

Del Espadín Baile Español Featured Artist

LA TEMPESTAD

The dance of the gypsies has been Tempestad's lifelong passion. A recognized performing artist with national acclaim, Tempestad is known for her rigorous devotion to the beauty and art of traditional Flamenco technique. She began as a child taking lessons at New York City's Carnegie Hall, progressed to major productions in the French Quarter of New Orleans, and now performs as a featured artist with Del Espadín Baile Español in Houston, Texas.

Tempestad was born in New York City in 1976, and began studies in ballet at the age of four at the Neubert Ballet Institute in Carnegie Hall. Shortly thereafter, she began concurrent studies in Spanish Dance at Carnegie Hall's International Studios.

Her studies over the years with outstanding teachers and practitioners like Maria Del Espadín, La Farruca, Mercedes Amaya, Nana Lorca, Manolo Rivera, Carmela Greco, Rosa Montoya, Antonio Vargas and Eduardo Montemayor have given Tempestad a rigorous grounding in flamenco fundamentals and a depth of artistic understanding. As a result, her dancing features both spectacular technique and remarkable emotional authenticity.

Tempestad's Louisiana appearances include performances with ¡Alegrias! Spanish Dance and Flamenco Ensemble at the Louisiana Renaissance Festival, the French Quarter Festival and at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival. She has also performed in productions at Tulane University, Loyola University, Louisiana State University and the University of New Orleans. She was featured regularly on local New Orleans television. In 1994, Tempestad and ¡Alegrias! were invited to perform at the re-opening of a national historical landmark, The Cabildo of the Louisiana State Museum, winning a nomination for the "Big Easy" Award for artistic excellence.

Appearing in solo performances or as a featured artist with Del Espadín Baile Español in Houston, Texas, Tempestad brings Spanish dance to the Houston community through a variety of public and private performances, including an association with Young Audiences of Houston designed to introduce the art to students. Recent highlights include Tempestad's featured performances at the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, Mango Punch's Video

for "Que se lleve el viento mi dolor", the 2005 Houston Symphony Ball, ABC Channel 13, Fox 26, Channel 55 The Tube, HCC Heinen Theater, the National Football League Super Bowl XXXVIII party in Galveston, Texas, the Houston International Festival, the Bayou City Arts Festival – Memorial and Downtown, the Houston Polo Club's Paella Festival and MECA Houston.

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