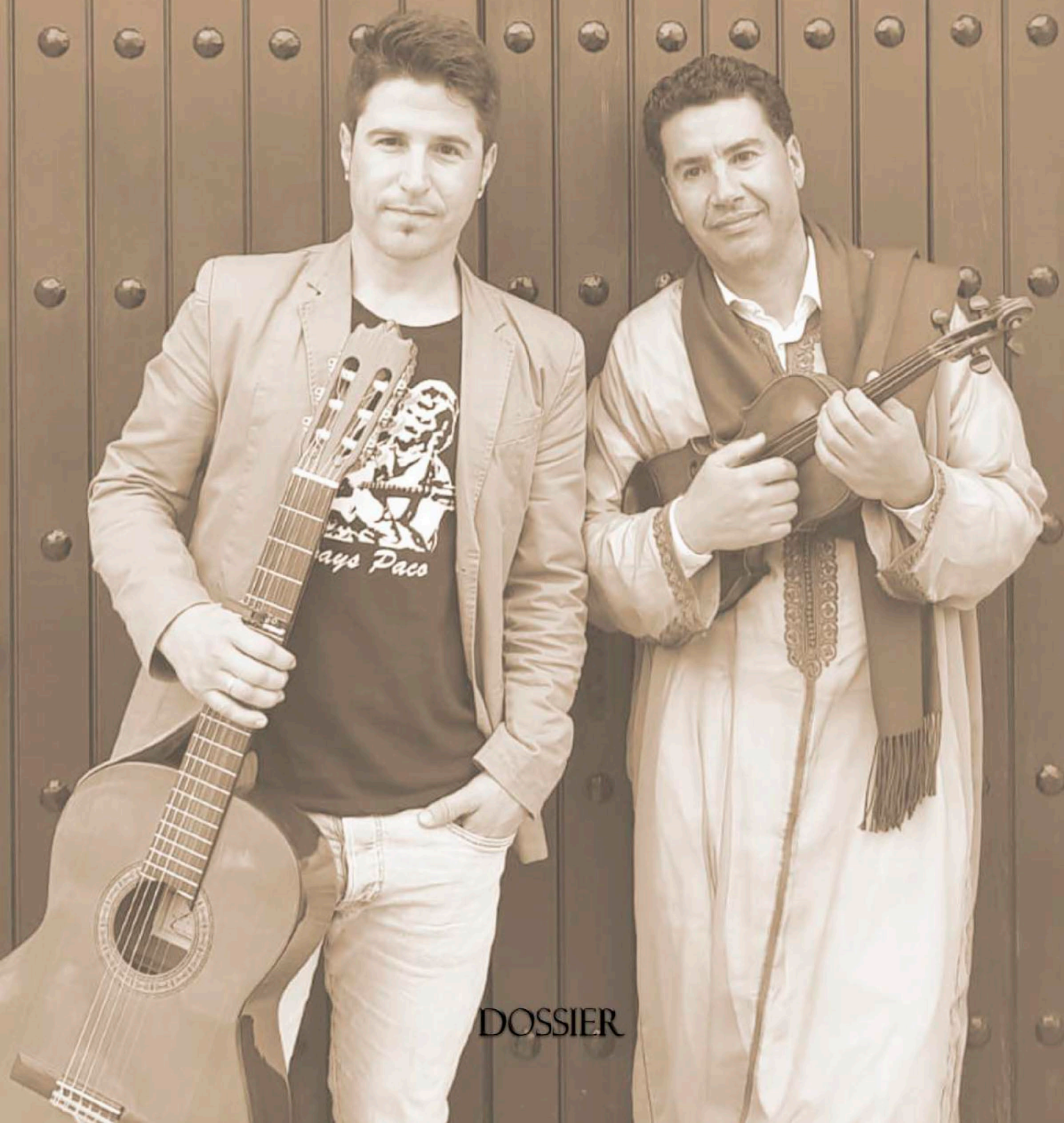


# HAMID AJBAR MUSIC

## CUS CUS FLAMENCO



DOSSIER



# SINOPSIS

CusCus Flamenco was founded in Granada in 2016 by Moroccan-born singer Hamid Ajbar, licensed by the Rabat Conservatory as an expert in Andalusian and Oriental music. The project was born with the idea of delving into the roots of Arabic-Andalusian music and flamenco, to discover their shared history and create an authentic fusion between both traditions. Soon the project was joined by singer Alberto Funes and the guitarist Lolo de la Encarna, both from Granada, contributing their deep knowledge of flamenco, both in its history as well as in the different “palos” and songs. The rest of the group is made up of Aziz Samsaoui, qanun, the violinist Fathi Ben Yakoub, Mouhssine Koraichi, Khalid Ahaboune and Fauzia Benedetti. Collaborating flamenco dancers include Eva Manzano, and Irene la Serranilla.

*Dos historias, un camino* (Two Stories, one Journey) is a musical encounter between the Arabic-Andalusian and the flamenco cultures. Although initially they were from different epochs they coincide in a time and place where both were marginalized. With this show, the depth of flamenco singing and the lyric poetry of Andalusian moaxajas and zejeles are united, accompanied by the beauty and passion of flamenco dance, in a fusion “jonda”, exquisite in flavor, and with a fragrance as fresh as the breeze of the summer nights of the Alhambra...





## HAMID AJBAR ARAB VOCALS, VIOLIN

Hamid Ajbar was born in Chefchaouen, Morocco. He began his musical studies from a very young age, beginning his studies of classical Andalusian chant and violin at the Conservatory of Chaouen, remaining there for six years. He then completed his studies in Tetouan and Rabat, where he graduated with maximum qualifications in the fields of Andalusian and Arab singing, violin, History of Andalusian Music and Repertoire, and the Arab and Andalusian Modes. He won the National prize for Andalusian chant on several occasions.

His artistic career has included collaborations with many of the best musicians and orchestras in Morocco, and also great artists from the flamenco and early music scenes. These include the late Paco de Lucia, Carmen Linares, El Lebrijano, Eduardo Paniagua, and others. His current projects are Jinnan Al Andalus, a spiritual music ensemble, and CusCus Flamenco, travelling extensively with both formations, including the UK, France, Switzerland, Italy... He has participated in many festivals including the Alegria Festival in Chaouen, Festival International de la Musique Andalouse in Almonastir, Tunisia, Fête de l'Olivier, Geneva, MeridaFest, Mexico, the Mediterranean Music Festival in Zurich and Bern, Rouhaniyet Music Festival, Nefta, Tunisia, Festival Islamico de Mertola, Portugal, Festival de Musica Antigua de Granada, Festival Musica delli Tradizioni, Italy, amongst others.

## ALBERTO FUNES FLAMENCO VOCALS



Alberto Funes is a flamenco singer from Granada who was one of the first to graduate in the Cristobal de Morales Conservatory of Seville under the modality of flamenco song. He continued his studies with El Pele, Paco Taranto, Marina Heredia and Calixto Sanchez, amongst others. He also studied in other fields including the music industry (Jaime Roldán), Gregorian Chant (Javier Lara) or violin (Joan Sanabras), etc.

He has participated in many festivals and events around the world, including the Flamenco Festival in Moscow, the Biennial in the Netherlands with "A Palo Seco" by Sara Cano, the Rome Biennale, Qabala International Music Festival, Azarbaiyan, Festival Music of Mikkeli, Finland, Tour of the United States, Festival Viva Spain, Russia, Moscow, Tour of Russia and Belarus, the International Festival de la Musique Andalouse Almonastir (Tunisia) and others. and has taken part in many festivals and events worldwide, including the Flamencura Festival in Moscow, the Biennale in the Netherlands with "A Palo Seco" by Sara Cano, the Biennale in Rome, the International de la Musique Andalouse Almonastir (Tunisia) and others. He is one of the most versatile flamenco singers with a deep and grounded knowledge of all the flamenco "palos".



# FLAMENCO DANCERS

CusCus Flamenco has collaborated with several flamenco dancers, including Cristina Aguilera, Irene Rueda, Kika Quesada, Eva Manzano and Irene la Serranilla



CRISTINA AGUILERA  
FUNDACIÓN 3 CULTURAS  
SEVILLA

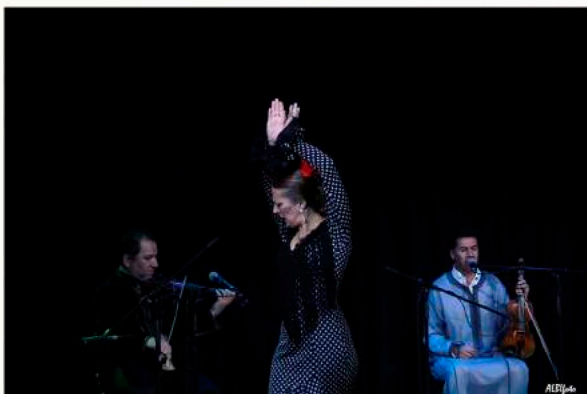


IRENE RUEDA, FÊTE DE L'OLIVIER, GINEBRA

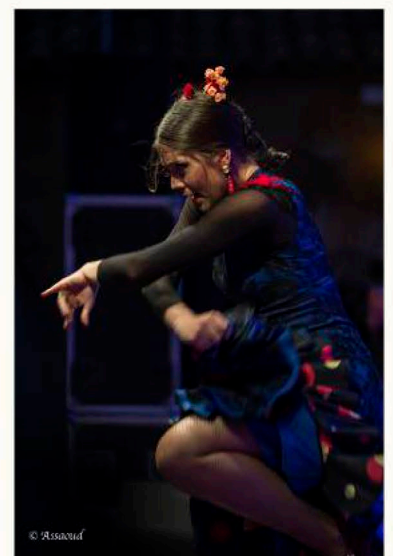


EVA MANZANO, MÉRIDA FEST, MÉJICO

CRISTINA AGUILERA  
ALEGRIA FESTIVAL  
CHAUEN



KIKA QUESADA, BRENDOLA, ITALIA





### CONTACT:

fauziabene@gmail.com - +34 663 30 39 10  
samsaoui@hotmail.com - +34 616 69 02 87  
www.hamidajbarmusic.com

## COMPONENTS

LOLO DE LA ENCARNA - FLAMENCO GUITAR

AZIZ SAMSAOUI - QANUN

FATHI BEN YAKOUB - VIOLIN

MOUHSSINE KORAICHI - LUTE

FAUZIA BENEDETTI - FLUTE

KHALED AHABOUNE - PERCUSSION

## EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

21st of September 2020: Musical Encounters Across the Strait of Gibraltar

25th October 2019: Festival Musica delle Tradizioni – Vicenza, Italy

12th of November 2019: London Rich Mix – London, UK

13th of November 2019: Peggy's Skylight – Nottingham, UK

5th of September 2019: Hamid Ajbar en Concierto – Fundación Tres Culturas – Seville  
"Intercultural Dialogues between Spain and Malaysia"

18th of August 2019: Festival de la Musique Andalouse – Taza, Morocco

1st of July 2019: Noches de Ramadan – Madrid

24th of May 2019: Festival de la Musique Andalouse – Casablanca, Morocco

4-6th of April 2019 – UK Tour

23/24th of March 2019: Mediterranean Music Festival – Zurich, Bern, Switzerland

19/20th of January 2019: Merida Fest 2019 – Merida, Mexico

29th September 2018: Fête de l'Olivier - Geneva, Switzerland

17th February 2018: Vo'on the Folks - Brendola, Italy

2016: Festival de la Musique Andalouse - Monastir, Algeria

2016: Festival de la Musique Andalouse - Casablanca, Morocco

2016: Alegria Festival - Chaouen, Morocco