

Professional flamenco and classical guitarist, his work as a musical director, composer and arranger has led him to perform in diverse projects ranging from flamenco, in its variety of expressions, to Latin American music, electronic music, classical music, world music and jazz among others. He has been recognized with several awards as a guitarist and composer among which we can mention:

***First national classical guitar prize sponsored by the Cultural Center of Spain (Costa Rica).***

***First Prize for best international concert guitarist Niño Ricardo competition (Spain).***

***First Prize for best concert guitarist and “cante” accompaniment Sabicas competition (Spain).***

***First prize A.I.E., society of artists, performers and composers (Spain).***

***First prize for the best musical composition for a photo expo (New York/U.S.A).***

***ACAM Award for his cd "SOLO" as best instrumental project of the year.***

***Finalist in the Nacional Flamenco Art Competition of Cordoba (Spain).***

***Second Prize for best concert guitarist and “cante” accompaniment Sabicas (Spain).***

Receives great reviews from specialized press being catalogued for his "excellence in his compositions" by figures such as **Norberto Torres** and **Manolo Sanlúcar**. Shares artistic program in different festivals with **Niña Pastori**, **Vicente Amigo**, **Arcangel**, **Andy Summers**, **Pepe Romero**, **Diego el Cigala** and **Duo Assad** among others. His work has taken him to more than 20 countries and also several tours through all Spain participating in prestigious circuits and festivals such as the Madrid, Castilla la Mancha and Valencia theatre`s network, Cajón Flamenco Festival (Barcelona), G.P.S. (girando por salas), World Music Festival in las Palmas de Gran Canaria and Culture tour (Barcelona).

In 2014 he presents his first recording as a soloist "Solo" produced for **"La Voz del Flamenco"** label offering concerts in cities such as Cadiz, Rome, Villena, Wrocław, Prague, Florence, Huelva and Sevilla where was also part of **Paco de Lucia`**s memorial concert within figures such

as **Rafael Riqueni, Pedro Sierra and Manolo Franco**. Press has extended him his admiration highlighting his particular ability to interpret and compose a variety of styles with total mastery.

For the past 3 years has been part of José Antonio Rodríguez band, one of the most important flamenco artists, premiering at "Festival de la Guitarra de Cordoba" considered the most important guitar festival in the world, so to go on performing in many of the greatest Festivals and theaters around the world.

*"His aesthetic taste is very wide, capable to interpret and compose different pieces that might at first seem not related but that are part of his global musical sense. In this new "Solo" album we can feel Manuel's musical world. Music with capital letters... flamenco, classical and jazz with certain Andalusian influence, also rescuing composers such as Enrico Panza and Jose Mora which give roundness to his proposal. A cd to enjoy without labels, only through the senses and taste". **José Antonio Rodríguez**.*

*"He's highly creative and full of imagination. Presents a fluid and brave eclecticism envolved by his virtuosity not only through the modern flamenco, but also via the classical and latin american guitar, demonstrating an impressive musical range." **Jorge Strunz**.*

*"Everytime I listen to a guitar album I want to know in wich direction the artist wants to walk through, recording a guitar cd using the Spanish guitar is a real challenge for its uniqueness. The technique should be practically perfect to run all the techniques required, Arpeggios, thumb (Alzapua), scales (picados), etc. Now, after transmitting harmonies that excite and enrich our hearts, Manuel clearly fulfils the objective since he has succeeded in combining different musical disciplines with total succes, he gives us classical guitar pieces such as "Asturias", "Recuerdos de la Alhambra" and Flamenco ones through the form of "palos", like "Alegrías", "bulerías" and also some Flamenco-Latin-Jazz moments. I hope Manuel could find his path within the guitar's world, and for that reason I wish him great successes." **Pedro Sierra**, guitarist, performer, producer and Flamenco.*

*"Dynamic and versatile guitarist, his "Solo" album is characterized by the elegant and organic composition of different disciplines demonstrating his musical freedom through the 6 strings". "Manuel Montero relies on his imagination and the variety of his performance*

*capacity, replacing the "hermetic" label with personality. "This virtuoso and creative artist search goes beyond repeating the stereo types quite established in the flamenco guitar to tint his work with creativity and a remarkable musical expressiveness". "Enjoyable cd for its freshness primarily but mainly for its contribution to a new atmosphere, it sounds only to be listen, it is music.*

*"Chalaura and Flamenco Galaxy magazines (Madrid).*