

FARNAZ OHADI & Mashregh Ensemble

Persian Flamenco: An Iranian Woman's Forbidden Voice

Creating a genre all her own, Vancouver based, Canadian Folk Music Award Nominee, Farnaz Ohadi, weaves the soft lyricism of Persian poetry with the intoxicating rhythms of Flamenco music and Latin percussion in her latest album and touring concert: "Bird Dance". Performing what has become known as Persian-Flamenco, Farnaz is accompanied by 6 piece Mashregh Ensemble comprised of world renowned musicians from around the globe including Santour, Percussion, Flamenco guitar, and bass, finding her muse in the flamenco dancer.

The title number, "Bird Dance" conveys the repression of women artists in Iran and features lyrics that build on the metaphor of the caged bird yearning to sing. From here, she takes the audience through a journey of spiritual conflict and resolution, unimaginable revelations of relocating to a foreign land, the need to move forward, and the joy of building a new life while looking back with pride. She sings with defiance and passion, as she declares her love for her cultural roots. Her intentions dignify it in the only way she knows how, through music. Her chosen vehicle, the lushly ferocious flamenco music and her voice is raised in direct defiance of those who wish to forbid it for all Iranian women who still live in Iran.

"Groundbreaking!"
- Wandering Rhythms Radio

BOOKING NOW

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