

Flamenco Guitar/Director

Damian Wright

Damian Wright is a Flamenco guitarist based in Sydney, Australia. Damian began Flamenco studies with Robbie Varga in Sydney and then moved to Spain where he spent 4 years studying with some of Spain's most recognised maestros of the Flamenco guitar, including Pepe Justicia and El Entri. Upon his return Damian has studied with Richard Tedesco in Melbourne. In 2010 Damian received an Australian Arts Council grant to further his studies in Spain. At present Damian is completing a Masters Degree in Music at Macquarie University.

Currently performing with the Flamenco dance groups of BANDALUZIA, DIANA REYES FLAMENCO and fusion groups THE TRANSLATORS featuring Steve Hunter (bass), James Hauptmann (percussion), Ben Hauptmann (mandolin) and trio RASA DUENDE featuring Bobby Singh (tablas) and Adrian McNeil (sarod). Damian has also supported such artists as grammy award winner MAMADOU DIABATE, RICHARD BONA, Brazilian singer BEBEL GILBERTO and string quartet FOURPLAY.

Performances are in conjunction with:

Musica Viva, Sydney Festival, Opera Australia, Fiesta Darling Harbour, Cafe Carnivale, SIMA, Jazzgroove, Spanish Festival-Sydney, ABC Radio and Woodford Folk Festival.

Side projects:

Performed in the documentary 'ESPERANTO' by Spanish director Manuel Conde. Performed original guitar music in 1st place winning video 'EXHALE' in the 2007 Australian Audi Art Prize.

Reviews/ Comments:

"Damian Wright is a brilliant Flamenco guitarist...Wright showed what a captivating solo player he is on his own *in time*, and elsewhere his articulation of complex lines was fluid and dripping with conviction"

-John Shand, *Sydney Morning Herald* 19/02/2011

"Wright imbues every piece with the rich, rhythmic structure so characteristic of flamenco..... A piece like Khyal, by Wright, has haunting harmonics & an evocative Moorish flavour. It's an imaginative journey: like travelling ,without moving your feet."

-Loyd Bradford Syke, *Australian Stage Online* 11/09/08

"Wright is an accomplished Flamenco player and composer, who readily accommodates the expansion into wider musical pastures."

-John Shand, *Sydney Morning Herald* 20/06/09

