

## FLAMENCO FESTIVAL LONDON AT SADLER'S WELLS

The Flamenco Festival returns to Sadler's Wells this summer for its 19th edition from 4 to 15 June. This year's season features seven UK premieres and thrilling performances from flamenco luminaries, with a varied programme of dance performances and concerts.

Rocío Molina opens the Flamenco Festival 2024 with her trademark subversion of flamenco traditions in *Al Fondo Riela* on Tuesday 4 June. Using the original flamenco trio of dance, song and guitar, *Al Fondo Riela* is a piece about reflection and the loss of reality. On stage, she is accompanied by two contrasting guitarists, Oscar Lago with his traditional, technical skill, and Yerai Cortés with his innovative flair.

Premier flamenco guitarist and Latin Grammy Award-winner Vicente Amigo has been dubbed one of the most accomplished flamenco guitarists of his



*Eterna Iberia – Ballet Nacional de España.*

*Photo: Ana Palma*



*Photo: Javier Fergo*

generation. He presents a concert that bridges classical and nuevo flamenco on Wednesday 5 June, fusing jazz, folk and South American rhythms without losing the essence of flamenco. Amigo is seen as a successor to the composer and flamenco guitarist Paco de Lucía.

Virtuoso performers Patricia Guerrero and Alfonso Losa strip flamenco bare and explore personal connection in *Alter Ego* on Thursday 6 June. Developed from a series of improvisations in the studio, *Alter Ego* is an intense duet that combines conventional flamenco with unbridled movement. Guerrero draws geometric figures with her dance, dismantling her movements and recreating them anew. Losa develops new schemes without breaking the mould and stays true to his roots.

Eva Yerbabuena reflects on her 20-year career in *Yerbabuena* (bright dark), as she takes to the stage from 7-8 June with her musical director, guitarist and husband, Paco Jarana, as well as two singers and two percussionists.

Celebrated flamenco musician Israel Fernández presents his latest album *Pura Sangre* on Sunday 9 June in collaboration with renowned Jerez guitarist Diego del Morao. In his most personal work to date, *Pura Sangre* is an intimate look at Fernández's surroundings and his way of interacting with the outside world. On Monday, 10 June, choreographer David Coria and singer David Lagos converge in a contemporary interpretation of the fandango, a popular and festive musical style from Andalusia with more than 500 years of history. From flamenco to contemporary movement, traditional song to electronic music, *¡Fandango!* draws on Iberian folk culture to celebrate Spanish history and tradition.

Ballet Nacional de España will close the festival in an extravaganza of music, movement and colour with *Invocación* from Wednesday 12 – Saturday 15 June. Artistic Director Rubén Olmo curates this all-encompassing evening featuring 38 dancers and four works that cover the cornerstones of Spanish dance.