# TOMATITO

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"One of Spain's greatest guitarists... a flamenco virtuoso! When he plays, it's easy to understand that a genius like Camarón could only talk musically to a genius like Tomatito" *Miami Herald* 

#### "Tomatito is the most eminent guitarist in flamenco. [He plays] with such clean intent that it was possible for you to feel the energy and gesture and contrast in those individual notes and phrases as if you were playing them yourself." *Ben Ratliff/New York Times*

#### **BIOGRAPHY**

José Fernández Torres, better known as Tomatito, is a living legend of the glories of the flamenco guitar. He has presented his music the world over, from New York to Moscow, from the Middle East to Hong Kong. In all his performances has been hailed as one of the best guitarists in the world.

Tomatito was born in Almería, southern Spain, surrounded by guitars. Since childhood he listenied to his father and grandfather, Miguel Tomate, and His uncle, legendary Flamenco guitarist Miguel Niño. At age 12 he moved to the city of Malaga, where he started his career playing flamenco clubs like La Taberna Gitana. There he met Paco de Lucía and Camarón de la Isla.

Gradually, his extraordinary powers drew attention from critics and fans. He began to play with great singers like Enrique Morente or La Susi, but his greatest pride is to have played with the legendary Camarón de la Isla for the last 18 years of his life.

Alongside Camarón, Tomatito recorded discs that are now essential references in the flamenco archive, such as "La Leyenda del Tiempo " and "Como el Agua". In the latter, Tomatito accompanies with Paco de Lucía.

After the death of Camarón, Tomatito began his career as a soloist, dazzling audiences with his exquisite sensitivity. His charismatic personality and a firm commitment to the development and dissemination of flamenco worldwide mean that Tomatito now enjoys the recognition he deserves, not only in the field of music but also in film, theater and art.

He has won a total of five Grammy Awards (one with Michel Camilo) and a Latin Grammy for his albums "Aguadulce" and "Soy Flamenco".

He has collaborated with many performers from around the world, such as Elton John and Frank Sinatra, and has influenced a whole generation of young guitarists. And on the occasions when he has ventured into other musical fields, such as jazz, has always remained true to his principles.

His latest album, "Soy Flamenco", presents an elegant and mature musician at the height of his musicianship.

## **DISCOGRAPHY**

"Soy Flamenco"	(2013, Universal Music)	GRAMMY-WINNING
"Sonanta Suite" with Orquesta Nacional de España	(2010, Deutsche Grammophon)	GRAMMY-WINNING
"Tomatito: Anthology 1998 - 2008"	(2008, Universal Music)	
"Spain Again" with Michel Camilo	(2006, Universal Music)	
"Aguadulce"	(2004, Verve)	
"Paseo de los Castaños	(2001, Universal Music)	
"Spain" with Michel Camilo	(2000, Universal Music)	
"Guitarra Gitana"	(1996, Nuevos Medios)	
"Barrio Negro"	(1991, Nuevos Medios)	
"Rosas del Amor"	(1987, Nuevos Medios)	

#### **OTHER RECORDINGS**

"Autorretrato" (2012 with Estrella Morente) "Mi Santa" (2012 with Romeo Santos) "Cositas Buenas" (2004 with Paco de Lucía) "Como los gitanos eramos" (2002 with Pansequito) "El guitarrazo" (2001 with Luis Salinas y Lucho González) (1997 with Neneh Cherry) "Woman" "Palabra de Guitarra Latina" (1997 with Joan Bibiloni, Larry Coryell, Birelli Lagrène, etc.) "Gitana de Portugal" (1994 with El Kalifa) "Duquende y la guitarra de Tomatito" (1993 with Duquende) "Suenan las campanas" (1991 with Pansequito)

### AWARDS

Premio Taranto de Oro	1985
Premio Luca López	1988
Medalla de Andalucía	1997
Prix César	2001
Premio de la Musica	2000 (nominado)
Grammy Best Flamenco CD	2000 Camarón "Paris 1987".
Grammy Latino Mejor disco de Jazz Latino	2000
Premio Max de las Artes Escénicas	2004
Premio Nacional de Guitarra	2010
Grammy Best Flamenco CD	2010 "Sonanta Suite"
Grammy Best Flamenco CD	2013 "Soy Flamenco"

#### LIVE COLLABORATIONS

GEORGE BENSON; OMAR FAROUK; ARIF SAG; MECANO; CARLOS CANO; CARLES TREPAT; ENRIQUE MORENTE; RAIMUNDO AMADOR; DIEGO EL CIGALA; MOHAMED ROUICHA; MOR KARBASI

#### **CINEMA**

"Flamenco, Flamenco" "Vengo" "Bin Ich Schoen?" "The Devil's Advocate" "Flamenco" 2010, Carlos Saura 2001, Tony Gatlif 1998, Doris Doërrie 1997, Taylor Hackford 1995, Carlos Saura

#### **THEATRE**

"Madre Caballo" (Antonio Onetti), CENTRO ANDALUZ DE TEATRO/Dir: Emilio Hernández 1997 Salomé (Cía Aída Gómez) Dir: Carlos Saura/Arr: Roque Baños Romeo & Julieta producción CENTRO ANDALUZ DE TEATRO/Dir: Emilio Hernández 2003

