



Juan Manuel

Cañizares



CAÑIZARES

Guitarist, Musician and Composer

Juan Manuel Cañizares (Sabadell, 1966) is one of the best known international figures on the flamenco guitar and contemporary Spanish music scene. Renowned for the integrity and balance of his musical qualities, his playing technique is a rare combination of brilliance and sensitivity.

Acknowledged worldwide as a genius of virtuosity, his technique, harmony, strength and sensitivity have distinguished him as a unique artist, considered one of the great flamenco musicians of the turn of the century. Above anything else, however, Cañizares extols simplicity and purity of sound, transmitting a message with a high emotional impact.

When he was a child, Juan Manuel's musical talent and potential attracted the attention of several flamenco celebrities. The son of Andalusian parents, he discovered the Spanish guitar thanks to his father and his elder brother, Rafael, and when he was ten years old, he entered the Sabadell Conservatory, subsequently continuing his studies in Terrasa and Barcelona.

This learning stage reached its climax when Cañizares won the Jerez "National Guitar Prize" in 1982, amazing the critics, who welcomed him as "the guitarist of the future". Still an adolescent, Cañizares rapidly embarked upon his professional career, travelling all over Spain.

He turned out to be a tireless worker with an open attitude who welcomed the opportunity to collaborate with all kinds of musicians: Enrique Morente, Camaron de la Isla, Maria Pages, Pepe de Lucia, Serrat, Alejandro Sanz, Rocio Jurado, Peter Gabriel, Al di Meola, Mike Stern, Peter Erskine, Vince Mendoza, Michel Brecker, Marc Almond, La Fura dels Baus, The Chieftains, etc. In 1989, he toured with the "El Ultimo de la Fila" band, making him well-known outside the world of flamenco.

However, shortly afterwards, the maestro, Paco de Lucia, invited Cañizares to join him in his "Sólo, Dúo, Trío" (Solo, Dual, Trio) shows and the "Paco de Lucia Septet". This was the most decisive experience in Juan Manuel's artistic maturity: 10 years of tours (1988-1998) on the best stages of Europe, America, Asia and Africa. During one of the tours, Cañizares transcribed "Triana", "Albaicín" and "Puerto" from Isaac Albeniz's "Iberia Suite" and collaborated with Paco de Lucia when he recorded "Concierto de Aranjuez", an album containing the three pieces.

Finally, he decided to embark upon a career as a soloist. He now has 3 albums of his own and has collaborated with other leading artists on more than 100 recordings. For his first album, "Noches de imán y luna" (Magnetic Moonlit Nights), Juan Manuel composed a brilliant piece which was a great success among the public and critics alike.

On his second album, "Original Transcription of Isaac Albéniz", he magnificently transcribed the piano sonatas for two guitars. It is a unique piece, not only as a guitar composition, but as a significant achievement in the history of Spanish music.

His third album, "Punto de Encuentro" (Meeting Point), is a reflection on the great artists and friends with whom he has worked and shared his music: Mike Stern, Don Alias, Paco de Lucia, Enrique Morente, Hevia, Kepa Junquera and Pastora Soler, among others.

With his fourth and latest album, "Suite Iberia, Albéniz by Cañizares", he has completed a task he set himself years ago, having for the first time transcribed the famous Suite by genius composer Albéniz for two guitars just one hundred years after it was first written. Cañizares's interpretation transports listeners to a world of Spanish tradition and culture.

As a composer, Cañizares has written for the Spanish National Ballet and different film soundtracks such as "La Lola se va a los puertos", with Rocio Jurado and Paco Rabal, among others. He was also present in "Flamenco", the film by Carlos Saura





Juan Manuel's career never stops. He collaborated in the recording of "The Official Torch Relay Theme" (the official relay theme of the 2004 Athens Olympic Torch). That same year, he was invited by the maestro, Leo Brouwer, to the "2004 Leo Brouwer Havana International Guitar Festival", where he was a great success at the festival's flamenco night.

In 2005, he embarked upon the "Mano a Mano" (Hand to Hand) tour, a show combining classical Spanish (Jose Maria Gallardo) with flamenco guitar (Cañizares). The Carnegie Hall concert in New York captivated both the American public and the international press. In that same year, Cañizares was also part of the Spanish Pavilion programme in the 2005 Aichi (Japan) Expo.

In 2007, he wrote the music for the new flamenco show "Caprichos", premiered with two other pieces in Madrid's "Zarzuela" theatre by the National Ballet of Spain, with Cañizares as the special guest star.

Besides his recording career and concerts, Cañizares spends a great deal of his time investigating and teaching flamenco. He has taught Flamenco Guitar at the Catalonia School of Music since 2003. He also teaches a "Master Class in Flamenco Guitar", using his own methods, in several European and Latin American countries and Japan.



JMC music productions

Managing Director:

Mariko Ogura

mariko@jmcanizares.com

Mobile: (+34) 606 442 413

Booking:

Manager

Miguel Jiménez

miguel@jmcanizares.com

Mobile: (+34) 609 602 689

Tel: (+34) 96 272 5200

Graphic Design: *Rubén Delgado (ideorema)*

ideorema@gmail.com

Photos: © *Amancio Guillén*

www.jmcanizares.com

