

Paco de Lucía

En Vivo: Conciertos España 2010



Paco de Lucía has released his first album of new material in seven years, a special-edition double album of live recordings from his 2010 concert tour in Spain. Renowned for his flamenco fusion style influenced by jazz, Gypsy jazz, and traditional Muslim music, de Lucía's spectacular guitar playing is accompanied by the electric bass player Alain Pérez, harmonica player Antonio Serrano, guitarist Antonio Sánchez, and flamenco singers Duquende and David de Jacoba. The ten-minute-plus "Variaciones de Minera" which opens the album, veers moodily from a minor key to a major key with some surprisingly bluesy turns on the guitar. Meanwhile, "Mi Antonia (Bulería por Soleá)" opens with a stunning display of rhythmical interplay between guitar strumming and soundboard thumping before bursting into a melody performed upon a second guitar with glissando slides and languid slurs weaving sinuously between the beats and *gritandos*. "El Cafetal (Rumba)" is an excursion of jazzy modernity fused with a harmonica melody, kept from turning nostalgic by the fleet-fingered ferocity of de Lucía's guitar playing. "Zyryab en Vivo" harks back to the Moorish-flavored melody from de Lucía's 1990 album (*Zyryab*), which featured Chick Corea and guitarist Manolo Sanlúcar, but this new version highlights Serrano's brilliant harmonica playing. (Universal)

—JULIA CROWE