Artist

AL-ANDALUS, TARIK & JULIA BANZI

Title

ALCHEMY

Subtitle

Contemporary Andalusian Music

Short-Info: Casidas, noubas, cantigas as living, breathing art forms. Al-Andalus's 'Alchemy' is the sound of the past and of the future. Here, the Banzi's advance the oldest, continuous tradition of art music, the extraordinary Andalusian heritage. Alchemy's sonic genealogy draws from a rich array of root sources -- Arabic, Castilian, Jewish, Romany and African to create a refreshing, contemporary, contemplative music that unites the East & West.

Quotes:

"A delightful proposition of exquisite music" El Pais, Madrid, Spain

"Unique, deeply moving music as familiar as an old friend, but as fresh and invigorating as a Mediterranean breeze" Ted Gioia

Musicians:

Tarik Banzi- oud, guitar, snitra, bass, percussion, vocals/ Julia Banzi- flamenco guitar/ Noureddine Chekara- violin, vocals/ Virtudes Sanchez-Moreno- vocals

Titles

01. Casida de La Muchacha Dorada (Casida of the Golden Girl) Music: Banzi Lyrics: Garcia Lorca. + Trad. Andalusian Nouba lyrics (6:05)

02. Al-Boustan (The Garden) Trad.. Andalusian Nouba, Arr. Banzi (3:05)

03. Cantiga de Santa Maria #100: Trad. Medieval Spanish, Arr. Banzi (3:39)

04. **Housnan Ishtahar fe Garnata** (A Beauty Famed in Granada) Trad. Andalusian Nouba Arr. Banzi (3:07)

05. Jinete (Rider's Song) Music: Banzi. Lyrics: Garcia Lorca. (6:06)

06. Tushiya Al-Istihilal: Trad. Andalusi' Arr. Banzi (3:42)

07. Durme Donzella (Sleep Beautiful Child) Music: Banzi. Lyrics: Trad Ladino (5:57)

08. Alchemy: Music: Banzi (3:07)

09. Aklie Abbah (She took my mind) Trad. Andausian Nouba, Arr. Banzi (2:54)

10. Conversation: Banzi/Chekara. (7:26)

11. **Granadina**: Music: Banzi (Live Recording) (7:43)

Recommended Listening: Titles 1, 2, 9

Good reasons to play this album:

-Tarik & Julia Banzi are pioneers who in 1987 coined the term "Contemporary Andalusian" to describe their holistic approach to Andalusian music combining Andalusi', Judeo-Spanish (Ladino) & Spanish Andalusian music with new compositions rooted in Andalusian legacy.

-Ted Gioia, acclaimed author, critic and founder of Stanfords Jazz program compared Banzi's approach to Andalusian music like that of *Astor Piazzolla*, when he "shocked the Argentinean establishment with his "Nuevo Tango." (www.TedGioia.com)

-Tarik was very influential in the new flamenco movement of the 1980's. Through collaborations/recordings with *Paco de Lucia*, *Manolo Sanlucar*, *Enrique Morente and Jorge Pardo*, Tarik introduced into the flamenco soundscape the *darbuka* (clay or metal drum) and *udu* (clay pot drum) and ney (reed flute).

As a teacher, Tariks students went on to form the group Radio Tarifa.

- -The Chekara's are famous throughout Morocco, recognized as among the most faithful interpreters of Arab-Andalusian music. Noureddine was the youngest member of the Abdesadek Chekara ensemble. He participated in diverse musical collaborations with *Yehudi Menuhin, Michael Lyman & Enrique Morente*. Noureddine is currently professor of Andalusian music at the *Tetuan Conservatory of Andalusian Music* in Tetuan, Morocco.
- -Tarik & Noureddine are both Andalusians of Tetuan, Morocco. Their ancestors left the Granada of al-Andalus (1492) fleeing persecution of the Spanish Inquisition.
- -Julia Banzi is one of a very few female flamenco guitarists worldwide.
- -Makes perfect music to listen to while you are reading *The Alchemist: A Fable About Following Your Dreams*, a wonderful book written by Paulo Coelho.

www.Andalus.com

www.SonicBids.com/Andalus



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File Under: Al-Andalus, Banzi, Andalusi, World, Andalusian, Morocco, Acoustic, Oud-guitar

Original AL-ANDALUS release Recorded, Mixed & Mastered

in Al-Andalus studio, Tangier, Morocco

Additional recordings:

(08) Billy Oskay Studio (www.bigredstudio.com) (11) Live Lagerquist Recital Hall, Tacoma WA

Mixed & Mastered by Tarik Banzi

Booklet text by Ted Gioia (www.TedGioia.com)

Additional Text: Julia Banzi

Calligraphy: Risa Gettler (www.inkcredible.org)

Artwork: Tarik Banzi

Produced by Al-Andalus, Tarik & Julia Banzi

PR-material available: www.Andalus.com
EPK www.Sonicbids.com/Andalus
Real Audio sound examples of all tracks www.cdbaby.com/group/banzis

Online Purchase

www.cdbaby.com/group/banzis

Digital delivery: iTunes, Arvato, Soni Connect...

For more information please contact:

AL-ANDALUS Julia Banzi <u>music@andalus.com</u> oudquitar@yahoo.com

Skype: jbanzi

Phone: (44) 020.8123.1917 (London, UK)

Phone: (310) 933.6219 (USA)

Crossover Media/ Max Horowitz max@crossovermedia.net (212) 465.2444 (USA

See us at *Womex*, Sevilla Oct 25-29, *Institute de Monde Arab*e, Paris Nov. 10, 11. Updates at www.Sonicbids.com/Andalus