



Hispanic Festival Edinburgh 2013

Saturday 19 October 2013

The Queen's Hall, 85 - 89 Clerk Street, Edinburgh, EH8 9JG

Performance at 8:00pm doors open 7.30pm

Tickets: £18 - £16 (concession)

Ticket Office 0131 668 201 or www.thequeenshall.net

Querencia - World Premiere

Pastora Galván – Dance

José Galván – Dance

Pedro Sierra – Guitar

Juana Riba Salazar 'La Tobala' – Singing

Hispanic Festival's acclaimed annual programme of flamenco dance and music celebrates its 9th anniversary in 2013.

"Edinburgh's Hispanic Festival has developed a reputation for presenting high end performances, especially with regard to flamenco ... anyone who wants to experience the very best that this art form has to offer without having to travel to Spain would be well advised to keep an eye on the festival's plans". The Herald

This year's flamenco programme features the spectacular world premiere of Flamenco show, **Querencia** featuring four of flamenco's internationally acclaimed artists. Exploring themes of family, heritage and fondness; Querencia is a fantastic opportunity to see two generations of Flamencos greatest families working together in a show that will reflect the tension between the purest flamenco styles and the most cutting-edge influences of today. The **Querencia** artists will also lead masterclasses at Alba Flamenca on 20th October (10.30am-1.30pm). Full booking details on www.hispanicfestival.co.uk

As part of her world tour, lead dancer, **Pastora Galván** will premiere Querencia with; her father **José Galván**, a great Flamenco tradition bearer and one of the last of his generation; Catalan Guitarist **Pedro Sierra**, 'Flamenco's intellectual', one of the most gifted guitarists of today; and his wife, singer **Juana Riba Salazar 'La Tobala'**, who has earned the title of 'mistress of compás'.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS:

Pastora Galván has a rare star quality; her presence alone lights up the stage. Her dancing combines the purest flamenco tradition with the avant-garde. She was born in one of Seville's greatest flamenco dance clans, sister of Israel Galván and daughter of dance maestros José Galván and Eugenia de los Reyes; Pastora embodies her flamenco heritage. Her talent and pedigree guarantee her a platform on the most prestigious of world stages, sharing bills with the very best (Eva Yerbabuena, Maria Pagés, and Fernando Terremoto to name but a few). As an artist she fiercely defends her individuality and when critics try to pigeon hole or compare her, her reply is "I am Pastora". Pastora's performance, both tragic and comic, has incredible strength and power. Her restless spirit and boundless energy drives Pastora to constantly look for new artistic challenges.

While Pastora develops her unique contemporary style, her father **José Galván** perpetuates the gypsy dance legacy. After years dedicated to teaching, José has recently returned to the stage; "in the current dance scene there are only a few working dancers left from my generation. I feel in great physical form, so I thought; this is a good time to do it." José's inspiration has always been Farruco, the quintessential flamenco dancer with whom **Galván** worked for many years.

Technically accomplished guitarist and composer **Pedro Sierra** with his clear, mature and meaningful touch is known for his fresh revitalising approach to the tradition and for bringing lost flamenco forms to public attention. As one of the most renowned flamenco composers today he has toured the world with the very best Cristina Hoyos, Israel and Pastora Galván, Manuela Carrasco, Farruco, Mario Maya, etc. His latest album, *El toque flamenco* (2012), proves that he is a master accompanist as well as a virtuoso solo artist. Pedro Sierra is joined by his wife, great singer and accomplice, Juana Riba Salazar, 'La Tobala'. "I have accompanied many great singers but nothing can compare to working with my wife whose performance I know intimately. It is pure, raw, simple and honest" Originating from Seville's gypsy clan "the Salazar", **Juana Riba Salazar**, 'La Tobala's singing is ethnic; her voice is rhythmic, fresh and colourful and in perfect harmony with the virtuoso touch of Sierra. With an impressive list of records 'La Tobala' is one of the leading female voices of flamenco today. La Tobala has worked with an array of flamenco luminaries such as Farruco, Manuela Carrasco, Javier Barón, Antonio Canales, Manuel Soler, Juana Amaya, Israel Galván, Manolete and Joaquín Cortés.

For more information on Hispanic Festival, visit www.hispanicfestival.co.uk

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For further media information and images please use the contact below.

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About Hispanic Arts Scotland

Hispanic Arts Scotland champions Hispanic culture in Scotland and its integration into the wider Scottish community with a view to encouraging mutual understanding between different cultures. In October, Hispanic Arts Scotland presents Querencia: Hispanic Festival at Queens Hall, featuring some of the world's most significant living flamenco artists.



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