

**AUDITORIUM
THEATRE**
of ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY

CHICAGO'S LANDMARK STAGE'
AUDITORIUM THEATRE EST. 1889

50 E Congress Pkwy
Chicago, IL
AuditoriumTheatre.org
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ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL CELEBRATES THEIR 40th ANNIVERSARY SEASON FINALE AT THE AUDITORIUM THEATRE

**Internationally Lauded Company Makes Its "Made In
Chicago" Dance Series Debut with *Flamenco Passion***

[ENSEMBLE ESPAÑOL SPANISH DANCE THEATER – FLAMENCO PASSION ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29](#)



CHICAGO – **Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater** returns to the Auditorium Theatre for a full-length evening concert on Thursday, September 29 at 7:30PM with their 40th anniversary finale **Flamenco Passion**, a showcase of classical, contemporary, and traditional Spanish dance. The company makes its debut in the Auditorium's "**Made in Chicago**" Dance Series with a performance of Ensemble Español founder Dame Libby Komaiko's stunning masterpiece *Bolero; Mil Clavos*, by former Ensemble Español and Hubbard Street Dance Chicago's principal dancer Ron De Jesus, which gives modern context to traditional Spanish dance; and *Iroko*, a Flamenco contemporary ballet piece choreographed by Nuevo Ballet Español founders Angel Rojas and Carlos Rodriguez.

"Ensemble Español's performance of *Flamenco Passion* continues the Auditorium Theatre's dedication to representing the vibrant and varied dance scene in the city," says **Henry Fogel**, Auditorium Theatre's Interim Chief Executive Officer. "We are honored to commemorate the Ensemble's 40th anniversary with this event."

Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater's founder Dame Libby Komaiko was awarded the "Ribbon of the Dame" title by the King of Spain Juan Carlos I in 1983, making her among the first American dance artists to receive such an award. In 2011, in honor of the company's 35th anniversary, President Barack Obama sent a congratulatory letter to the company for its work and longevity. Founded in 1976, Ensemble Español performed in Spain for the first time in the summer of 2016.

"Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater has had a long and wonderful history with the Auditorium Theatre," says Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater Executive Director **Jorge Perez**. "We are beyond thrilled to present a full-length performance to open the Auditorium's 'Made in Chicago' Dance Series as the finale to our 40th anniversary celebration."

"...a colorful and vibrant reminder that Spanish dance is as sumptuous, versatile and international as any in the West." – Chicago Tribune

"...they bring a blazing sense of drama to everything they do. This is a company that fully deserves its growing international reputation." – Chicago Sun-Times

"Spanish dance, unlike its counterparts in other concert dance genres, is like fine wine that only improves with age. At forty, Ensemble Español proves the point." – SeeChicagoDance

*The 2016-17 Dance Sponsor is **NIB Foundation**. The 2016-17 "Made in Chicago" Dance Sponsor is **Joyce Chelberg**.*

*Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater's Performance Sponsors include: **Northeastern Illinois University**, the **MacArthur Foundation International Connections Fund**, the **Chicago Community Trust**, the **Illinois Arts Council Agency**, **Caerus Foundation, Inc.**; **Wintrust**, and **Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs & Special Events**.*

Performance and Ticket Information

Thursday, September 29 | 7:30PM

Tickets start at \$29, and are available online at AuditoriumTheatre.org, by phone at 312.341.2300, or in-person at the Auditorium Theatre Box Office (50 E Congress Parkway). Discounts available for groups of 10+. Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater is part of the "Made in Chicago" Dance Series, which offers a 30% discounted subscription online at AuditoriumTheatre.org.

Auditorium Theatre's 2016-17 Season Upcoming Events

September 22: [On Stage With ... Susan Werner](#)

September 23: [The Devil's Ball](#)

September 24: [Cole Porter 125 - A Birthday Celebration](#)

September 29: [Ensemble Español Spanish Dance Theater](#)

November 5 - 6: [Lizt Alfonso Dance Cuba](#)

November 11: [Chicago Jazz Philharmonic](#)

November 18 - 20: [Dance Theatre of Harlem](#)

About The Auditorium Theatre

The Auditorium Theatre, located at 50 E. Congress Pkwy in Chicago, is an Illinois, not-for-profit organization committed to presenting the finest in international, cultural, community and educational programming to Chicago, and to the continued restoration and preservation of the National Historic Landmark. In September of 2014, the Auditorium Theatre was awarded the inaugural Fifth Star Award by Mayor Rahm Emanuel and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

The Auditorium Theatre 2016-17 Season is made possible in part with support from the **MacArthur Foundation**, the **Illinois Arts Council** and the **Palmer House Hilton**. For more information about programming, volunteer and donor opportunities or theatre tours, call 312.341.2310 or visit AuditoriumTheatre.org. For a complete listing of events at the Auditorium Theatre, please click [here](#).

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