

DAVID LAGOS

Flamenco Singing: David Lagos
Guitar: Alfredo Lagos

Song

MADRID
CENTRO CULTURAL PILAR MIRÓ (PILAR MIRÓ CULTURAL CENTER)
SUNDAY, JUNE 13TH AT 20:00

DAVID LAGOS in concert

He is a leading presence in today's *cante flamenco* (flamenco singing). Lagos is gifted with a voice that is full of nuances and already overflows with maturity. His first album, *El espejo en que me miro* (The Mirror in Which I Look) confirms David's deep-rooted singing tradition and great creative capacity. The record is a tribute to the great flamenco masters who have inspired Lagos, among them Camarón, Enrique Morente, La Paquera and Chano Lobato. David Lagos himself wrote the lyrics for this album. He also worked on composing the music together with guitarist Alfredo Lagos. The album has received Flamenco Hoy's Critics' Choice Award (2010) for the Best Record by a New Artist.

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David Lagos was born in 1973 in Jerez de la Frontera to a family that was very fond of *cante* (flamenco singing). He first went on stage at age ten, accompanied by his brother Alfredo Lagos on the guitar. His uncle, *cantaor* (flamenco singer) Aguilar de Jerez, soon began to take David along to sing at private gatherings and at patron saints' festivities around innumerable local villages.

David soon learned how to sing to accompany dancing, what is known as "*cante de atrás*", and worked at several dance academies.

At age 20, he traveled abroad for the first time, on a tour of the Arab World with Carmen Mota's company. Two years later, he confirmed his status as a professional flamenco singer by opening for fellow Jerez native Domingo Ortega at the prestigious Japanese *tablaó* El Flamenco. It was during this time that Lagos met Adrián Galia with whom he recorded *Enciclopedia Audiovisual del Baile* (Audiovisual Encyclopedia of Dance) in 1999. He also met Cristina Hoyos with whom he would tour Europe and America over a period of three years, first with a show called *Arsa y Toma* (1995) and then, in 1999, with *A Compás del Tiempo* (To the Beat of Time).

Upon returning from Japan, Lagos moved to Madrid with Domingo Ortega and worked with such figures as Alejandro Granados, Belén Maya, Andrés Marín, Joaquín Grilo, Manuela Carrasco, Eva la Yerbabuena and Israel Galván. During that time, David recorded an album for María Serrano's company along with other artists such as Cañizares, Guadiana and El Cigala.

Worth noting is Lagos' work with Pilar Távora and Javier Barón's respective companies on *Medea* and *Baile de Hierro, Baile de Bronce* (Iron Dance, Bronze Dance) during Seville's 11th Flamenco Biennial in the year 2000. David's work as a solo *cantaor* (flamenco singer) was acknowledged in a

later edition of the Flamenco Biennial (2002), when the newspaper *El Correo de Andalucía* named him Best New Artist.

David Lagos won praise from flamenco critics for his participation in Jerez's Los Viernes Flamencos (Flamenco Fridays) along with Manuel Moneo, for his "duel" with Tomás de Perrate at the University of Seville, with José de la Tomasa in Seville and with Diego Amador during the El Flamenco Viene del Sur (Flamenco Comes from the South) series.

Although he continues to sing to accompany dancers ("*cante de atrás*"), Lagos is also currently participating in shows such as Israel Galván's *Arena* (Sand) and Pastora Galván's *La Francesa* (The Frenchwoman).

Lagos closed the 2006 Seville Biennial with Merche Esmeralda, Manolo Marín and Manuela Carrasco. In 2007 critics at the Festival in Jerez again choose him as the best flamenco singer for dancing for his work on Mercedes Ruíz's show *Juncá*. In 2008, that same Festival offered him an advance on his first album *El espejo en que me miro* (The Mirror in Which I Look).