

MUSIC &amp; NIGHTLIFE    OCTOBER 27, 2016 2:02 PM

## Flamenco guitar great Tomatito to perform Nov. 4 at Olympia Theater in Miami



BY RODOLFO ROMAN  
*Special to the Miami Herald*

One of the world's greatest flamenco guitarists, Jose Fernandez Torres — better known as Tomatito — will perform Friday in Miami.

“We are thrilled to present this torch-bearer of Spain’s great tradition. With the passing of Paco De Lucia, Tomatito stands as one of the most important figures in the world of flamenco,” said Kathryn Garcia, executive director of concert co-host Miami Dade College Live Arts.

De Lucia, who died in 2014, was considered the world’s premier flamenco guitarist and a major proponent of the new flamenco style. Now, Torres has taken the role. He has won five Grammys and Latin Grammys, and has collaborated with many music stars, including Elton John.

“I don’t believe it,” Tomatito said. “But I like that people value my music and that the flamenco from Spain is being spread and valued all over the world. Flamenco is a style of music that is always alive. It is the roots of a country and no one will stop it. All the musicians are aware of the music, and it is important for the world.”

He will be joined by dancer José Maya, who has collaborated with many renowned flamenco artists, including Farruquito, El Güito, Manolete, Estrella Morente, Gerardo Núñez and Diego El Cigala. He has also opened for pop stars Marc Anthony, Beyoncé and Björk.

Tomatito en flamenco festival copia



Tomatito is currently on tour in Canada and the United States including stops in the west and northeast.

He said he is looking forward to again playing for the Miami crowd.

“We are very excited to come to Miami and perform Flamenco music,” he said. “Every time we visit Miami, the people appreciate the art.”

The concert is part of MDC Live Arts Mundo series. The next concert in the series is Brazilian samba sensation Maria Rita in March.

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### IF YOU GO

Miami Dade College Live Arts and Olympia Theater present Tomatito at 8 p.m. Friday at the theater, 174 E. Flagler St.

Tickets range from \$35 to \$65; Miami-Dade College students pay \$10.

For more information, visit [olympiatheater.org](http://olympiatheater.org).



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