

8TH OF APRIL GYPSY CULTURE AWARDS: CELEBRATION AND RECOGNITION OF GYPSYHOOD

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The Fundación Instituto de Cultura Gitana celebrates the International Day of the Gypsy People with the Gypsy Culture award ceremony on the 8th of April. The jury —comprised of the Advisory Board of the Instituto de Cultura Gitana— recognizes the merits of those men and women —gypsies and non-gypsies; Spaniards and foreigners— who, from different artistic, social or academic fields, have contributed to enrich gypsy culture: writers, musicians, film makers, plastic artists and researchers who enlarge the creative flow and artistic effervescence of the gypsy people. Consolidated as they are as a fundamental referent in Romani culture, these awards make up a polyhedral portrait of the heterogeneous wealth of gypsy culture.

In the 2008 edition, held at the Centro de Arte Reina Sofía of Madrid, the award-winners by category were:

Literature Award: **José Heredia Maya**, poet, playwright, essayist and university professor. Heredia Maya is the best representative of gypsy writing in the Spanish language. After receiving a BA in Romanic Philology from the University of Granada, where he later was a Spanish Literature professor, he became the first gypsy professor in the Spanish university system. Founder of the Seminar of Flamenco Studies of the University of Granada, he was a referent in the cultural and artistic life of his city.

Penar Ocono was his first book of poems (1973) followed by *Poemas indefensos* in 1974. He wrote *Camelamos naquear* in 1976 and put it on stage, along with the flamenco dancer Mario Maya, where flamenco is interpreted from a new dramatic perspective in order to send a message of protest in defence of gypsy people's rights. In 1983 he published *Charol* and *Macama jonda*, a work where he turned to flamenco music and dance again, although this time combined with the music of Al-Andalus. In 1990, the play *Sueño terral* saw the light, a combination of jazz, flamenco and bullfighting. *Experiencia y juicio* is a lucid book of poems published by José Heredia Maya in 1994. Parallel to his poetic and dramatic works, he wrote essays and was the editor-in-chief of the critical review *La Mirada limpia*. José Heredia Maya died in his hometown of Granada in 2010.

Music Award: **Bernarda Jiménez Peña**, **Bernarda de Utrera**, flamenco singer, holder of an encyclopaedic knowledge of flamenco singing, undisputed master in the *compás por*

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bulerías.

Heir to the ancestral echoes of her family —the Peña Pininis—, she represents braveness as a gypsy woman who, in her fight against the difficulties of an excessively close-minded society, was able to spread, together with her sister Fernanda, the art of gypsy women all over the world. Her career demonstrates admiration for those women who carry flamenco in their hearts and who have defined the liberty that, thanks to people like her, new generations have been able to enjoy. Bernarda Jiménez died in Utrera in 2009.

Research Award: **Antonio Gómez Alfaro**, journalist, PhD in Law, and researcher, whose professional career has been widely acknowledged in the field of academia. His fundamental contribution to the knowledge about the history of the gypsy people is highly valuable, especially the episode known as the Great Round-Up or the General Imprisonment of the Gypsies, a persecution authorized by the king Ferdinand VI and secretly organized by the Marquis of the Ensenada in 1749 with the declared purpose of imprisoning all gypsies in the Kingdom, a work published in the *Interface* collection of the René Descartes University of Paris and translated to several languages. Gómez Alfaro has dedicated his life to the study of gypsy history and culture, which are essential for knowing the past and present history of Spain.

Painting and Plastic Arts Award: **Antonio Maya Cortés**, painter and sculptor, trained at the Escuela Superior de Bellas Artes de San Fernando in Madrid, is one of the best representatives of modern Spanish painting.

His figurative technique “penetrates into characters and achieves an endless serenity in the spectator that is not exempt of an enormous and almost enigmatic sensibility”.

His works are present in important museums of modern art and collections of several countries. A retrospective exhibition of his work was held in Madrid in 2005. *Tauromaquia y Guadarrama* stands out among his latest exhibitions, as does a recent engraving work — *Huellas-Ausencias*— with poems by Anunciada Fernández de Córdoba.

Young Creators Award: **Juana Martín Manzano**, fashion designer and one of the most important representatives of the Spanish fashion industry; she reinterprets gypsy aesthetic tradition in a personal, colourful, and fashion-forward way.

Her personal style and contribution to flamenco fashion is unquestionable, but her *prêt-à-porter* designs and bridal creations have also been applauded in domestic and international fashion shows. Juana Martín’s entrepreneurship symbolizes a path begun by 21st century gypsy women.

Lifetime Achievement Award: **Juan de Dios Ramírez-Heredia**, journalist and lawyer. He is *Doctor Honoris Causa* by the University of Cadiz and a distinguished politician who participated as a deputy in the writing of the Spanish Constitution of 1978.

He has bravely defended the rights of the gypsy people at the Cortes Generales of Spain, at

the Council of Europe and at the European Parliament. We should not forget his role as a pioneer in the creation of the gypsy associative movement in Spain, which promoted the creation of the Spanish Romani Union, an organization of which he still is the president. Juan de Dios Ramírez-Heredia's career deserves admiration, respect and recognition from all the gypsy people.

The 2009 edition was held at the Auditorio Nacional of Madrid and incorporated two new award categories: *Communication* and *Concord Awards*. This is the list of winners:

Literature and Performing Arts Award: **Francisco Suárez**, director of dozens of theatrical shows, among which his gypsy trilogy, comprised of the plays *Orestes en Lisboa*, *Romancero Gitano* and *Ítaca*, is particularly outstanding. His adaptations of the classics have incorporated flamenco music and dance to highlight emotional and dramatic overtones.

His drama poses questions about humanity and its destiny. In his own words: "the man who asks and gets no answers; the gypsy and his destiny within the corners and crevices of a society that cannot find an exit, like Theseus in the labyrinth". His enormous work of recreation and dissemination of classical drama and his commitment as a gypsy to this art have turned him into the greatest representative of Romani theatre.

Music Award: **Pedro Pubill Calaf, Peret**. Singer, composer and actor, he is one of the most popular and beloved artists of Spain. Many of his songs are part of the sentimental memory of several Spanish generations. Thanks to his performances all over the world, his successful albums and appearances on television shows, he has become an essential artist for the understanding of popular music in our country.

The Generalitat de Catalunya decorated him with its highest distinction: the Creu de Sant Jordi. In 2011 he was bestowed with the Medalla de Oro de la Bellas Artes of the Ministry of Culture. *Peret* is the most relevant figure and referent of the Catalan gypsy rumba and his influence is being widely acknowledged and honoured by young artists, both gypsy and non-gypsy.

Research Award: **Teresa San Román**, senior professor of Anthropology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona; she is one of the fundamental researchers in the field of sociology and anthropology in our country. In 2005 she was awarded the Medalla de la Orden Civil a la Solidaridad by the Ministry of Work and Social Affairs. She is the author, among other books, of *Vecinos gitanos*, *La imagen paya de los gitanos* (with Carmen Garriga), and *La diferencia inquietante*.

Her professionalism as a teacher, her independence and braveness to express her opinion publicly, and her ability to teach gypsies and non-gypsies with humility show us how intercultural relations should be.

Painting and Plastic Arts Award: **Micaela Flores Amaya, La Chunga**. Dancer, actress and painter. Muse of writers such as Rafael Alberti, Blas de Otero and León Felipe, friend of

Picasso and Dalí, she soon earned an interest in painting and started developing her very personal primitivist preferences. Her colourful, expressive language shows a world of her own, sublime and idealized, which is regarded now as very distinct. Her gypsy women and girls are often self-portraits, and in her paintings they are lost in forests, gardens or *tablaos*.

Her style, described by Picasso as “luminous naïve”, has deserved awards such as the Medalla de Oro del Círculo de Bellas Artes of Madrid. Her work, present in many important private collections, has been shown in the galleries of several Spanish cities.

Young Creators Award: **David Peña, Dorantes**. He belongs to one of the legendary gypsy families in the history of flamenco: he is María *La Perrata*’s grandson, Pedro Peña’s son and El Lebrijano’s nephew. He studied piano, harmony and composition at the Real Conservatorio Superior de Música of Seville. He is the author of the renowned *Orobroy*, has collaborated with the National Ballet of Spain and has received several awards by the Flamenco Biennial of Seville.

Dorantes’s work stems from gypsy art and flamenco and approaches other musical styles like jazz or ethnic music. His youth and promising career make of him one of the Spanish musicians with the greatest international renown.

Lifetime Achievement Award: **Rafael Soto Moreno, Rafael de Paula**, born in the neighbourhood of Santiago in Jerez de la Frontera, he is a living legend of bullfighting. He received official recognition as a bullfighter in the bull-ring of Ronda in 1960. A true matador artist, his style has been an inspiration: the slow bullfighting, *jondo* and *elegante*; the sublime moves of his cape with blue turns and the grieving *duende* of his *muleta*. Rafael de Paula is the gypsy bullfighter par excellence and his way of understanding art is now an indelible part of the history of bullfighting.

In 2002 he received the Medalla de Oro de las Bellas Artes awarded by the Ministry of Culture. He inspired the poet José Bergamín to compose *La música callada del toreo*, thus translating into poetry the inner music of bullfighting.

Communication Award: **Consejo Audiovisual de Andalucía**, entity that has worked, in collaboration with Andalusian gypsy organizations, for a better treatment of the gypsy community in the media.

Its compromise led to the establishment of 2009 as the “Year of the Gypsy Community in the Media” with the objective of contributing to more realistic view, turning away from topics and stereotypes about the gypsy people, and for an appropriate recognition of gypsy contributions to the Spanish and Andalusian society.

Concord Award: **Juan José Cortés**, a man who had to experience the worst pain due to his daughter Mari Luz’s murder. As an example of community spirit and agreement, he has proven that the human condition is also capable of greatness. Overcoming misfortune, he has fought with strength and determination to prevent other families from having to go

through his own experience. He has bravely and respectfully denounced the miscarriages of justice that affected his family's tragedy and has proposed measures to repair them. His weapons have been his eagerness for justice and his deep religious belief in the evangelist faith.

In the 2010 edition the 8th of April Gypsy Culture Awards moved to Cordoba, host city for the II European Summit of the Gypsy People at the same time, which served the framework for the award ceremony at the Palacio de Congresos y Exposiciones. The people given awards by the jury are the following:

Literature and Performing Arts Award: **Rajko Djuric**, who holds a BA in Philosophy and a PhD in Sociology by the University of Belgrade. Journalist and writer. He has been Secretary General and President of International Romani Union and during his tenure, the Romani Union gained recognition by the United Nations.

He founded PEN Club's Romani action, and he has been president of the political party *Unija Roma Srbije* (Serbian Roma Union, with whom he gained a seat as a deputy at Serbia's National Assembly). He was co-screenwriter of Emir Kusturica's film *Time of the Gypsies*.

As an essayist, he has published studies on culture, history and sociology. In 2002 he received the Tucholsky Prize awarded by the Swedish PEN Club to writers who have fought for freedom of speech. His literary work has been published in Romani, Serbian, Romanian, French, English and German, and it has recently been translated into Spanish —by Nicolás Jiménez— in the poetry collection *I barbal phürdel*, published by the Instituto de Cultura Gitana.

Music Award: **Juan Peña, El Lebrijano**, flamenco singer, keeper of the purest tradition of Andalusian gypsy singing and creator of new flamenco forms. His work *Persecución*, with texts by poet Félix Grande, tells the story of the arrival of the gypsies to our country in the form of a heartbreaking and moving call against racism.

His work includes more than thirty titles, among which *Encuentro y Casablanca* stands out, a joining of flamenco and Arabic-Andalusian music. His creative restlessness has served works like *Ven y sígueme* —a flamenco opera he composed with Manolo Sanlúcar— and *¡Tierra!*, a flamenco revision of the discovery of America with texts by poet José M. Caballero Bonald.

El Lebrijano has been the first flamenco singer to perform flamenco in the Teatro Real. In 2009 he was appointed Honorary Citizen of Lebrija. He set some *jondura flamenca* to texts by Gabriel García Márquez. "When Lebrijano sings, water gets wet", said the Colombian Nobel Prize winner about Juan Peña.

Research Award: **Marcel Courthiade**, PhD in Linguistics by the University of Paris-Sorbonne. As coordinator of the Linguistic Commission of International Romani Union, he is responsible for the design of the standard Romani alphabet and one of his most important promoters. He has dedicated a great part of his life to encourage and develop a better

knowledge of Romani culture and he has collaborated with several international organizations from the standpoint of social activism and academic research.

Author to hundreds of articles, he has published essays that are fundamental today for the study of gypsy language and culture. Courthiade is an expert in the Romani culture of Eastern and Southern Europe, where he has lived for long periods, and in the history of *Samudaripen*, the Holocaust of the gypsy people. He currently is a professor of Romani language in the Institute of Oriental Language and Civilization (INALCO, University of Paris).

Painting and Plastic Arts Award: **Bonifacio Alfonso**, painter and engraver, his work revolves around surrealism and abstract expressionism. During the hard years of the postwar he performed various Bohemian jobs: he was an apprentice bullfighter and jazz musician. After a stay in Paris, he moved to Bilbao and became acquainted with the artists of the *El Paso* group. He held several individual exhibitions in the second half of the 1960's, when he underwent a period of informalist abstraction.

After some periods in Mexico, he returned to Spain and was commissioned the design of the stained glass windows of the Cathedral of Cuenca. He moved to Madrid, where he intensely devoted himself to two of his eternal passions: bullfighting and flamenco. In 1993 he received the Engraving National Prize. Among his awards, he also received the Arts Prize of the Comunidad de Madrid in 2005. His work is present in the Museum of Abstract Art of Cuenca, the Museum of the Fine Arts of Bilbao and the British Museum of London. Bonifacio Alfonso died in San Sebastián in 2011.

Young Creator Award: **La Excepción**, Juan Manue Montilla, *El Langui*; Antonio Moreno, *Gitano Antón*; and Javier Ibáñez, *Dj La Dako Style* are the members of the band La Excepción, Madrid rapper from the neighbourhood of Pan Bendito, consolidated as one of the most popular hip-hop bands in our country. Their lyrics are loaded with social critiques and protest in a very personal style. The Romani lexicon and a unique sense of humour bring this genre, once ignorant of gypsy musical tradition, closer to gypsy forms. La Excepción's fans are both gypsy and non-gypsy, and through their microphones they propose a positive attitude in the face of the difficulties of a generation that has struggled to get ahead.

In 2005, they published *Aguantando el tirón*, and were nominated for the Music Awards, receiving the prestigious MTV European Music Award. Their last record *La verdad más verdadera* has confirmed them as one of the most genuine proposals of Spanish rap. Parallel to the band, Gitano Antón has started his solo career with the album *La spiral de mi musa*.

Lifetime Achievement Award: **José Córdoba**, José Córdoba Reyes, *Tío José Córdoba*, respected gypsy. He is the founder and president of the National Gypsy Pilgrimage of the Virgin of the Sierra of Cabra, one of the most beloved traditions for many Andalusian gypsies, as well as gypsies from other parts of Spain. Since more than four decades ago, gypsies and non-gypsies gather in brotherhood to show devotion to the Virgin, and, beyond the religious aspects, they also share a celebration of joy and emotion that proves the historical interweaving of Andalusian and gypsy cultures.

Leaning on his Catholic faith and condition as a gypsy, José Córdoba has dedicated his life to encourage mutual knowledge and respect among gypsies and non-gypsies. As a promoter of gypsy demands in Spain, in the 1960's he participated in many meetings and pilgrimages of the Gypsy Pastoral and he managed the celebration of a gypsy mass in the Vatican for the first time. Loved and respected by everyone, he was appointed Honorary Citizen of his hometown of Cabra. José Cabra is a good man, a fine gypsy, a tireless fighter for social justice.

Communication Award: **Orhan Galjius**, BA in Journalism by the University of Belgrade, radio speaker, gypsy activist. He founded the international journal *Patrin*. He is currently responsible for the Network Media programme of Soros Foundation in Budapest, Hungary. Galjius is a cultural agitator, always ready to promote understanding and to defend the fair idea of voicing the unheard. His critical positions are based on his conception of journalism as a matter of solidarity and compromise.

He has been a collaborator at the European Roma Rights Center and the Open Society Institute. He has directed international courses and seminars on the treatment of gypsy culture by the media. His militant dedication and his professional knowledge have contributed to raise awareness within the Romani community in order to favour participation in the media as a way to change an anti-gypsy social perception. Orhan Galjius is a referent for new Romani generations in the field of the mass media.

Concord Award: **TNT – Teatro Atalaya – Gypsy Women's Theatre Group of El Vacie of Seville**. The performance of *La casa de Bernarda Alba*, played by eight gypsy women from the settlement of El Vacie in Seville has been praised by the critic, by theatre professionals and by thousands of theatre-goers who have seen it. Theatrical research and social inclusion have been the two pillars of this project, which started as some theatre workshops in the settlement. Pepa Gamboa, director of the play and creator of the dramaturgy and scenography, explains this theatrical experience as follows: "Lorca has been useful to take these women out of their shacks and put them on the stage. It is *La Barraca* revived and the opposite: it is the people on stage who illuminates the audience. The people to whom Lorca dedicated his *Romancero Gitano*".

The award has recognized these gypsy actresses for their good artistic work and for their eagerness for self-improvement, thus highlighting its social component underlying this initiative as well as the work of Teatro Atalaya, which aims at achieving mutual respect and understanding among the people by means of culture.

The 2011 edition had a special meaning since it was the 40th anniversary of the historic I World Romani Congress that took place in London on April 8th, 1971, which gave birth to the international Romani associative movement and made official the gypsy flag and the anthem "Gelem, Gelem" as symbols admitted by all the gypsies in the world. The award ceremony, held at the Ateneo de Madrid, was an emotive event where all the awarded people were present.

Literature and Performing Arts Award: **Tony Gatlif**, film director, musician, screenwriter, producer and actor. In his movies he has explored the culture and world view of the gypsy people. His career as a filmmaker has deserved numerous awards. Among the most important, he received the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival as best director for the film *Exils* and two César Awards for his music compositions for the films *Vengo* and *Gadjo dilo*.

Gatlif has made the world go gypsy with his films. He is undoubtedly the filmmaker who has better and most abundantly depicted Romani culture. His cinema is subversive: "I make films for myself, to stay alive". His semi-documentary style feeds on mostly *amateur* actors. His mastery in cinematic narrative and his subtle critics and denouncements situates him beyond mere ethnographic cinema. His work is not social cinema alone; above that objective there is an artistic and aesthetic project linked to music —*Latcho drom* will remain as a masterpiece of Romani art— and a very personal search for the origins of gypsy culture. He has recently presented his singular and free version of Stéphan Hessel's *Time for outrage* at the Berlinale.

Music Award: **González Flores Family**. They have given us their musical and artistic talent with an energy and passion that define them as components of a universe characterized by love, eagerness and artistic *duende*. The members of the Flores saga have been granted the unanimous recognition of their talent and the audience's love. In Spain and America. In music, cinema and television.

Antonio González was a great flamenco guitar player and an essential figure of Catalan rumba; the brilliant Lola Flores was pure art when she sang, danced, acted, recited... Their children Lolita, Antonio and Rosario inherited *duende* and talent and they have continued spreading their *gypsyhood* along their careers as interpreters and composers, thus giving continuity to a saga that will most surely be perpetuated by its youngest members, who already stand out in the world of art. Most of them have been actors and actresses —Lolita received the Goya Award for best new actress in 2002 and Rosario has worked for Pedro Almodóvar— but they are mostly musicians: flamenco, copla, rumba, but also rock, pop, ballads or boleros. Many gold records and awards prove their success, among which Rosario's two Latin Grammy Awards stand out (2002 and 2004).

With this award, the Instituto de Cultura Gitana wanted to pay tribute to this great family of artists who always claimed their pride as gypsies, and thus remember those who, although already departed, will always remain in the artistic and sentimental memory of our country.

Research Award: **Tomás Calvo Buezas**, professor emeritus of Social Anthropology at the Complutense University of Madrid, founder and president of the Centro de Estudios sobre Migraciones y Racismo (CEMIRA), he has been Spain's representative at the European Commission Against Racism of the Council of Europe and a professor in Colombia, Venezuela and Mexico. He is the author of more than a dozen books —*¿España racista?* and *El racismo que viene* among them— and of hundreds of articles about ethnic minorities in the United States, Latin America and Spain.

He has received many awards for his tireless research work in the fight against racism and xenophobia. He has studied racism and xenophobia from the perspective of intercultural education by means of an interdisciplinary approach to interethnic social issues, aimed at the prevention and solution of potential conflicts derived from migration and from the prejudices of a larger host society.

Professor Calvo Buezas adds an ethic compromise with the gypsy cause to scientific rigour when dealing with these serious problems, and he incorporates a human dimension to his work as a teacher and a researcher.

Painting and Plastic Arts Award: **Lita Cabellut**, painter and sculptor. She was born in the neighbourhood of the Raval in Barcelona. After 13 years living on the streets and in an orphanage, she was adopted by a family who took her on a trip to Madrid, where they visited the Prado Museum. It was there that she started a new stage in her life: she discovered art and fell in love with the paintings of Goya, Velázquez and Rembrandt. She held her first exhibition at Masnou City Council, in the province of Barcelona, at the age of 17. At 19 she decided to explore new horizons and moved to Holland, where she studied at Rietvelds Academy of Amsterdam.

Holder of her own pictorial poetic language, she uses renovated techniques of fresco painting. Her recognizable palette is communicative and seductive. She depicts characters that represent humanity as a whole, the common soul, the way we are connected to each other. She has organized a large number of exhibitions all over the world: New York, Amsterdam, Miami, Singapur, Cologne, Hong Kong, Chicago, London, Paris, Venice or Seoul. She presented her exhibition on Frida Khalo at the Opera Gallery of London and her paintings on Camarón opened the Galerie Kai Dikhas in Berlin, a centre for gypsy art.

Young Creators Award: **David Carmona Fernández**, guitar player and composer. He was awarded the Giraldillo for a new artist at the Flamenco Biennial of Seville (2010), where he performed as a solo guitar player and together with the flamenco singer Esperanza Fernández. In 2009 he won the XXIII International Live Flamenco Guitar Contest of Jerez and he received the Original Music for Dance Award in the XVIII Spanish and Flamenco Dance Choreography Contest.

He Manolo Sanlúcar's pupil, he has performed on the best stages as rhythm guitar player in his master's band, who defined him as his heir and the "referent for the future of the flamenco guitar". He belongs to the Fernández de Illora family, gypsies from Granada since generations ago, for whom flamenco is a natural means of expression, present in daily situations and in important and private events of their family life. He has the artistry, technique, inspiration and knowledge as to become one of the greatest flamenco guitar players of the 21st century.

Lifetime Achievement Award: **Valentín Suárez Saavedra**, professor who has a dedicated his long career to support and promote gypsy culture, part of which has been linked to the

Fundación Secretariado Gitano. After holding different posts, he currently is the secretary of the board of trustees of the aforementioned foundation. He was a founding member of Unión Romaní —of which he was the first General Secretary— and the president of European Network of Gypsies and Travellers and of the European Network Against Marginalization and Poverty.

He was an IT teacher and consultant in pedagogy for important publishing companies, and he has directed training and recruitment projects in different fields, both domestic and international.

In 2010 the Junta de Extremadura gave him the Lifetime Achievement Award, granted by the Regional Council for the Gypsy Community of Extremadura. Valentín Suárez has shared his gypsy experience and taught about gypsy issues through his active participation in the Spanish gypsy associative movement, thus disseminating gypsy culture and promoting intercultural coexistence.

His work is, above all, a referent for current generations and his personal career has consecrated him as a “respected gypsy”, cultivated, sensitive and a peace-maker.

Communication Award: Javier Pérez Senz, journalist and music critic. He collaborates with *El País* and Radio Clásica of Radio Nacional de España (RNE), where he does is a radio host and presents the broadcasting of operas and concerts from the Liceu or the Palau de la Música. He writes regularly for the magazines *Scherzo* and *Ópera actual*. He teaches professional training courses for young musicians at the Conservatorio Superior de Música of the Liceu of Barcelona. He is the author of several books and many reviews in music collections. He often works as a collaborator with the Teatro Real and the Teatro de la Zarzuela of Madrid.

He is the chief editor of the two-weekly journal *Nevipens Romaní* and was the chief editor of the first series of the journal *O Tchatchipen* about gypsy issues. He has dedicated great efforts to fight against racism and discrimination by getting involved in several projects developed by Unión Romaní, among them the campaigns and reports of *Periodistas contra el racismo, la prensa española ante el pueblo gitano*. Fascinated by gypsy culture, he gives lectures and teaches courses about the influence of Romani music on Classical music. He has written about this topic in several publications, like the journal *Cuadernos gitanos*. In the 2009-2010 season, he directed and presented the weekly programme *La huella romaní* of Radio Clásica, which allowed him to bring gypsy culture to such a select audience as Classical music aficionados are.

Concord Award: Franz Rosenbach, German Sinti gypsy, is a *Samudaripen* survivor, the gypsy holocaust. In January of 1944 he was deported, together with his mother and other relatives, to the concentration camp of Auschwitz. Since decades ago, Rosenbach visits schools to tell his experience to children and young students “because they the future”, he says. He has received several awards and medals for this work in Germany.

During World War II, twenty-one members of his family were killed, his father and his mother among them. It is known that at least 500.000 gypsies were exterminated by Nazi barbarism in the concentration camps spread across Europe. And it is known that many of those criminals got away unpunished: the Nuremberg trials did not find justice for the gypsies massacred in the *Samudaripen*.

His faith and unbreakable optimism have been the probable reasons why Franz Rosenbach could survive in order to fulfill "the duty of memory" and thus remember those gypsy victims forever, in the hope that nothing similar will happen again anywhere in the world. The Instituto de Cultura Gitana gave Franz Rosenbach this award for his courage, braveness and ethical compromise with the dissemination of the *Samudaripen*, thus recognizing all the survivors of extermination camps in his name. Rosenbach died in October of 2012 at the age of 85.

The fifth edition of the 8th of April Gypsy Culture Awards was held in Madrid at the Auditorium of the Centro Cultural Conde Duque, within the framework of the exhibition "Romani Lives. Lungo Drom". The awarded people this time were:

Communication Award: Àngels Barceló. She started her professional career in Catalunya Radio and in the regional television channel of Catalonia, TV3.

She has been an anchorwoman of Tele 5 news and has worked for Cuatro and Canal Plus. After some time in television, she entered a new professional stage in SER radio station and hosted the magazine programme "A vivir que son dos días". In 2008, she took over the news programme "Hora 25", audience leader in its time slot.

She has received several awards, such as several TP awards, the Antena de Oro in 1999 and the Micrófono de Oro in 2010.

Compromise with the social function of communication, she took an objective stance in the media treatment of social issues. Her reports on the expulsion and the discrimination of gypsies in France and Italy in the past years have contributed to include the anti-gypsy politics of the political leaders of those countries, Berlusconi and Sarkozy, into the current news agenda.

Research Award: Carme Garriga i Boadella. Sociologist, social worker and professor, she is one of the pioneers in Spain in the sociological research and social intervention in the gypsy community.

She belongs to the Advisory Board of SOS Racism and to the Fundació Catalana de L'Espai, and she is a member of the Academic Board of the Instituto de Cultura Gitana Foundation.

Her approach to gypsies began with her first field work, together with the anthropologist Teresa San Román, in the early 1970's.

She has been a professor at the University of Barcelona, has directed studies on sociology and social work and has been an advisor in social policies for the gypsy population at the Generalitat de Catalunya.

Highly estimated by the Catalan gypsy community, her articles and researches are essential in order to know the history of the gypsy people of our country in the past decades.

*Lifetime Achievement Award: **Curro Romero.*** He is one of the finest examples of artistic and inspirational bullfighting, of gypsy bullfighting. He received official recognition as a bullfighter in Valencia in 1959 and his performances in Las Ventas and the Maestranza are legendary within his long career as a matador. Prophet in his own land, “currismo” is a matter of devotion in Seville, whose Real Academia de las Bellas Artes has him as a member.

Honorary Citizen of Andalusia, he was awarded the Medalla de Oro de las Bellas Artes granted by the Ministry of Culture, and he also received the Medalla de Andalucía.

He is an artist loved and respected by the gypsy community, both for his artistry and for his caring compromise with gypsy children’s schooling through collaborations with the Fundación Tagore. His link to flamenco and his fraternal relationship of mutual admiration with Camarón de la Isla has turned Curro Romero into an essential figure for the artistic and cultural heritage of the Spanish gypsies.

*Literature and Performing Arts Award: **Joaquín Albaicín.*** Writer, lecturer and art reporter, his lineage is legendary within the world of flamenco and bullfighting. His work, covering novels, short stories and essays, has granted him a place of his own as the current heir of the aesthetic tradition of Modernism.

He has published in several newspapers such as *ABC*, *El País* and the Mexican periodical *Reforma*, and since 2010 he has an opinion column in the digital newspaper *El Imparcial*. Among many other magazines, his articles have been included in *El Europeo*, *Sur Expres*, *Vogue*, *6 Toros*, *6, Altar Mayor* and *Cuadernos gitanos*. After several trips to India, in 1997 he published *En pos del sol*, an essay about gypsy history and mythology.

Among others, he is the author of the novel *La serpiente terrenal* and of the essay *Gitanos en el ruedo*. Albaicín is one on the essential names in the literature of bullfighting for his defence of this profession as one of the fine arts and for his literary attention to artists such as Rafael de Paula, Curro Romero and his grandfather Rafael Albaicín.

*Music Award: **Los Chichos and Los Chunguitos.*** Their great popularity has turned these gypsy artists into an element of the history of popular music in our country. They are incontestable leaders of a genre that was created by themselves, which could label as urban rumba of gypsy origin.

Both bands are still active and their repertoire is formed by dozens of songs that belong in sentimental memory of several gypsy generations.

Los Chichos became very popular during the Spanish transition to democracy and they achieved an extraordinary commercial success (it is said that they have sold more than twenty million records). The compositions by the much appreciated Juan Antonio Jiménez, *Jeros*, died in 1995, have notably influenced many artists.

Los Chunguitos belong to the Salazar family, the dynasty of flamenco artists such as the great flamenco singer Porrina de Badajoz and some notable members like Ramón el Portugués or Azúcar Moreno, among many others. They started their career in Madrid in the 1980's, when they held their first concerts too. Their songs have been included in movies, like Carlos Saura's *Deprisa, deprisa*, which granted them the Golden Bear at the Berlin Festival.

Painting and Plastic Arts Award: Manolo Gómez. Self-taught painter. He has established a recognizable language of his own. The expressive power of his work emanating from the modernity of abstraction recalls past emotions.

He has organized more than twenty collective and individual exhibitions in Spain, among which *Abstracto y jondo*, presented in Valencia in 2006, is one of the most outstanding, as well as the exhibition organized in Barcelona at the gallery Punto y Aparte.

His art and generosity have contributed to promote and disseminate gypsy culture. In 2004, he exhibited at the gypsy stand of the Feria de San Miguel of Zafra within the framework of "October, month of gypsy culture", organized annually by the Federación de Asociaciones Gitanas de Extremadura. He is also author of the advertising billboard for the Feria Chica of Mérida of that same year. His works have appeared on the cover of some gypsy magazines like *I Tchatchipen* and *Cuadernos Gitanos*. One of his latest works, still unpublished, is a mural about the *Samudaripen*, the gypsy holocaust.

He is still exploring his pictorial style while experimenting on other forms and techniques for work on paper and interventions on objects or pottery.

Young Creators Award: Miguel Ángel Vargas and Pablo Vega.

Miguel Ángel Vargas, BA in Art History, is an artist linked to drama production who has participated in many shows as an actor, musician, director, producer and production technician.

He was an actor in the gypsy company *Pralibe*, with whom he toured Europe, and he has been the technical director of the Teatro Quintero of Seville and stage director of shows like flamenco dancer Farruquito's *Puro*.

He worked with Carlos Saura as production manager in *Flamenco hoy* and with Jesús Quintero as floor manager in his Canal Sur show *Ratones coloraos*. He was the producer of the flamenco festival La Caracolá de Lebrija for several years.

His compromise with the gypsy people is always present in his work and he has participated in several social and artistic projects as varied as workshops in the women's prison of Seville or directing the opening show of the Romani art gallery *Kai Dikhas* of Berlin.

His latest works as stage director of the show *Zarabanda* or as producer of the short film *Más fuerte cantaba yo*, awarded at the Flamenco Festival of Short Films of Madrid in 2011, prove his creativity and artistic versatility.

Pablo Vega

Pablo Vega, television director, is one of the most promising young gypsy artists. At the beginning of his professional career he started the production company Dika Audiovisual, responsible for many music videos and advertising campaigns.

He has been a member of the renowned photographer Eugenio Recuenco's creative team. His first documentary as a director was *Romnía. Mujeres gitanas*, awarded at the Festival Tikinó of Granada and screened in the cinema season *O Dikhipen* at the Filmoteca Española in Madrid.

During his stay in New York, he worked for the Brazilian television channel Sur TV and was invited to participate at "Bring to Light" Festival where he presented the video-art work *Landscape Invention Society*.

He participated in the production of Aeschylus's *Los Persas*, directed by Francisco Suárez and premiered last year in the Teatro Español of Madrid.

Africa the beat, his last work, has been awarded at the Black Festival of Berlin and selected for participation in the prestigious Montreal World Film Festival.

Concord Award: Ricardo Borrull Navarro. President of the Asociación de Enseñantes con Gitanos, organization to which he has belonged since its foundation more than three decades ago. He worked for more than ten years as a teacher at the Centro de Escolarización Gitana of Valencia and, since he was very young, he has shown an interest for pedagogical renovation movements, thus starting his work in defense of a school of and for everyone, inclusive and respectful of differences.

He has been an advisor in issues related to ethnic minorities for the Centro de Formación de Profesores of Valencia and one of the promoters of intercultural education both as a theoretical approach and as an actual teaching practice.

He was involved in the creation of Romani Union in 1986 and has collaborated with many gypsy organizations. His courses and workshops—many of them addressed to the students' families—have contributed to provide many young people with an education at a secondary and college level and to their academic success.

VIDASGITANAS

LUNGO DROM

In 2012 he was received the Cruz de Plata de la Orden Civil de la Solidaridad Social awarded by the Ministry of Health, Social Policies and Equality from the hands of the Queen of Spain.