# RAYUELA (HOPSCOTCH)

MARCO FLORES FLAMENCO-DANCE COMPANY



"It all started with a heart beat, the primal pulse of a life that turned into rhythm: Marco.

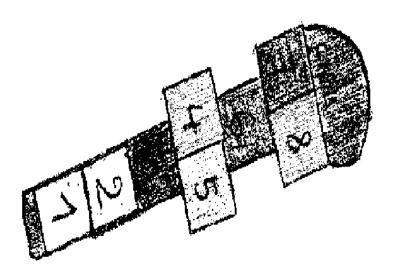
Later, wings grew from his feet and a thousand flowers bloomed in his soul. Adversity and laughter plowed his skin and they opened trails to emotion, grief and celebration.

Flamenco is where his vital and artistic impulse are free of boundaries, where they make the most sense.

Now the time has come to tell what he has gone through since he started twenty years ago. He travels back in time observing with honesty the events that he has traversed. He encounters the essential truths of flamenco and experiences them in their entirety.

He lives them with their kaleidoscopic emotion, from his intangible dance, a clean heart that belongs to an artist of the XXI century: Marco Flores."

Francisco López.



Accuracy, balance, role-play.

Departing from the earth to reach the sky (Uranus), Avoiding hell (Pluto). Mistakes make you fall into the pond: Although you can always start over.

#### The evoking power of a Word:

- It takes us back to our childhood, to our roots, to a millenary culture.
- It represents our aspiration for the perfect piece of art, it does not allow competing with anybody else but ourselves.
- It alludes to the novel of the same name "Hopscotch" (Rayuela in Spanish) by Julio Cortázar. Oliveira, the protagonist, is constantly looking for something he does not know. He is in the guest for the answers he needs. Life's exploration through the creative process.

### CAST AND CREW

Direction: FRANCISCO LÓPEZ.

Choreography and Production: MARCO FLORES.

Choreography assistance: OLGA PERICET.

Music by: ALFREDO LAGOS.

Cast: MARCO FLORES (dance), DAVID LAGOS (voice), ALFREDO LAGOS (guitar).

Lighting design: ADA BONADEI.

Sound engineer: JORGE CACHEDA.

Costume design: OLGA PERICET.

Dressmaker: MARIBEL RODRIGUEZ.

Costume design for Marco Flores in "Déjate de Milongas": PAUL SMITH.

Shoes Marco Flores: ANTONIO GARCÍA.

Castanets Marco Flores: CASTAÑUELAS DEL SUR.

Photography: FERGÓ / ROMO

Executive Producer: MIQUEL SANTIN.

Creative Residency: TEATRO VILLAMARTA, JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA.

Technical Residency: TEATRO LA TÍA NORICA, CÁDIZ

In collaboration with:







A dramaturgic structure in five consecutive pieces approached from three different creative perspectives:

- **I.** Introspective approach
  - 1 (LA) NOCHE OSCURA (DEL ALMA) / Suite 3/4+6/8
  - 2 **EL DUELO** / Chaconiana
- **II.** Prospective approach
  - 3 **ARCADAS** / Lo recto y lo torcido
- **III.** Projective approach
  - 4 PARA LA GALERÍA / Bailando por alegre
  - 5 **DÉJATE DE MILONGAS** / La ida de las vueltas

The common creative spur in the show is the discovery of the relation between form and substance, content and technique, performance and language in the dance, music and scene aspects of the show.

## FRANCISCO LÓPEZ

Francisco López has been involved in the direction of shows since the end of the 1970's. He has directed over twenty theatrical pieces, as well as written and premiered many drama scripts.

He has worked in the flamenco sphere creating the script and directing the following ballets "La forza del destino" (Zyriab Danza), Eco y Narciso (Córdoba Guitar Festival), Requiem Flamenco choreographed by Mario Maya (Compañía Andaluza de Danza), El Loco choreographed by Javier Latorre. Fatum! inspired by La Forza del Destino, with choreographer Javier Latorre and production by Shoji Kojima (Ballet Nacional de España).

He has also written and directed the shows *iViva Jerez!* (co-produced by Festival de Jeréz along with Consejería de Cultura de la Junta de Andalucía), Las cinco estaciones (for Festival de Jeréz), Perspectivas, Baile de palabra, Ella and Déjame que te baile (Mercedes Ruiz dance company), ieLe eLe! (Leonor Leal dance company), A este chino no le canto (produced by Shoji Kojima with the collaboration of flamenco dancer Eva Yerbabuena and flamenco singer Miguel Poveda), Por los pelos (cabaret-flamenco show for flamenco singer Melchora Ortega) and Navidad flamenca en Jeréz (recorded for television). His latest shows are *iVamos allá!* by Flamenconautas presented at Festival de Jerez and Tauromagia with music by Manolo Sanlúcar for Mercedes Ruiz dance company, in Vichy (France).

Likewise, he produces and creates the concert-show *iQue suenen con alegría!*, where many renowned artists such as Ismael Jordi, David DeMaría, Manuel Lombo, David Lagos, Jesús Méndez, Estrella Morente and Ainhoa Arteta participated.

Within the lyric world he has directed *La Traviata, Rigoletto, The Marriage of Figaro, Don Giovanni, The Magic Flute, Carmen, Romeo and Juliet, Orfeo ed Euridice, L'Ottavia restituita al trono, Don Pasquale, L'elixir d'amore, Los amantes de Teruel, Cecilia Valdés, Maruxa, La canción del olvido, El dúo de la Africana and Doña Francisquita.* 

His most recent lyric works are: Pasión y muerte de Angélica (with his own dramaturgy and music pieces by J. Brahms and Puccini). A staged recital called *Un aura amorosa*, and new productions of *Aída*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Pagliacci* – *Cavalleria Rusticana* (double feature) and *Norma*.

In February 2019 he premiered a new production of L'elisir d'amore in Mexico.

In the area of cultural promotion we can mention his work as Director of Culture for Ayuntamiento de Córdoba (1986-1989), General Manager of Gran Teatro de Córdoba (1989-1996) and Director of Teatro Villamarta de Jerez (1996-2014). He is currently the artistic director of Jeréz Tío Pepe Festival and Cádiz Flamenco Festival.

#### MARCO FLORES

Marco Flores (National Flamenco Award winner) was born in 1981 in Arcos de la Frontera, Cádiz. At age 18 he joined Sara Baras and Rafaela Carrasco´s dance companies He was also a guest artist in Mercedes Ruiz and Miguel Angel Berna´s dance companies.

As of 2004 he begins his journey as director and coproducer of his own shows along with Manuel Liñán ("Dos en Compañía"), Manuel and Olga Pericet ("En sus 13", "En clave") or Olga and Daniel Doña ("Chanta la muí", "Complot", "Recital"). For more than six years they toured their projects, being present in many reputable dance and flamenco festivals around the world.

In 2010 he starts his solo career founding his own company. Cía Marco Flores premieres its first show "DeFlamencas" at Gran Teatro de Córdoba. In 2012 they are given the Specialized Critics Award at the Festival de Jerez. That same year he presents his second production "Tránsito" at Teatros del Canal in Madrid as part of the Suma Flamenca Festival. With "Tránsito" he tours around Spain and Europe (Germany, Belgium, Sweden, France...) at important venues such as: Dusseldorf Tanzhaus, Mercat de les Flors de Barcelona, Teatro Bretón in Logroño, Festival d'Étè in Toulouse, etc.

In 2013 he combines the tour of two of his productions with other shows, such as the Festival de Jerez Opening Gala with the show "Las cinco estaciones" along with Blanca del Rey, Olga Pericet and Mercedes Ruiz.

His next production, "Laberíntica" was premiered at Teatro Cervantes as part of the Bienal de Arte Flamenco de Málaga. Laberíntica was also performed at the Festival de Jerez 2014, and in other international dance festivals such as Kuopio Dance Festival (Finland). "Laberintica" was the show that opened the third edition of Festival Flamenco Madrid (2017).

In 2015 the company premieres "Paso a Dos" at the Festival de Jeréz, where Marco Flores and Olga Pericet are the protagonists of this show, performing in many important venues like London Sadler's Wells Theatre.

In 2016 "Entrar al Juego", Flores 'fifth solo production, premiered as part of the special programming of the XX edition of Festival de Jeréz. He is joined by very prestigious guest artists Carmela Greco and Alejandro Granados. "Entrar al Juego" was the opening show at the 30th Flamenco International Festival in Albuquerque (USA, 2017)

In 2017 MARCO FLORES DANCE COMPANY becomes Company in Residence at Teatros del Canal (Madrid) where they premiered their latest show "Fase Alterna" along with dancer Sara Cano as guest artist.

In 2018 he premieres "Extracto Abierto" and "Extrema". These productions were performed at very important venues such as: Festival Dantzaldia (Bilbao), Festival Internacional Madrid en Danza, Festival Nuova Danza (Italy), Festival Deltebre Dansa (Barcelona), Shanghai, Hangzhou,... That year, Marco wons El Ojo Crítico Award from the Spanish National Radio, in the dance category.

In 2019 he present "Origen" with the award-winning reference harpsichordist Ignacio Prego. Their project, premiered at the Aranjuez Early Music Festival, take us into a fantasy world wich early music and flamenco dance go hand in hand. "Origen" was also presented in Teatros del Canal, during the Festival Internacional Madrid En Danza 2020. Flores has won the Max Award for Best Male Dancer 2020 (National Performing Arts Awards in Spain) for this project.

His last production, "Rayuela" was premiered recently in Festival de Jerez 2020.

Nowadays Marco Flores tours around Spain and abroad with his productions. He also choreographs for many artists and companies. He recently choreographed for Olga Pericet's dance company, and also for Ballet Nacional de España in "Alento y Zaguán".

Marco has been awarded with the following prices:

- Premio Carmen Amaya del Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba.
- Premio Antonio Gades del Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba.
- Premio Mario Maya del Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba.
- Premio Especial del Baile del Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba.
- Premio al Mejor Bailaor de la Revista Deflamenco.
- Premio al Mejor Bailaor de Flamenco Hoy, Crítica Especializada
- Premio al Mejor Espectáculo por "DeFlamencas" de la Crítica del Festival de Jerez.
- Medalla de Oro del Festival Flamenco de la Virgen de las Nieves (Arcos de la Fra.).
- Premio El Ojo Crítico de Danza, Radio Nacional de España.
- Premio Max al Mejor Intérprete Masculino de Danza 2020.

Alfredo Lagos (Jerez de la Frontera) starts his professional career as a flamenco dance accompanist at an early age. Soon after he was asked to work with the most acclaimed dancers in the flamenco world. He tours Japan at the age of 18 with dancers Sara Baras and Joaquín Grilo. Later he worked with Manolete, Javier Baron, Carmen Cortés and Manuela Carrasco, for whom he composed the music for La raíz del grito along with Joaquín Amador, premiered in 1996 at IX Bienal de Flamenco de Sevilla.

As a composer he wrote the music for Joaquin Grilo´s critically-acclaimed show 'Jácara'. He also wrote music pieces for Israel Galvan shows *Arena* (2004), *La Edad de Oro* (2005) and *El Final de este estado de cosas* (2007). He received the critics award Flamenco Hoy in 2002 and 2006 as the most outstading guitarist of those editions.

In the last years he has combined his work accompanying dancers as well as flamenco singers such as <u>Enrique Morente</u>, <u>José Mercé</u>, <u>Duquende</u>, <u>Arcángel</u>, <u>Estrella Morente</u> and <u>Miguel Poveda</u>, with whom he works regularly in live performances as well as in recordings.

His latest collaborations are found in the film *Iberia*, by <u>Carlos Saura</u>, accompanying the late <u>Enrique Morente</u>. His participation in the album *Morente sueña la Alhambra*, in the piece 'Sueño de la Alhambra'; he takes part in the show 'Albéniz: a propósito de Iberia', directed by <u>José Luis Ortiz Nuevo and presented in October 2005</u> at Teatro de la Maestranza de Sevilla; and his participation in the album (*Mujeres*) by <u>Estrella Morente</u>, with whom he also recorded *Mi cante y un poema* y *Calle del aire*.

When David Lagos (Jerez de la Frontera, 1973) won the Lámpara Minera in 2014, he had over 20 years of experience as a professional flamenco singer. His voice and artistic collaboration had accompanied Israel Galván in the most avant-garde flamenco creations of the last decade. His versatile singing was heard in Euskera among Richard Serra 's sculptures, performing songs of Mikel Laboa, danced by Sol Picó and Israel Galván and guitarist Alfredo Lago at the Guggenheim Museum (2007). His lyrics, adaptations and compositions are requested by many artists. David is also a creator who is building new ways for flamenco singing.

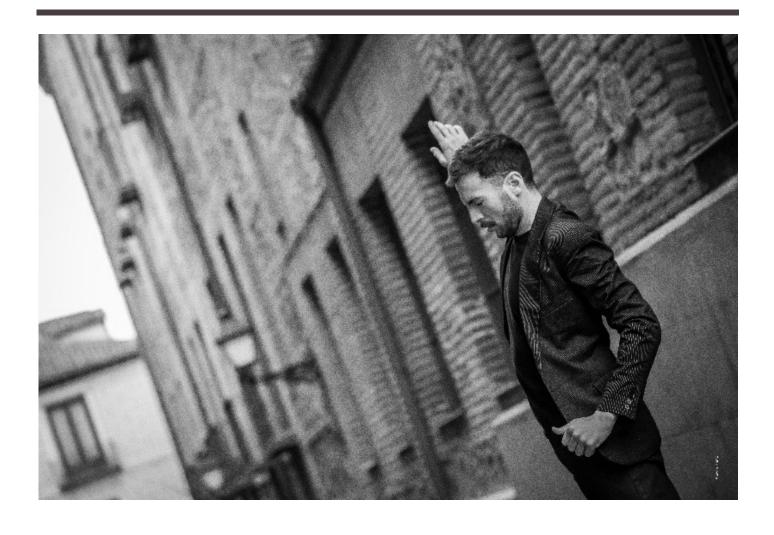
His first public appearance was at the age of 10. At 18 years old he recorded the first flamenco audiovisual encyclopedia with Adrián Galia. He lived in Madrid for three years working in shows of renowned flamenco dancers such as: Domingo Ortega, Alejandro Granados, Belén Maya and Luisillo 's dance company. During this period he recorded with the collaboration or important singers like El Cigala and Guadiana in the album 'Mi Carmen Flamenca' (María Serrano 's dance company). Later he joined the cast of 'Arsa y toma' (1996) and 'A compás del tiempo' (1999) for Cristina Hoyos, which toured around Europe, America and Asia.

He has sung in shows like 'Así baila Sevilla' by Manuela Carrasco, 'Trilogía' (2000) with Andrés Marín, Rafael Campallo and El Torombo, 'Medea' (2000) by Pilar Távora, 'La Francesa' (2006) by Pastora Galván and 'Juncá' (2007) by Mercedes Ruiz. Along with Israel Galván he has sung in 'Arena', 'La edad de oro', 'Fla.Co.Men' and 'Lo Real/ Le Réel/ The Real'. In paralell he has also carried out personal artistic projects, side by side with flamenco singer Londro at Mont de Marsan Flamenco Festival 2012 and the show 'Entre dos' with singer Melchora Ortega, presented at Nîmes Flameco Festival 2014. He has released two solo albums in which his unique touch recovers traditional repertoire and pays tribute to great flamenco figures. These are 'El espejo en que me miro' (Flamenco World Music, 2009) and 'Mi retoque al cante jerezano' (2014), which he made independently.

In August 2014 David Lagos is awarded with the Lámpara Minera, an important prize given by Festival del Cante de las Minas de La Unión (Murcia). The organization described his triumph as "astounding" due to achieving four consecutive awards in the categories of alegrías, seguiriyas, malagueñas and cartageneras in the same year.

It is essential to highlight his collaboration in the staged concert 'iQue suenen con (+) alegría!' along with tenor Ismael Jordi and the singer David DeMaría. During 2016, he tours around the world taking part in several festivals while the show 'Made in Jerez' is performed in the most prestigious flamenco events: Nimes Festival 2016, Festival Ciutat Vella in Mercat de las Flors de Barcelona and Jueves Flamencos de Sevilla.

At the inauguration of Festival de Jerez 2016 he premiers a new concert called 'Clásico Personal' accompanied by flamenco dancer Belén Maya with guitarists Manolo Franco and Emilio Caracafé. In 2017 he directs the music recording of 'Jerez, A Caballero Bonald', with acclaimed artists José Mercé and Vicente Soto Sordera, being the latter an artist with whom he also worked as a producer in his latest work 'Coplas del desagravio'. In his own studio he produces the recording of young artists from Jerez in 'Pasaje Flamenco'. In 2018 he works as a director in La Fiesta de la Bulería de Jerez, a tribute to Japan, and he starts preparing his third recording album 'Hodierno' which is performed at Bienal de Flamenco 2018, this concerts is praised by the critics and is defined as an open door to new audiences for avant-garde flamenco singing.



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