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Julia Chacon's *Flamenco Intimo* Returns to Scottsdale Center for Performing Arts

Hit production back with social distancing measures for audience safety, enjoyment

Scottsdale, AZ – Following sold-out 2019 performances, Arizona flamenco artist, Julia Chacon, returns to Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts to deliver four exclusive shows featuring the passionate dance style of southern Spain with internationally acclaimed musicians.

“We’re proud as ever to feature this elite artist who’s made flamenco her life’s work,” said Abbey Messmer, the center’s programming director. “This is a beautiful, world-class show full of incredible dancing and unbelievable musicians that we’re bringing back for the third straight year for our audiences.” A parallel exhibition, “Flamenco in Arizona,” will showcase flamenco’s presence in the Valley as early as the 1930s.

Chacon’s accolades, and audiences, are hard earned. She toured for over a decade with international flamenco companies, performing across the United States, in Spain, Mexico, and Colombia. She is an Artist in Residence at the Musical Instrument Museum, a Smithsonian Affiliate and was finalist for the 2019 Arizona Governor’s Arts Award and Phoenix Mayor’s Arts Award.

An Arizona native, Chacon was mentored by American Spanish dance pioneer, Lydia Torea, who toured with Jose Greco in the 1960s. The exhibit “Flamenco in Arizona” will highlight details of Torea’s career. “The audience is in for a fabulous experience,” said Torea. “A series like this is something special, and I am thrilled.”

Flamenco Intimo delivers traditional flamenco: a dialogue between guitar, dance and vocals that builds in tension and releases in percussive, musical crescendos, translating emotion into movement and sound. *Soleares* explores solitude, journeying from introspection to empowerment. *Alegrias* examines joy and exuberance. The duet, *Tientos* reveals layers of connection between two people. Chacon explains, “Flamenco has Judaic, Arabic, Gypsy, North African, New World, and Spanish influences. It was forged from the crucible of the Inquisition and has grown to embrace everything we feel, both dark and light.”

World-renowned guitarist, Misael Barraza is musical director. Last year, Diaz toured with the European Guitar Festival Collaborative, “EuroStrings,” a global classical guitar platform with partners in Europe, North America and Asia.

Evening performances October 3, 10, and 17th at 8:00 p.m. will feature Chacon and Diaz with singer, Olivia Rojas, male dancer Martin Gaxiola, former director of Calo Flamenco, flautist, Diana Schiabile, and others. A family matinee October 18th at 2:00 p.m. will highlight select youth dancers.

The *Flamenco Intimo* series will take place in the large, 860-seat, Virginia G. Piper Theatre. Seating will be spaced, allowing households to maintain safe social distancing measures. Hand sanitizer will be provided and facemasks required, and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected using CDC-approved cleaners.

PERFORMANCE DETAILS

Who: Julia Chacón's Flamenco Theater

What: Flamenco Intimo

Where: Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts Stage 2 Theater
7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

When: Saturdays, October 3, 10, & 17, 2020 at 8:00 p.m.
Family Matinee, October 18, 2:00 p.m.

Tickets: Evening shows, starting at \$25.50
Family show, \$15 for children, \$20 for adults.
www.ScottsdalePerformingArts.org or 480-499-TKTS (8587).

EXHIBIT DETAILS

What: Flamenco in Arizona

Where: Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts ArtReach Space
7380 E. Second St., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

When: August 14 - November 15, 2020

Tickets: FREE www.scottsdaleartslearning.org

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