

Biography

Nicole Murad, Vocalist

Nicole Murad is a dulcet toned, classically trained singer who studied voice with Marni Nixon, "The Voice of Hollywood". Tracing her Sephardic lineage back to 1492 Toledo, Spain, she is well known for her numerous performances of Sephardic repertoire and songs of the Jewish experience. Her award winning program, *Soy Sefaradi: Celebrating the Jews of Spain*, brings to life traditional Sephardic melodies in their original Judeo-Spanish language, more commonly known as Ladino. Achieving equal recognition are her more recent programs with pianist, Pablo Zinger, *Tango Shalom: Jewish Tangos From Around The World* as well as *Ikh Zing: The Yiddish Tradition*. Favorite operatic roles have included Lucy in *The Telephone*, Sylva Varescu in *The Gypsy Princess*, Lady with the Cake Box in *Postcard from Morocco*, and Fleurette in *Christopher Columbus*.

Pablo Zinger, Piano

Uruguayan-born New Yorker Pablo Zinger is widely acclaimed as a conductor, pianist, composer, arranger, writer, lecturer and narrator, specializing on Astor Piazzolla, tango, Spanish zarzuela, and Latin American music. He has accompanied Plácido, Paquito D'Rivera, Astor Piazzolla, Tito Puente, Sarita Montiel and Plácido Domingo Jr. He tours and records frequently with the Valencia-based Zinger Septet and has written for The New York Times, Opera News, and lectured for The New York Philharmonic. He has written the tango Latin-Jewish musical *Bela* with Ilan Stavans, *Las tentaciones de González (Tiene la muerte atada)*, premièred in 1999 to a NY Times rave and *Bésame mucho (Latinas sing Latinas)*, which won HOLA and ACE prizes (2012-1015). He has been called "The King of Zarzuela" by Opera News magazine, and was Musical Director of the Patty Disney Zarzuela Series at the National Hispanic Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM (2004-2011). CD's include *Tango Apasionado* with Astor Piazzolla, *Chamber Music from the South* and *The Clarinetist*, with Paquito D'Rivera, *Las Puertas de la Mañana* (songs of Carlos Guastavino) and two albums of music by Carlos Suriñach with Bronx Arts Ensemble. Mr. Zinger has conducted the Costa Rica National Symphony, Simón Bolívar Orchestra (Venezuela), Maribor Philharmonic (Slovenia), Montevideo Philharmonic and Montevideo Pro Opera (Uruguay) and Bronx Arts Ensemble with Jazz greats Tito Puente, Dave Valentin, Néstor Torres and John Faddis.

Eric B. Davis, Guitar

Hailed as 'one of the best guitarists of his generation' after his European classical debut at age 24 (Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*), guitarist Eric B. Davis is currently known as an active New York freelance musician in mediums ranging from classical to musical theater to session work across multiple genres. Eric was the first guitarist to graduate from The Juilliard School where he earned a Master's Degree and studied with renowned guitarist Sharon Isbin. As a classical artist, Eric has performed both solo recitals and chamber music throughout the United States including national tours with recording artists 'Trio Sonata'. In New York he has played concerts with the New York Philharmonic and Orchestra of St. Luke's, performed at Weill Hall in concerts of Brazilian music as well as with Ecuadorian guitarist Terry Pazmino; Merkin Hall with members of the Manhattan Chamber Orchestra; Alice Tully Hall with the Partch ensemble and the Juilliard Opera Center orchestra under the direction of Julius Rudel. Eric also performed at Lincoln Center's 'Focus' festival, and performed in the United States premiere of Toru Takemitsu's chamber work 'Valeria.' As an advocate of new music, he has commissioned works from American composer Eric Funk and German composer Christian Jost. Internationally he has performed recitals and as soloist with orchestra in Germany, Italy, Spain, Venezuela, and Brazil.