

Cía.
MARCO FLORES
Flamenco y danza actual

presenta

tierravirgen

Colaboración especial:
Chelo Pantoja

Codirección escénica y coreográfica:
Patricia Ruz

Música original:
José Tomás

virgin land

synopsis

Virgin Land is an idealized space inspired by the most classical forms of flamenco—song, guitar, dance—and by concepts tied to the origins of this art: folklore, popular culture, and the Ibero-American (the crossings back and forth).

It is, therefore, a piece that avoids being constrained by aesthetic trends that seem increasingly imposed: the avant-garde, the contemporary, modernity. On the contrary, it is built from a freedom that leads to a reinterpretation of the classical, the traditional, the rites, and the sacred: powerful tools that can change the world. New readings of festivals and creeds that highlight the universal character of all cultures, since they respond to common needs.

Why have we strayed so far from what nourishes us? Our ancestors and origins. We all come from the same place, and flamenco is simply one more part of that root. And for that reason, it is neither superior nor inferior—it is valuable.



cast and crew



Dance: Marco Flores
Singers: Manuel de la Niña, Enrique Remache, Chelo Pantoja
Guitar: José Tomás
Direction, production, and choreography: Marco Flores
Co-direction (stage and choreography): Patricia Ruz
Artistic accompaniment (Research Residency): Nano Barrera, Karen Lugo, Lucía López Enrique
Guest Artist: Chelo Pantoja
Original music: José Tomás
Musical adaptations by: Antonio José Martínez Palacios, Antonio Murciano, Mestisay, Parranda de Cantadores, and Atahualpa Yupanqui
Choreographic collaboration in "El vivo": Lucía López Enrique
Lighting design: Gloria Montesinos
Sound design: Chipi Cacheda
Costume design: Olga Pericet
Tailoring: Sabina Atlas
Video art: Nano Barrera
Art-projection (murals): Patricio Hidalgo
Executive production: Miquel Santín
Associate production: Celina Yeyen
Distribution: EsManagement, Elena Santonja
Communications: The Office Co.
Photography: Antonia Moreno
Creation residency: Teatros del Canal
With the support of: AAIICC (Junta de Andalucía), Comunidad de Madrid, Ayuntamiento de Madrid

“Marco Flores is one of the most prominent names in flamenco dance today. At Teatro Villamarta, Festival de Jerez, he once again proved that he has no rival in his field. What a way of dancing! Priceless moments. His personality is as unique as it is impossible to imitate. Marco has his own stamp—if we may use that overused expression to define him as one of a kind, and, it must also be said, brilliant in many moments. His movement on stage is captivating, opening and closing his arms like circular figures, with a warm smile that makes us feel part of the performance. He places emphasis on enjoyment, while never leaving behind the critical—very critical—undertone on which he bases his narrative thread.”

EXPOFLAMENCO, 2023



marco flores

biography

Dancer, choreographer, and recipient of the National Flamenco Award, Marco Flores identifies as a free-spirited performer. His work is contemporary and constantly evolving, reflecting a living creator engaged with the present, while maintaining a distinctive and personal style that he has developed in over twenty-five years of solid career.

He stands out for his refined technique, closely linked to music, and a way of dancing that connects with his most traditional flamenco roots, while also being influenced by other dance disciplines that enrich his work. His creations are fearless and do not follow prevailing trends. Throughout his productions, he has explored themes such as the feminine ("DeFlamencas," 2010), intergenerational relationships ("Entrar al Juego," 2016), queer identities ("Laberíntica," 2013 and "Extrema," 2018), the elusive quest of the artist ("Rayuela," 2020), and social consciousness ("Sota, Caballo y Reina," 2021).

After ten years co-producing shows with Manuel Liñán, Olga Pericet, and Daniel Doña—forming with the latter the company Chanta La Mui—he founded his own company in 2010: Cía. That same year, the company premiered its first show, "DeFlamencas," at the Gran Teatro de Córdoba, which went on to win the Specialized Critics Award at the Festival de Jerez in 2012. Since then, the company has produced more than twelve shows, featuring many prestigious guest artists, such as Carmela Greco, Olga Pericet, Sara Cano, Jesús Méndez, José Valencia, David Lagos, and Alejandro Granados, and working with esteemed directors such as Francisco López and Juan Carlos Lérida.

Among his most recent awards are the 2018 El Ojo Crítico Dance Award from Radio Nacional de España, the 2020 Max Award for Best Male Dance Performer for the show "Origen," and the 2024 Godot Award for Best Dance Performer for "Rayuela." Additionally, Flores regularly choreographs for numerous companies, including works for the Ballet Nacional de España, Olga Pericet, Jesús Carmona, Daniel Doña, Eduardo Guerrero, and the Professional Dance Conservatories of Madrid and Almería.

«He stands out for his personal language, full of textures that enrich flamenco, and for his constant search and restlessness, which lead him to engage with different dance disciplines».

Marco and his company have performed in prestigious venues such as Teatros del Canal in Madrid, Mercat de les Flors in Barcelona, Lope de Vega in Seville, Tanzhaus in Düsseldorf, New York City Center, Miami Dade County Auditorium, Sydney Opera House, Sadler's Wells in London, Suzanne Dellal Centre (Tel Aviv), Magnolia Theatre (Shanghai), and the Damascus Opera House.

They have also appeared at major flamenco and dance festivals, including Festival Internacional Madrid en Danza, Suma Flamenca (Madrid), Bienal de Sevilla, Festival de Jerez, Festival de Nîmes, Dansa València, Festival Dantzaldia (Bilbao), Cádiz en Danza, Deltebre Dansa, Festival Flamenco Madrid, Flamenco Festival London, Festival Flamenco Internacional de Albuquerque (USA), Festival Internacional de Danza de la Ciudad de México (UNAM), Kuopio Dance Festival (Finland), Konstepidemin Festival (Sweden), among others.

Awards and distinctions:

› Carmen Amaya Prize, Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba
› Antonio Gades Prize, Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba
› Mario Maya Prize, Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba
› Special Dance Prize, Concurso Nacional de Arte Flamenco de Córdoba
› Best Male Dancer, *Deflamenco* Magazine
› Best Male Dancer, *Flamenco Hoy* (Specialized Critics)
› Best Show Award for "DeFlamencas" (Critics' Prize, Festival de Jerez)
› Gold Medal, Festival Flamenco de la Virgen de las Nieves
› El Ojo Crítico Dance Award, Radio Nacional de España
› Max Award 2020, Best Male Dance Performer
› Godot Award 2024, Best Male Dance Performer (Madrid Critics)


N°18

press

"With an urban and cañí mindset, his work oscillates between the genre's inherent statism and plurality, aware that the flamenco heritage is a channel for expanding creativity. (...) They bring a fresher air, and their work, rather than being entirely new, is convincing for its innovativeness, preparation, and quality execution." LaVozdeAsturias (2018).

"His strength may lie in dissolving models and achieving harmony among the components of a shared expression, so that all can be enjoyed equally, and no one is subordinate to anyone else, even though the dancer headlines the show. It's a matter of equality, respect, and solidarity—an utopia realized within the progress of contemporary flamenco. This requires a reasonable dose of cohesion, understanding, and complicity. (...) A vast repertoire of dance resources unfolds, always reflecting Flores' clearly defined personality." Diario El País (2020).

"Marco Flores confirms with this production the excellent professional moment he is experiencing, the way in which flamenco must reinvent itself daily—undoubtedly one of its healthiest characteristics—and his ability to make us fall and rise repeatedly throughout our existence. His work embodies artistic evolution, a constant intercultural exchange of our reality, demanding that all knowledge from our surroundings converge in a single place so that art can discover the play of creativity." Diario El Mundo (2020).

"I would say we are talking about a bailaor, a dancer, or simply an artist, among the most complete of the moment. The best part is that he never falters in anything; he excels in everything. His arm work is marvelous, and his dance seems infinite, to the point that he appears to levitate on stage." Diario de Jerez (2020).

"Marco is one of the best today. His overwhelming elegance combines with refined technique, strength, and impeccable taste. With his arched back and arms that deliver a sermon with every movement, his form and aesthetics recall that bold and provocative male figure that dances on Toulouse-Lautrec's posters." DeFlamenco.com (2019).

"Marco Flores belongs to the thriving generation of creators in contemporary flamenco dance. People who are not only well-prepared physically but, especially, mentally. Skilled and complete in their movements, but also strong conceptually. Here he proves it once again. In this new work, his full range of dance resources finds a good fit within a concise narrative and a more ensemble-like distribution of roles." La Voz Del Sur



chelo pantoja

artista invitada

Chelo Pantoja was born in Jerez de la Frontera (Cádiz) in 1975. Coming from a family of Jerezan artists, her beginnings were in various *peñas*, fairs, and *rocíos*. At the age of 14, she took her first steps as a professional *cantaora* (flamenco singer)

After moving to Madrid, she began performing at the Tablao Zambra, where she caught the attention of prestigious artists such as El Güito, Manolete, Luisiyo, and Rafael Aguilar, who soon included her in their tours. During the early years of her career, she also participated in numerous recording collaborations, including work with Rocío Jurado and Lola Flores.

Soon, she became the principal *cantaora* for artists such as Joaquín Cortés, Antonio Canales, and Sara Baras, her voice echoing in the world's most important theaters. Her recent recordings include collaborations with Niña Pastori, David Moreira, and Remedios Amaya, among other flamenco greats.

Currently, she balances her performances and tours with her teaching at the Conservatorio Superior María de Ávila as a specialist professor, while also performing as a guest artist at Madrid's most renowned *tablaos*.



program



ARRE TIERRA, ARRE
Arrieras, Carcelera, Cantes de la Escarda, Rodrigo Martínez.

EL CUPLÉ, EL BOLERO, LA BULERÍA

CANTES DE CHIFLA Y VUELTA
Guajira y Punto. El Güeyero

SONATA PARA SONANTA

LA CATEDRAL
La Soleá, El Vivo, Cuchufletas.

ARRE VIRGEN, ARRE
Preguntitas a Dios.


JESUS
NAZARENO

contact

compañía marco flores

Elena Santonja (booking)
elena@esmanagement.es
+34 666203137

Miquel Santin (management).
miquel@ciamarcoflores.com
+34 626468574




Junta de Andalucía
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Cultura y Deporte
Agencia Andaluza de
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