, produced by Jovino Santos Neto and featuring some of Brazil's finest musicians. Since 2001 Jill Russell has fronted 'Corcovado', a Brazilian jazz band that has performed at The Vancouver Jazz Festival, the Dragon Boat festival, the Harmony Arts Festival, and with Celso Machado at numerous Children's Festivals, Conference on the Americas in NY, Victoria Sun Fest, and many concert series throughout Western Canada.

In the last 5 years, Jill has immersed herself in the world of flamenco, traveling to Albuquerque, New Mexico and Jerez de la Frontera, Spain to attend workshops and performances at flamenco festivals. She has appeared on stage with Vicente Griego, Ricardo Diaz and Cristian Cortes. Currently she is collaborating with Maria Avila and Emad Armoush on a Flamenco project that utilizes palos and harmonies from Flamenco in both a structured and improvisational way.

Emad Armoush is an accomplished professional musician living in Vancouver, Canada and pursuing a very active career in World Music since 2000.

Fluent in Spanish, English, and Arabic, he performs a repertoire of flamenco, jazz, Arabic, Turkish and Persian music. Emad is a multi-instrumentalist and singer. He plays flamenco guitar, Oud and Ney. He also sings flamenco, Arabic and jazz songs. Emad formed his own groups "Aire Flamenco Arabic Music" and "Rayhan" in 2002, and performs with them regularly at music festivals and venues in Vancouver. He has also collaborated with various local and internationally touring groups such as "Flamenco Flow" and Flamenco de la Mission" from Europe, the "Lache Cercel's Roma Swing Ensemble" and the "Orchid Ensemble" from Vancouver.

In 2009, Emad joined the Gordon Grdina 10-piece Arabic - Avant-Garde Ensemble "HARAM" as an Arabic vocalist and Ney player. The band consists of some of Canada's best World and Jazz musicians. Together, they have recently released their first CD and finished a major Canada tour, performing in the Guelph Jazz Festival, Ottawa Folk Festival, Toronto and Montreal.

Emad has performed in theaters in Paris. He has appeared and recorded on CBC Radio, Zed TV, Vancouver Folk Festival, Vancouver Jazz festival, Mondo Music, the Dragon Boat Festival, the Harmony Art Festival, Asian Heritage Month Festival, the Showcase of Global Discoveries, the Fringe Festival and many others.

Maria Avila has been involved in the art of flamenco for over a decade. Abroad she has studied with world renowned artists in both Queretaro, Mexico and Sevilla, Spain. Locally she has trained with Al Mozaico Flamenco, Karen Flamenco, and completed Centro Flamenco's professional two-year dance program. Maria made her professional debut with Flamenco Rosario in "Flamenco Ayer y Hoy" at the Centennial Theater in 2007. Since then she has continued to perform as both an Al Mozaico company member and on her own as a soloist. Recent achievements include being awarded a B.C. Arts Council grant for professional development in 2013 as well as performing at the Vancouver International Flamenco Festival in 2011. Maria Avila collaborates with Sonikeltica, La Triana, Aire Flamenco, and Mimbres Flamenco.