

Jazz Beyond Borders

For Immediate Release:

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JUANITO PASCUAL NEW FLAMENCO TRIO

Friday April 22, 2016, 7:30 p.m.

Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, Annapolis

\$20, Members \$15 from marylandhall.org

MARYLAND HALL HOSTS JUANITO PASCUAL NEW FLAMENCO TRIO IN APRIL

L.A. guitarist Juanito Pascual has logged countless miles in a career that has taken him from the streets of Madrid to the hallowed halls of the New England Conservatory and on to concert stages around the world. Numerous appearances in film, television and radio have further widened his listening audience. On Friday, April 22, Pascual brings his unique and impassioned sound to Annapolis, fusing traditional Spanish flamenco with elements of jazz, classical and rock music.

Praised as a virtuoso guitarist and composer, the Minnesota native was called "one of the hottest flamenco guitarists in recent years" by NPR and "a rising star of the Spanish guitar form" by *The Boston Globe*. As a youth he traveled to Spain to study with the flamenco masters he idolized. Today his music is an organic blend of traditional and contemporary flamenco with influences ranging from Jimi Hendrix and the Grateful Dead to Miles Davis, and J.S. Bach. (Visit juanitopascual.com to hear his unique treatment of the Beatles' tune "While My Guitar Gently Weeps.")

Pascual's most recent honor is performing much of the music in the new film *Call Me Francesco: The Pope of the People*. Daniele Luchetti directed the movie, Rodrigo de la Serna plays Francis and Spanish pianist Arturo Cardelús composed the score. It premiered at the Vatican in December and was screened at Hollywood's Chinese Six Theaters on February 21. The score was named one of the "Best Scores of 2015" by Movie Music UK critic Johnathan Broxton. Broxton praised Pascual's prominent contribution: "Pascual's lovely guitar performances enliven "Bergoglio," "Esther," "Where Are You From?," and the conclusive "Pray For Me" with a evocative Latin spirit that recalls the best of Astor Piazzolla." The film will be distributed worldwide by TaoDue and soon seen by millions.

Pascual made his on-screen debut alongside Steve Martin and Andy Garcia in the 2009 film *Pink Panther 2*. He has toured widely since the 2003 release of his debut solo recording *Cosas en Comun*, becoming a *respected* voice in flamenco music. He has performed internationally at the Panama Jazz Festival, the Eurojazz Festival in Mexico City, the Halifax Jazz Festival in Nova Scotia and Spain's Festival de Jazz de Tortosa. In the States, he has played the Tanglewood Jazz Festival, New York's Blue Note Jazz Club, Boston's Jordan Hall and Regattabar. He holds a bachelor of music degree in contemporary improvisation from the New England Conservatory, where he directed the summer flamenco institute for five years. He released "Language of the Heart" in 2009 and a self-titled album in 2014. A fourth is in the works.

Performing with him at Annapolis are Grammy-nominated Colombian percussionist Tupac Mantilla and American bassist Brad Barrett, both graduates of the New England Conservatory. Their distinct musical backgrounds and powerful personal chemistry creates an exhilarating sound that leaves audiences spellbound. Tickets for the Maryland Hall concert are \$20 and \$15 for members. Advance purchase is strongly recommended. Visit marylandhall.org to purchase.

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