

Ballet Nacional de España's repertoire expands with Javier Barón's renewed take on classical flamenco

The acclaimed flamenco dancer will restage his choreography *De mis soleares vengo*, which won an award at the 1988 Seville Biennial, with the BNE's male dancers

On 11th March at 2:00 p.m., a working session featuring Javier Barón and the dancers will be broadcast live on the BNE's social media channels

Madrid, 7th March 2022. On **11th March at 2:00 p.m.**, the Ballet Nacional de España will broadcast live on its Facebook, YouTube and Twitter profiles a working session involving its male dancers and **flamenco dancer Javier Barón**. This livestream forms part of the #BNEenMovimientoPerpetuo initiative, which shares the work of dancers and choreographers online and achieved more than 4.6 million views in 2021.

"Javier Barón is one of the artists who preserve the classical flamenco style while bringing to it a unique and highly personal character. He is particularly noted for his elegance and natural presence on stage, as well as for the precision of his pure, crystal-clear footwork," says Rubén Olmo. For this reason, the director of the Ballet Nacional de España invited the flamenco dancer and choreographer to restage for the company's repertoire the choreography with which he won the **Giraldillo Dance Award at the 1988 Seville Flamenco Biennial**.

"*De mis soleares vengo* is a dance based on the soleá de Alcalá, a flamenco style recognised as *cante grande* that originated in my home town, Alcalá de Guadaíra," explains Javier Barón. "It is a source of great pride for me to share my personal dance style with the Ballet Nacional de España's dancers. By teaching them my way of performing this dance and explaining how I feel and interpret it, I hope to make it an emotional experience for them and a learning process for both them and me," he adds.

Javier Barón began learning flamenco in Seville at a very young age and later studied in Madrid with teachers including Luisillo, Rafael de Córdoba, Ciro and Rafael Aguilar. In 1980, he joined the Ballet Nacional de España School and, one year later, entered the company under the direction of Antonio Ruiz Soler. He has directed his own company since 1997 and received the National Dance Award for Performance in 2008 "for his contribution to flamenco through Spanish dance and for his dedication to exploring flamenco aesthetics, grounded in the orthodoxy and knowledge of this art form".

In addition to the Ballet Nacional de España's dancers, the live broadcast will feature guitarists Diego Losada, Jonathan Bermúdez, Enrique Bermúdez and Víctor Márquez; percussionist Roberto Vozmediano; and cantaores Gabriel de la Tomasa and Juan José Amador "El Perre".



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About the Ballet Nacional de España

The Ballet Nacional de España (BNE) has been Spain's leading public company for Spanish dance since it was founded in 1978 under the name Ballet Nacional Español, with Antonio Gades as its first director. It is one of the production units of the National Institute of the Performing Arts and Music (INAEM), which forms part of the Ministry of Culture and Sport. The BNE's mission is to preserve, promote and pass on Spain's rich choreographic heritage, embracing its stylistic diversity and traditions through its different forms: classical dance, stylised dance, folklore, escuela bolera and flamenco. It also works to bring Spanish dance closer to new audiences and strengthen its national and international profile within a framework of full artistic and creative autonomy.

Rubén Olmo, director of the Ballet Nacional de España

Rubén Olmo, winner of the 2015 National Dance Award, joined the Ballet Nacional de España in September 2019 with the aim of preserving, promoting and expanding the reach of the traditional Spanish Dance repertoire, while also incorporating new creations and opening the company to avant-garde approaches and experimentation. This marks his second period with the BNE, having previously danced with the company from 1998 to 2002.

From 2011 to 2013, he served as director of the Ballet Flamenco de Andalucía, an institution belonging to the Regional Government of Andalusia, where he premiered his own productions, including *Llanto por Ignacio Sánchez Mejías* and *La muerte de un minotauro*. Before that, he founded his own company, for which he created productions such as *Érase una vez*, *Belmonte*, *Las tentaciones de Poe*, *Horas contigo*, *Naturalmente Flamenco* and *Diálogo de Navegante*. He has also worked as a choreographer and dancer with leading figures in Spanish Dance, including Aída Gómez, Antonio Najarro, Eva Yerbabuena, Víctor Ullate, Antonio Canales, Rafael Amargo, Isabel Bayón and Rafaela Carrasco.

Images

<https://balletnacional.mcu.es/es/sala-de-prensa>

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