



SPANISH FLAMENCO GUITAR SOCIETY

www.flamencoguitarsociety.com

S F G S
5years

Spanish FLAMENCO

Guitar Society

Choose the area of study you prefer

Technique, Rhythm (Compás), Vocabulary, Accompaniment, Applied Harmony

Reach your goals with our courses

Addressed to everyone who is interested in improving their skills



FOCUSED AREAS

Focused Areas Courses

Spanish Flamenco Guitar Society

Addressed To:

All these "Focused Area" courses concentrate on the main topics of flamenco guitar. You choose which area you want to work on, and you start from your level.

These courses have been designed to help the Flamenco Guitar student to focus on the main topics such as Technique, Rhythm, Vocabulary, Accompaniment and Applied harmony.

I would like to point out that along the course, the student will be in permanent contact with a qualified teacher who will help him to incorporate the concepts. This course tends to help the student to learn the flamenco guitar in a completely different manner. It is something to be learned just as a real language.

We fully agree that harmony is a subject which needs support from a qualified teacher since the application of all the theory is a huge task to carry out on your own.

There are a huge amounts of good methods which explain theory, technique falsetas, etc...but the main problem is how to put and incorporate all this information on the instrument and above all to distinguish between useful and useless information.

The only conclusion to be drawn from all this is that depending on which area of the instrument you want to specialized in, some information should be omitted in order to ease the learning process. Each course focuses on significant information for the flamenco guitarist and tackles both theory and practicality simultaneously. As a result, the student gets faster results in the learning process. The teachers aim is to concentrate on transmitting their knowledge in a practical and useful way.

Ultimately, any of the Focused Areas courses are an excellent tool for improving any of the flamenco guitar areas in a way that all flamenco guitarists can handle easily.

Objectives:

The Focused Areas courses have been divided into five different subjects:

Technique
Rhythm
Vocabulary
Accompaniment
Applied Harmony

The student can choose any of the courses above and combine them in order fit their needs.

The courses are based on the same topics studied in the "Master Diploma" which has a professional focus.

Our complete program has five different levels, therefore you can access any of them, from elementary to advance.

Technique

Review of Basic skills

The student will have to learn and assimilate the basic flamenco guitar techniques in a very sensitive way, since the shorter way to get a real good technique is to liberate the muscle tension and to look for relaxation. The main techniques in Flamenco Guitar are so important to move forward in the learning of real compositions or "Falsetas" from the Masters.

Alzapúa, Pulgar, Arpeggios, Tremolo, Picado, Horquilla, Rasgueos, etc

Compás

Review of Basic rhythms

This course is designed to teach the student how to recognize and apply the most important rhythms in Flamenco music. Rhythm is one of the tricky subjects for most students. That is why our teaching staff has concentrated on developing an effective and compelling program for our students.

The student will devote himself entirely to the study of different time signatures such as 4/4, 3/4, 12 bar beat and Amalgama.

It is so important that the student build a solid foundation in the knowledge of the main flamenco guitar rhythms and claves

Applied Harmony

The student will learn in an easy and practical way how to apply harmonic concepts such as Major and Minor scales, Phrygian with the major root, Andalusian Cadence, Passing Chords, etc.

Accompaniment

Dancing and Singing

The purpose of this subject is to tackle the study of the main palos (styles), such as Bulerías, Tangos, Soleá, Seguiriya, Tientos, Guajiras, etc. The student will focus on the harmonic structures and the most important rhythm structures to be able to accompany a singer or a dancer.

To carry out this task the student is instructed to learn the chord progression of each "cante" (singing) and the structures of the choreography of the dancing. The objective is to recognize some of the main parts of each "palo" (style): Silencios, Escobillas, Subidas de Ritmo, Salidas de Baile, Machos.

Vocabulary

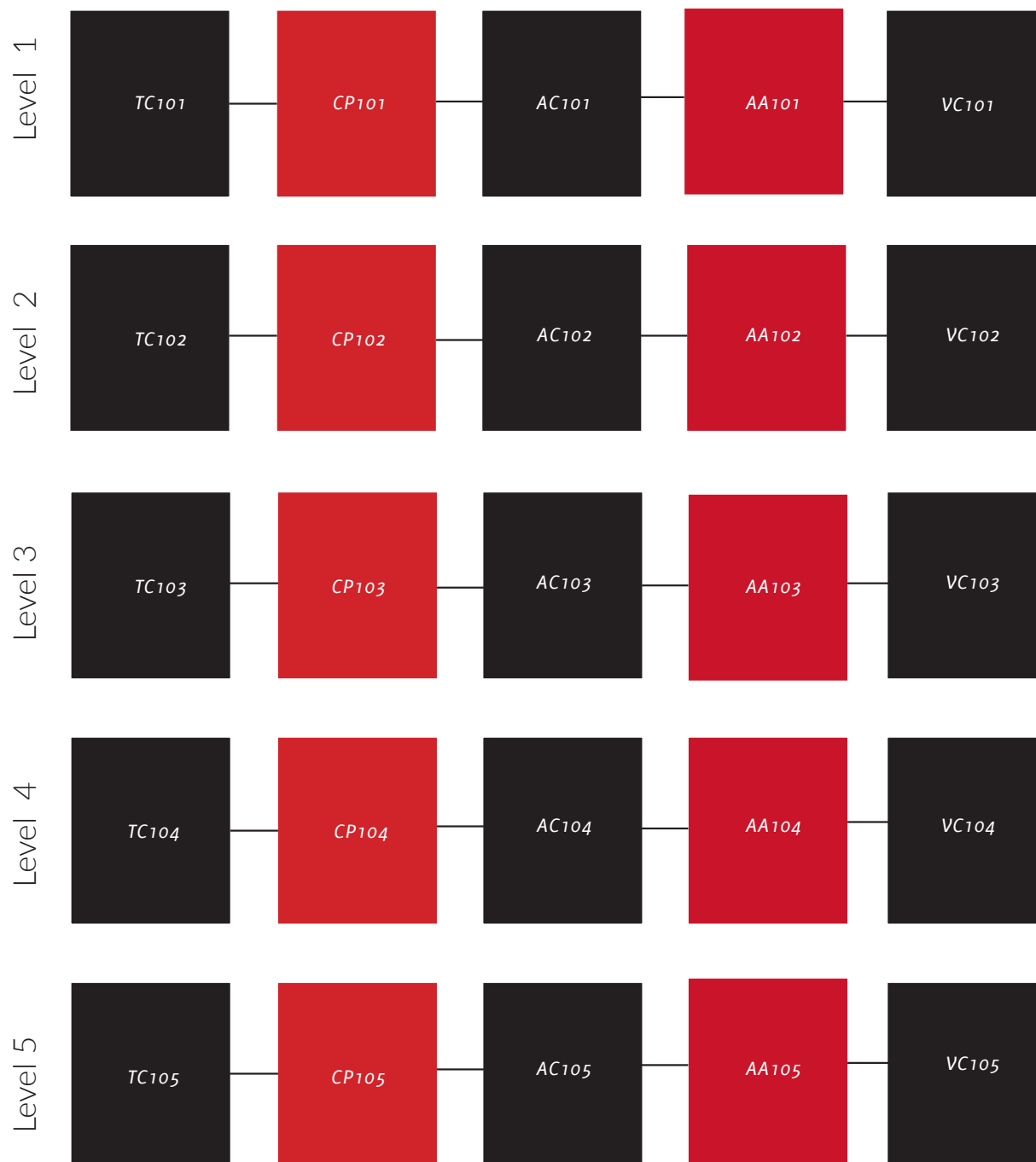
Falsetas, Breaks, Scales, etc

Here the student will find the most fun part of the course since it is focused on real flamenco material. The student will learn real falsetas for every palo but splitting each one in different parts such as the melody, the harmonic resolution, "escobillas", breaks or "marcajes".

This way of learning will give the student the right tools to learn flamenco music as a real language since it behaves in the same way. Of course the student will also enjoy it by learning some falsetas from the Masters such as Paco de Lucia, Vicente Amigo, Sabicas, Ramón Montoya, Tomatito, etc).

Focused Areas Courses and Levels

Structure of the Five Areas



TC: Technique CP: Compas (Rhythm) AC: Accompaniment AA: Applied Harmony VC: Vocabulary

Technique Course

The aim of this course is the complete mastery of the technique through exercises based on the internalization of hands sensations. Through the advice of a teacher, the student will achieve the maximum accuracy with minimum effort therefore he/she will get to express themselves more freely with the instrument. In order to obtain this the teacher will take into account the students own anatomy and the instrument itself. The techniques discussed in this cycle are:

Alzapúa (thumb)
Picados (index and middle)
Rasgueos (strumming)
Tremolo
Arpeggios
Horquilla
Pulgar
Apoyados

To achieve these objectives the course focuses on each of the techniques used in flamenco guitar.

In addition to introducing some of the techniques studied along the course we will study compositions and “Falsetas” from the Masters (*Paco de Lucia, Tomatito, Vicente Amigo, etc*)

Compás Course

Flamenco music is 80% based on rhythm structures. This field is mandatory for the domain of this music style:

3/4 Time Signature
4/4 Time Signature
12 Bar Beat
Amalgam
Rhythmic permutations

We will manage to master the Flamenco rhythms throughout the study of each of the above time signatures from different angles such as:

Minimum subdivision
Binary
Compas
Clave
Rhythm Combinations

We will be able to identify each one of the most important parts of the singing and dancing, since it is usual to combine and make changes in the speed of the rhythms.

The course will guide the student to learn how to think and to listen carefully while he is playing the main Palos (Styles) as:

Bulerias
Tangos
Alegrías
Solea
Seguiriya
Tientos, etc

Vocabulary Course

We will focus on the management of key resources of the flamenco guitar when playing for a singer or a dancer or as a soloist by studying the fundamental elements of Flamenco:

Falsetas
Silencios
Escobilla
Break
Remates
Llamadas

To manage the flamenco music language, it is very critical to get deep into the most important elements/parts as we mentioned above, since it will provide the student the necessary tools to have a compelling vocabulary and discourse when they play.

Flamenco has a high potential in the study of improvisation. That is why each part listed above will be studied in isolation and then attempt combinations and permutations.

Unlike other musical styles Flamenco Music uses music fragments when improvising rather than scales as it occurs in jazz music.

Accompaniment Course

Students will be able to play Flamencos most important “Palos” (styles). Students will develop the ability to play and listen to other musicians to simulate a real situation on stage. Additionally, the students will learn how to manage and control each of the elements of the flamenco singing and dancing:

Control of the melodies
Flamenco musical breaths
Harmonic support for tuning the singer
Rhythm delay & Rhythm breaks

Students will interiorize rhythmical structures, traditional melodies and improvisation all under the supervision of a qualified teacher.

Each student will be able to structure the composition, memorize and improvise over it.

In order to do so, the first step to taken is to study the rhythms of the main flamenco “Palos” (styles) through “Palmas” (clapping).

This will dramatically help the student to feel more comfortable when he/she plays the main Flamenco “Compases” (rhythms) without effort:

Bulerías
Tangos
Alegrías
Solea
Seguiriyas
Tientos, etc

We attempt to cover as much Flamenco “Palos” as possible throughout the course, but of course it is always dependent on the students learning pace.

Applied Harmony Course

This course will focus on the study and analysis of the main resources used in Flamenco music such as tonalities and Modes (Major, Minor, Phrygian, Diminished, Tonal, Synthetic, Pentatonic, etc).

The course concentrates on the indepth of the main "Palos" (Styles) by the analysis of "Falsetas" and the use of common voicings, Secondary Dominants, Substitute Dominants, etc.

The purpose of this course is to ensure the students are able to understand the resources used by the great masters. The student will also have the ability to create and compose his/her own music. The course will focus on the following areas:

Tensions
Melody analysis
Reharmonization
Modulation (Diatonic, Chromatic)
Modal Exchange
Traditional Harmonic Forms

Once this knowledge have been internalize with the solidity required, then the course will continue moving forward studying the main flamenco "Palos" (styles) according to their different harmonic colors (Major, Minor, Phrygian or Dorian Flamenco)

Harmonic Progressions
Chord (Triads and Tetrads)
Tonality
Diatonic chords in major and minor tonality
Tonal Function
Harmonic rhythm and cadence
Secondary and Substitute Dominant
Harmonic Continuity

FAQ's

The SFGS core faculty features top-ranked Spanish professionals in flamenco music. You can have a look and watch some videos in the website: www.flamencoguitarsociety.com

The school is renowned for its quality programs. Many of our graduates have achieved national and international recognition.

Classes will be given in good quality spoken English if required. Some of our teachers are used to do clinics and workshops around the world, therefore proper english will be used during the lessons.

For further information or if you need any further assistance, please contact us and we will be happy to help you get the most of your time, effort and money. And remember you can start at any of the levels as we will help you to test your current level it in case you need it.



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Focused Areas Courses (Syllabus)
1st Edition

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