

## **Miguel Espinoza Fusion** **Academic Concert/Residency Proposal**

**Miguel Espinoza Fusion** invites the listener into a rich and colorful symposium of world musical traditions. Firm roots in flamenco, classical, and jazz are woven through with North African rhythms, Celtic whimsy, and Brazilian expressions for a sound that is transformative, vibrant, and deeply emotive. Their third album, *Living in a Daydream* (2022), features extensive collaborations with two-time Grammy winner Howard Levy, and their fourth album, *Gabriella* (2023), again features the collaborative efforts of Howard Levy, as well as fellow two-time Grammy winner David Balakrishnan of the Turtle Island Quartet.



Miguel Espinoza Fusion offers an astounding array of captivating and interactive experiences for college level music students. Suggested residency topics/activities include (see page 2 for full curriculum offerings):

Public concert	Instrumental masterclasses
Student lecture/concert	Topics in instrumental music education
Student interactive performance/Q&A	Improvisation for the classical performer
Topics in music business/marketing/touring	Compositional processes and stylistic influences

Miguel Espinoza Fusion is based in Denver, Colorado. Members are:

Miguel Espinoza, guitar  
Dianne Betkowski, cello  
Randy Hoepker, bass  
David Hinojosa, dumbek, cajon, percussion

Media/Website    [www.miguelespinozafusion.com](http://www.miguelespinozafusion.com)  
<https://www.facebook.com/miguelespinozafusion>  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4\\_ZkRmhnZJJVsuGzuwenw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4_ZkRmhnZJJVsuGzuwenw)  
<https://miguelespinozaflamencofusion1.bandcamp.com>  
<https://www.psaudio.com/products/gabriella>

Time Frame        2023-24 academic year  
Available for single concerts up to 5-day residencies

Fee                    We will consult with School of Music faculty to customize a residency program that enhances student learning within the requirements of your schedule and budget.

Contact              Dianne Betkowski: [zeldazelda@aol.com](mailto:zeldazelda@aol.com); 303-818-8386  
Randy Hoepker: [rhoepker@gmail.com](mailto:rhoepker@gmail.com); 720-989-0525

**MIGUEL ESPINOZA FUSION**  
**RESIDENCY CURRICULUM OFFERINGS**

Residency topics and activities to be selected from the following, with revisions as appropriate, in consultation with School of Music faculty.

**CONCERT/PRESENTATION – up to 2 hours with intermission**

- Public Concert
- Lecture/Concert
- Interactive Performance/Q&A

**MASTERCLASS – 50-110min sessions**

- Flamenco Guitar Styles Masterclass
- Flamenco Guitar Technique Masterclass
- Cello Masterclass – Improvisational Perspectives
- Bass Guitar in Flamenco Masterclass
- Dumbek/World Percussion Masterclass
- Flamenco Dance Accompaniment for Guitarists
- How to Get to Carnegie Hall: Incorporating Optimal Practice Strategies*
- Metronome Mayhem: Innovative Strategies for Rhythmic Mastery

**INDIVIDUAL INSTRUCTION – 30-50min lessons**

- Guitar
- Cello
- World Percussion

**ADAPTIVE PERFORMANCE TOPICS – 50-110min sessions**

- Flamenco Guitar for the Classical Guitarist
- Flamenco Infused Jazz Improvisation
- Improvisation for the Novice Improviser I
- Improvisation for the Novice Improviser II

**COMPOSITION – 50-110min session**

- Compositional Processes in World Music

**LECTURE/DISCUSSION – 50min sessions**

- Panel Discussion or Individual Interviews on World Music Topics
- Topics in Music Business/Marketing/Touring
- Introduction to *Musical Ambassadors of Peace: Healing Communities Through Music*  
([musicalambassadorsofpeace.org](http://musicalambassadorsofpeace.org))
- Developing Collaborative Student World Travel for Music Educators
- Developing Your Music Non-Profit Organization
- How to Get to Carnegie Hall: Strategies for Optimal Practice Results*

**MIGUEL ESPINOZA FUSION**  
**is the collective beating heart of...**

**Miguel Espinoza** is hailed as one of the best Flamenco guitarists in the world. From a very young age his mentors were Carlos Montoya and Paco de Lucia, with whom he was very close. Miguel toured Europe as an accompanist with the renowned Maria Benitez dance company, and was also an accompanist for the flamenco dance master Vicente Romero. Miguel spent his formative years learning from and performing with the Gitanos in Spain, after which time he began to compose his own music and collaborate with musicians from other traditions. Described by *Guitar Player Magazine* as "mesmerizing", Miguel Espinoza has recorded and performed with Bela Fleck, Howard Levy, Kai Eckhardt, Kitaro, Tuck and Patti, Rita Moreno, and Ben Varen, among many others. Whether his lightening-fast fingers are skittering across the fretboard, fluttering over the sound hole like percussive hummingbird wings, or skillfully drawing achingly beautiful melodies out of the strings, Miguel's award-winning compositions create an exotic, intoxicating musical elixir of Flamenco fusion - one that is as sonically exciting as it is emotionally moving.

Cellist **Dianne Betkowski** has performed, toured, and recorded with the St. Louis, Utah, Honolulu, and Colorado Symphony Orchestras, among many other groups. She is also a composer whose works have been performed by the Rochester Philharmonic, and the National, St. Louis, Houston, Honolulu and Colorado Symphonies, among many other groups. Her book, *How to Get to Carnegie Hall: A Weekly Music Practice Schedule*, is published by Music Is Elementary. Dianne is the founder and former director of Denver Eclectic Concerts (a cross-cultural concert series), as well as the unique music education programs of Urban Arts Music.

**Randy Hoepker** has a long career performing various styles on bass, guitar and saxophone. He enjoys teaching jazz improvisation and arranging, coaching chamber music, and bringing unique musical experiences to audiences and performers. As a conductor of wind ensembles, he has commissioned 30+ new works for wind ensemble, led students on innovative international tours, and was founder and director of the Central Iowa Youth Band, the premier honor wind ensemble in Iowa for student ages 14-20. Randy was the Co-founder and Music Director of the Colorado Brass, one of Colorado's top professional ensembles, and he has conducted ensembles in Asia, Europe, Mexico, and across the United States, including the Banda Sinfónica Juvenil de Yucatán, the Corpo Musicale di Cortina D'Ampezzo, and the Hebei Symphony Orchestra.

Percussionist **David Hinojosa's** work and mission are rooted in music and movement as a pathway for healing, connection and community. As an entrepreneur, music producer and international performing artist, David blends his passions for music and dance with business for a wide impact. He is the Director of Rabbit Hole Studios, a sanctuary for recording and producing musical medicine, and co-founder of Rags Online, an online studio for Ethnic World Dance Arts. David serves as the vice president of the non-profit Musical Ambassadors for Peace, serving refugee communities with music and dance programs.