

## **BIOGRAPHY– JUAN LORENZO**

Juan Lorenzo earned himself a prominent role in the European concert scene as a flamenco guitarist.

He studied under the guidance of Miguel Perez and Mario Escudero in Seville, where he soon started to perform in the most important *tablaos* and *fiestas* of the city. Within almost thirty years of professional activity, he performed about 2000 concerts, working together with some of the most prestigious international flamenco musicians, like guitar players José Luis Postigo, Victor Monge ‘Serranito’, Manitas de Plata, Merengue de Corboba, Oscar Herrero, *cantaores* José de la Tomasa, Segundo Falcon, Carmen Sanchez, Felix de Lola and Javier Hidalgo, and *bailaores* José Greco, Antonio Marquez, Manolo Marin, Joaquín Grilo, ‘El Junco’, Juan Ortega, Joaquín Ruiz, Miguel Angel Espino, Antonio Castro, Carmen Reina, el Choro ecc...

He also collaborated with pop artists such as Andrea Bocelli, Mario Reyes from the Gipsy Kings, Jethro Tull, Tony Esposito, Al Di Meola, Pino Daniele.

In 1996 he founded his own company, Flamenco Libre, with which he performed in Italy, Spain, France, Germany, Switzerland, former Yugoslavia and Tunisia, carrying on in the same time his activity as a soloist and playing in a duo with classical guitarist Flavio Sala around Europe, United States and Russia.

In 1997 he took part in the shooting of the music video *La Feria de Abril* at Fundacion Cristina Heeren in Seville, one of the most influential flamenco art institutions. Here he started his European tour. In 2003 he performed his concert for flamenco guitar and orchestra in several prestigious Italian stages such as Conservatorio ‘Giuseppe Verdi’ in Turin and Teatro Ghione in Rome. In 2008 and 2009 he ran his new project for solo guitar “Flamenco de Concierto” and played in some of the most influential international concert halls as Tchaikovsky Hall in Moscow, Palazzo Pitti in Florence, Teatro Parioli in Rome, Blumenburger Konzerte in Munich, War Memorial and Performing Arts Center in San Francisco, California, Teatro Comunale in Lugano, Switzerland, and Teatro Politeama in Palermo.

In 2011 he recorded for GuitArt International Group/Flamenco Edition the CD *Homenaje a Ramón Montoya*, an unexampled endeavour in the field of flamenco music: it is indeed a new recording with a revision and transcription of the original *guitarra flamenca de concierto* repertoire with which Ramón Montoya, the greatest flamenco guitarist of all time, started his concert career in 1936. In this occasion, Lorenzo played Montoya’s original guitar.

On April 10<sup>th</sup> 2013, he played the whole album at Universidad de Sevilla, in a concert held for the Càtedra de Flamencología, in the presence of the most eminent cultural, artistic and institutional flamenco authorities.

On February 16<sup>th</sup> 2013 he gave a concert in the Casa de la Guitarra auditorium of Seville for the *Homenaje a los grandes maestros de la Historia de la Guitarra Flamenca*, a festival which gathers the most influential contemporary flamenco musicians.

A keen music educator, Juan Lorenzo published many articles on specialised magazines, books and methods on flamenco guitar technique. He also recorded several instructional CDs and DVDs distributed in Europe, United States and Japan. He held innumerable courses and master classes at prestigious music centres, associations and institutions such as Conservatorio ‘Santa Cecilia’ of Rome, Conservatorio ‘Luigi Cherubini’ of Florence, Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali ‘Pietro Mascagni’ of Livorno, Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali ‘Giulio Briccialdi’ of Terni, Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali ‘Achille Peri’ of Reggio Emilia,

**Conservatorio 'Francesco Cilea' of Reggio Calabria, Accademia Internazionale 'Mario Santoro' of Bojano and Accademia Filarmonica of Bologna (Rome branch). He is currently a lecturer at Istituto Superiore di Studi Musicali 'Giulio Briccialdi' in Terni, where he holds the first official Chitarra Flamenca chair in Italy and teaches to both undergraduate and postgraduate students.**