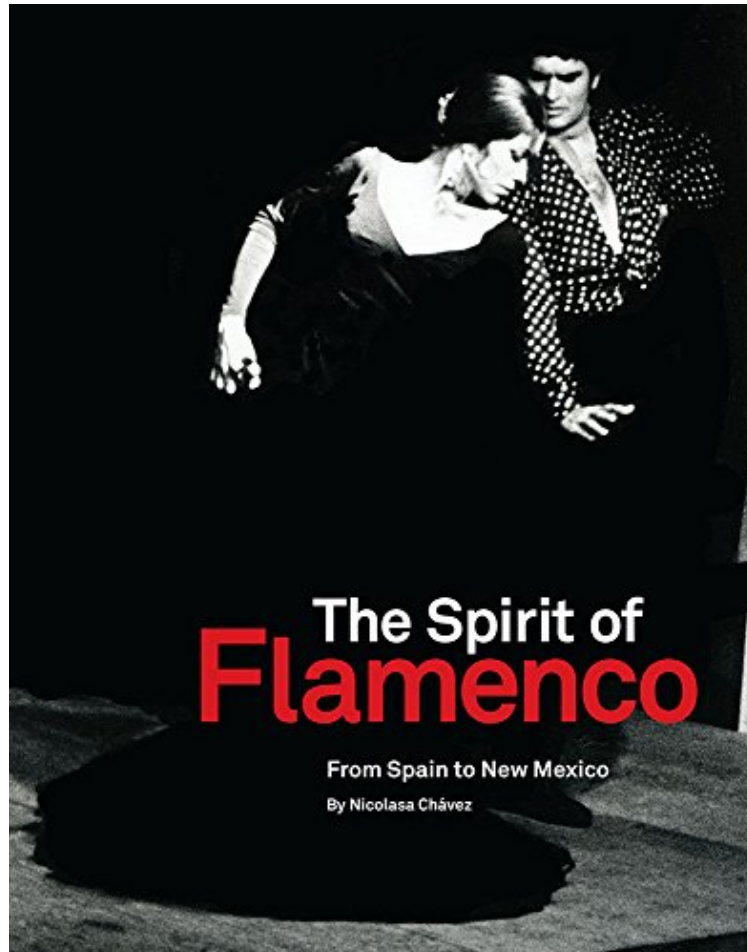


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The Spirit of Flamenco: From Spain to New Mexico

Nicolasa Chavez

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This beautiful book explores the origins, influences, development and appreciation of flamenco as a highly respected art form on the world stage. This folkloric tradition of music, song, and dance began in the caves of Andalusia and was shaped over centuries by a multitude of cultural and regional influences, including Roman, Jewish, Greek, Indian, and Moorish. Flamenco's introduction to the U.S. in the roaring twenties coincided with a "Spanish craze" and in the 1950's legendary flamenco stars including the Italian-American flamenco dancer-choreographer Jos Greco were popular attractions at nightclubs and concert halls in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. Not surprisingly, flamenco

found a permanent home in New Mexico, a state with a large population of Hispanic residents interested in learning about and preserving traditional and cultural Spanish folk traditions. Prominent flamenco artists emerged including native New Mexican choreographer-dancer Mara Bentez. Flamenco's accoutrements--costumes, musicians, instruments and dancers--are part of the story.

About the Author Nicolasa Chavez is curator of Spanish Colonial Contemporary Hispano/Latino Collections at the Museum of International Folk Art in Santa Fe, New Mexico.