

An experimental flamenco dance performance.



Fanny Ara reflects on the journey of Lilith, a female symbol of independence, freedom and control over her destiny.

Does liberation have a price?

Are we the prisoner of our freedom?

In Lilith, Fanny exposes the weight of chains she once had to carry, self-inflicted as well as imposed by the expectations of others. She then takes us through the mesmerizing journey of her fight towards growth, acceptance and liberation.

Here, Fanny reaches a point of maturity, embodying strength and courage that came from years of experiences and assumed choices.



is an internationally-sought after and award-winning choreographer, performer and instructor. Her most dedicated worldwide fans especially credit her as one of the driving forces of flamenco today; an artist excelling in the full spectrum of flamenco, from the most traditional to the avant-garde. Fanny has been an invited artist in national and international festivals and has toured extensively in Canada, Central and South America, the Middle East, Africa, and throughout Europe. She has been distinguished since 2006 with nominations from the Isadora Duncan Dance Awards in the categories of Most Outstanding Individual Dancer, Most Outstanding Music, Ensemble, and Individual Performance for her project, Juncal Street, and Best Ensemble for her work with the San Francisco Opera in La Traviata. New York's Vilcek Foundation also awarded Fanny a prestigious finalist prize for "Creative Promise in Dance" in 2012. Fanny's versatility in the art form of flamenco is manifested in her many artistic works. Her latest productions were reviewed as a triumph of artistry and self- actualization where the ovation was immediate, standing, vociferous, prolonged"



Gonzalo Grau: (Musical Director/Piano/Keyboard/Cello/Cajon) began his musical studies at the age of three in Caracas, developing skills in many instruments, from the viola da gamba and the cello to the flamenco cajón and his principal instrument, the piano. A Berklee College Summa Cum Laude, Gonzalo has established himself as a multi-instrumentalist and his varied credits include performances with Venezuelan music projects. He leads two projects of his own, "Plural" and "La Clave Secreta," nominated for the 2008 Grammys in the Best Tropical Album category. Grau has participated in over eighty productions that bridge both classical and popular music worlds. Currently, he is working on arrangements and compositions for the Boston Pops Orchestra, singer- songwriter llan Chester, violinist Alexis Cárdenas and the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, the Knights, the Brooklyn Rider, and producing albums for Erini Tornesaki, Olivia Pérez Collellmir, Magos Herrera, Ariacne Trujillo and his own band "La Clave Secreta".

Vardan Ovsepian: (Piano/Keyboard) is an Armenia-born pianist/composer whose studies include Yerevan State Conservatory, Estonian Music Academy, Helsinki Jazz Conservatory, and Berklee College of Music. Performs solo as well as with artists such as Mick Goodrick, Peter Erskine, Jerry Bergonzi and David Binney. Vardan has released 5 CDs with "Fresh Sound New Talent" label, independent releases of VOCE - Vardan Ovsepian Chamber Ensemble (2006 and 2013), plus several duo/trio albums. Recent awards and publications include First Prize at the Achava Jazz Award (Erfurt, Germany - 2017), Chamber Music America Grant for New Jazz Works program funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (New York, NY - 2017), and a release of Peter Erskine New Trio album "In Praise of Shadows". Presently Vardan resides in Los Angeles.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Fanny Ara: Dancer/Choreographer/Artistic Director

Gonzalo Grau: Musical Director/Keyboard/Cello

Vardan Ovsepian: Piano

Emilio Ochando: Artistic Advisor

Pamela Martinez: Costume Designer

Matthew Antaky: Lighting Designer

Patron & Co: Graphic Designer

Videography by Fred Aube and Alberto Gutierrez

Photos by Fred Aube

Poetry by Muchacho Mandanga

PRESS

"Ara is credited as Lilith Artistic Director,
Dancer, and Choreographer and displays true
talents in all three realms. Her every gesture,
prop, or costume contains a multitude of insights
and experiences. [...] Her Lilith is a triumph of
artistry and self-actualization."

https://www.jen-norris-dance-rev.com/post/reviewodc-presents-fanny-ara-lilith-february-23-25-2024odc-theater-san-francisco-ca "I was mesmerized, not only with Ara's performance, but also with the totality of the production.[...] I was staggered at the intricacy with which Lillith wove its ambiance, to say nothing of the costumer's skill in supporting a flamenco artist whose stature is major, and whose sparing appearances makes her presence and the productions she conceives so memorable."

https://woollywesterneye.wordpress.com/2024/03/09/lillith-a-fabulous-collaboration/

Dance Magazine Article:

https://www.dancemagazine.com/dance-performances-onstage-february-2024/



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