

ISRAEL GALVÁN

Israel Galván de los Reyes stands out for proposing an expressive language of his own, not only as a dancer, but also as a scenic creator. A language, unknown until now in flamenco dancing, based on fragmentations, mixtures and sums of gestures.

Winner of the National Dance Award 2005 (in the Creation category) granted by the Spanish Ministry of Culture, "for his ability to generate in an art like flamenco a new creation without forgetting the true roots that have sustained it to this day and that constitute it as a universal genre," he has also received other awards during his career, such as in 2012 when he won a Bessie Award [the New York Dance and Performance Award for Outstanding Production] and the Medalla de Oro al Mérito en las Bellas Artes [Gold Medal for Merit in Fine Arts] granted by the Spanish Ministry of Culture. In 2016, he was appointed Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres [Officer of the Order of Arts and Letters] of the Republic of France by the French Ministry of Culture. This honorary decoration was in recognition of Galván's work in France, where he has always aroused the interest of audiences and critics both in his direct relationship with flamenco and in his approach to contemporary dance. He has also received a number of other awards during his career, including a total of six Premios Max de Artes Escénicas [Max Performing Arts Awards], obtained in different editions, and the Barcelona Critics' Award in 2014 and 2018.

The son of the Sevillian flamenco dancers José Galván and Eugenia de Los Reyes, from the age of five he began to experience the atmosphere of the flamenco venues, parties and dance academies where his father took him. But it was not until 1990 that he found his vocation for dancing.

In 1994, he joined the recently created Compañía Andaluza de Danza, directed by Mario Maya, beginning an unstoppable career. He has collaborated in numerous projects of a very different nature and with various artists, and among those influential in his career were Enrique Morente, Manuel Soler and Mario Maya, without forgetting Sol Picó, Pat Metheny, Vicente Amigo, Alfredo Lagos, Manuela Carrasco, Nick Lizard, Fernando Terremoto, Miguel Poveda, Diego Carrasco, Gerardo Nuñez, Belen Maya, Chicuelo, Joan Albert Amargós, Diego Amador, Arcángel, Inés Bacán and Estrella Morente, to name a few.

In 1998, he presented *¡Mira! / Los Zapatos Rojos* [Look ! The Red Shoes], the first show by his own company, which was praised as brilliant by all the specialist critics, and represented a revolution in the conception of flamenco shows.

That was followed by: *La Metamorfosis* (2000); *Galvánicas* (2002); *Arena* (2004); *La Edad de Oro* (2005); *Tábula Rasa* (2006); *Solo* (2007); *El Final de Este Estado de cosas, Redux* (2008); *La Curva* (2010); *Lo Real / Le Réel / The Real* (2012), a particular reflection on the gypsy holocaust under the Nazi regime, for which, in May 2014, he received 3 Max performing arts awards (best dance show, best choreography and best male dance performance); *FLA.CO.MEN* (2014); *Torobaka* (2014), a collaboration between him and Akram Khan; *La Fiesta* (2017); *Coplas Mecánicas* (2018), together with El Niño de Elche; *Gatomaquia* (2018); and *Israel & イスラエル (Israel)* (2019), the product of a two-year collaboration with YCAM | Yamaguchi Center for Arts and Media, using artificial intelligence to express "galvanic qualities" through robotics. Also in 2019, he premiered *El Amor Brujo* with David Lagos and Alejandro Rojas-Marcos, and Stravinsky's *La Consagración de la Primavera / The Rite of Spring*, together with Sylvie Courvoisier and Cory Smithe. In 2020 again with El Niño de Elche he premiered a new production, *Mellizo Doble [Double Twin]*.

Israel Galván is also featured in a Netflix docuseries about dance called *Move*. He is an associated artist at Le Théâtre de la Ville, Paris.