



FANNY ARA'S

INTA

An experimental flamenco dance performance.

SINOPSIS

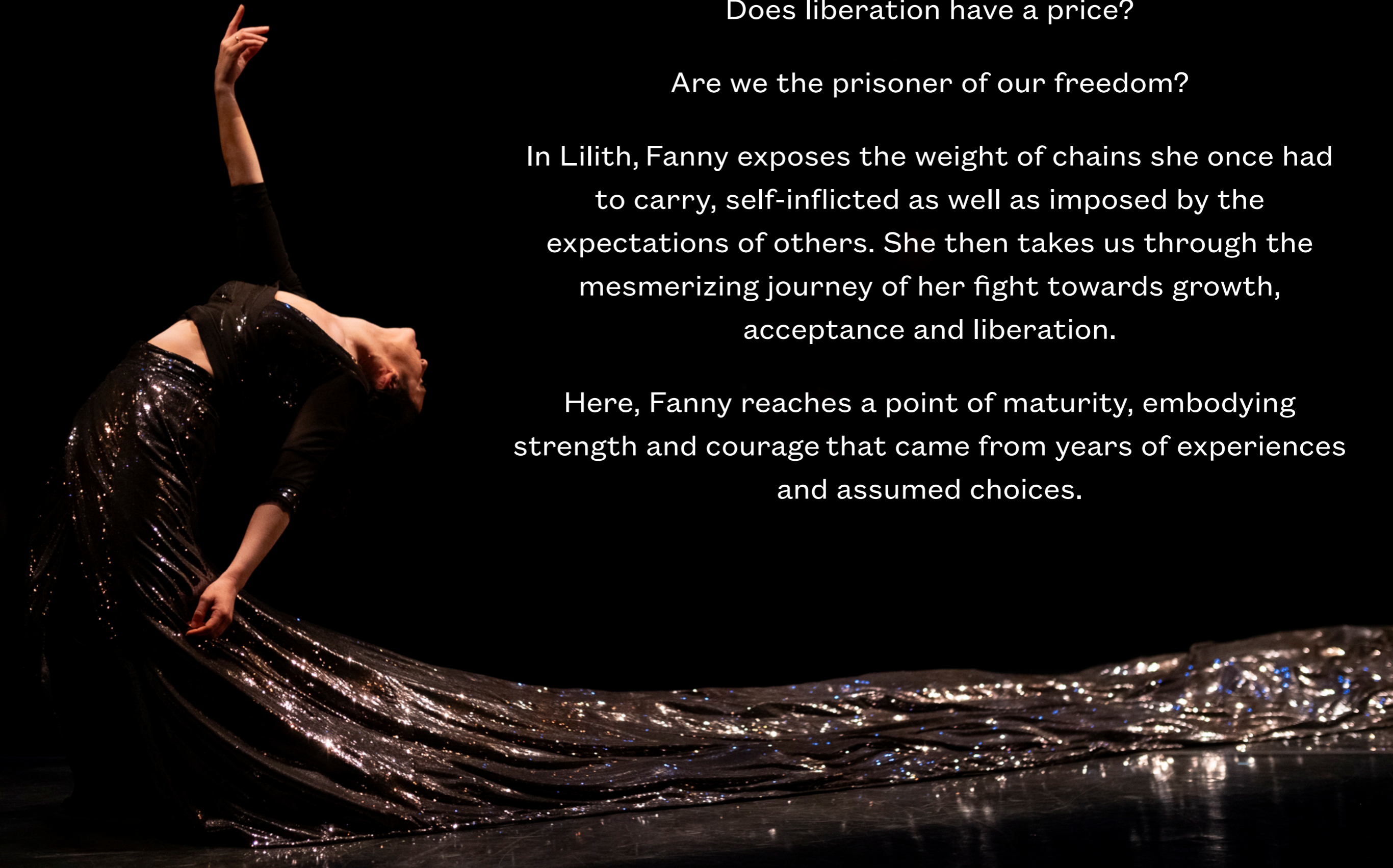
Fanny Ara reflects on the journey of Lilith, a female symbol of independence, freedom and control over her destiny.

Does liberation have a price?

Are we the prisoner of our freedom?

In Lilith, Fanny exposes the weight of chains she once had to carry, self-inflicted as well as imposed by the expectations of others. She then takes us through the mesmerizing journey of her fight towards growth, acceptance and liberation.

Here, Fanny reaches a point of maturity, embodying strength and courage that came from years of experiences and assumed choices.





FANNY ARA (Artistic Director-Choreographer-Dancer)

is an internationally-sought after and award-winning choreographer, performer and instructor. Her most dedicated worldwide fans especially credit her as one of the driving forces of flamenco today; an artist excelling in the full spectrum of flamenco, from the most traditional to the avant-garde. Fanny has been an invited artist in national and international festivals and has toured extensively in Canada, Central and South America, the Middle East, Africa, and throughout Europe. Fanny's versatility in the art form of flamenco is manifested in her many artistic works. Her latest productions were reviewed as "a triumph of artistry and self-actualization where the ovation was immediate, standing, vociferous, prolonged"

PRODUCTIONS

Lilith 2024

Tattooed 2019

Juncal Street 2012-2016

Garlochi 2010

Atraves de sus ojos 2008

Magia Flamenca 2007

*Nominated for "Most Outstanding Individual Dancer" by the Isadora Duncan Awards in 2006

*Finalist Prize for "Creative Promise In Dance" by the Vilcek Foundation in New York in 2012

*Nominated 3 times with her production "Juncal Street" by the Isadora Duncan Awards for "Most Outstanding Individual Dancer/Music and Ensemble" by the Isadora Duncan Awards in 2012

*Special guest artist at the George V in Paris working for Eva Longoria in 2013

*Special guest artist at the David Symphony Hall in San Francisco with Katia and Marielle Labèque in 2014

*Nominated for "Best ensemble" in La Traviata with the San Francisco Opera by the Isadora Duncan Awards in 2015

*Principal Dancer at the Opera at the Kennedy Center in Washington DC in "Carmen" in 2015

*2015-present: Principal Dancer for Flamenco Vivo Carlota Santana Company, New York

"Then, as if rising from the near-dead, Ara found and turned up the voltage, her long hair whipping as she stormed the stage in a fury. Her feet hit the stage in a cascade of flamenco steps that spoke their own articulate language of rage and pleading, now defiantly emphatic, now whisperingly soft. Even the heavy breathing the audience could hear when she paused seemed summoned up from some deep inner space. Pride and fear, memory and determination poured forth in the dramatic highlight of the evening."

Steven Winn, SF Chronicle

"My newest love is Fanny Ara...the captivating expressive qualities of Fanny's upper body mesmerized us while her footwork dazzled both the eye and the ear...she soared into the upper most echelon of dance artists I have witnessed over the years."

Philip Gardner; Pivotal Works, Joyce Theater, NYC

"Fanny Ara stepped onto the stage, shawl wrapped around her shoulders, with a torso that seemed to have a mind of its own. She was absolutely captivating. She brought a unique intensity to her dancing that was mixed with intricate rhythms being made by her feet and the sultry and sinewy movements of her hands and arms. The shawl, with long fringes, added another dimension to her seductive torso and beautiful pictures she created throughout the dance."

Leah Bass-Baylis, LA Dance Chronicle

MORE ABOUT ARA'S

PAST WORK

"Ara is a fine-boned, delicate looking dancer but through the manner in which she interpreted Newman's "God Song", surely one of the most sardonically dark pop tunes, she became a huge Wigmanesque figure of despair. Abruptly dropping into a crouch, she looked like Sisyphus' rock had squashed her. Grabbing her belly, she tried to hold in spilling despair. Dressed in black velvet, Ara made particularly imaginative use of her expressive arms. Windmilling they became the insistent engine that kept her going, in angular trajectories they seemed to reach for whatever was out there."

Rita Feliciano's review of "Canciones"

"Always elegant, the reach of her arms generous, frequently evoking unseen forces, body occasionally concave, legs striding in earthy response yet with vulgarity absent, fingers spread in exclamation to the rhythms, leaving the stage abruptly, provoking a gasp of delight."

Renee Renouf, Woollywesterneye

MUSICIANS



Gonzalo Grau: (Musical Director/Piano/Keyboard/Cello/Cajon) began his musical studies at the age of three in Caracas, developing skills in many instruments, from the viola da gamba and the cello to the flamenco cajón and his principal instrument, the piano. A Berklee College Summa Cum Laude, Gonzalo has established himself as a multi-instrumentalist and his varied credits include performances with Venezuelan music projects. He leads two projects of his own, "Plural" and "La Clave Secreta," nominated for the 2008 Grammys in the Best Tropical Album category. Grau has participated in over eighty productions that bridge both classical and popular music worlds. Currently, he is working on arrangements and compositions for the Boston Pops Orchestra, singer- songwriter Ilan Chester, violinist Alexis Cárdenas and the Orchestre National des Pays de la Loire, the Knights, the Brooklyn Rider, and producing albums for Erini Tornesaki, Olivia Pérez Collellmir, Magos Herrera, Ariacne Trujillo and his own band "La Clave Secreta".

Vardan Ovsepian: (Piano/Keyboard) is an Armenia-born pianist/composer whose studies include Yerevan State Conservatory, Estonian Music Academy, Helsinki Jazz Conservatory, and Berklee College of Music. Performs solo as well as with artists such as Mick Goodrick, Peter Erskine, Jerry Bergonzi and David Binney. Vardan has released 5 CDs with "Fresh Sound New Talent" label, independent releases of VOCE - Vardan Ovsepian Chamber Ensemble (2006 and 2013), plus several duo/trio albums. Recent awards and publications include First Prize at the Achava Jazz Award (Erfurt, Germany - 2017), Chamber Music America Grant for New Jazz Works program funded by the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation (New York, NY - 2017), and a release of Peter Erskine New Trio album "In Praise of Shadows". Presently Vardan resides in Los Angeles.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Fanny Ara: Dancer/Choreographer/Artistic Director/Theremin/Piano

Gonzalo Grau : Musical Director/Keyboard/Cello

Vardan Ovsepian: Piano

Emilio Ochando: Artistic Advisor

Pamela Martinez: Costume Designer

Matthew Antaky: Lighting Designer

Patron & Co: Graphic Designer

Videography and photos by Fred Aube and Alberto Gutierrez

Poetry by Muchacho Mandanga

PRESS

“Ara is credited as Lilith Artistic Director, Dancer, and Choreographer and displays true talents in all three realms. Her every gesture, prop, or costume contains a multitude of insights and experiences. [...] Her Lilith is a triumph of artistry and self-actualization.”

<https://www.jen-norris-dance-rev.com/post/review-odc-presents-fanny-ara-lilith-february-23-25-2024-odc-theater-san-francisco-ca>

Dance Magazine Article:

<https://www.dancemagazine.com/dance-performances-onstage-february-2024/>

“I was mesmerized, not only with Ara’s performance, but also with the totality of the production.[...] I was staggered at the intricacy with which Lillith wove its ambiance, to say nothing of the costumer’s skill in supporting a flamenco artist whose stature is major, and whose sparing appearances makes her presence and the productions she conceives so memorable.”

<https://woollywesterneye.wordpress.com/2024/03/09/lillith-a-fabulous-collaboration/>



TRAILER



FANNY ARA'S
FLAMENCO

An experimental flamenco dance performance.

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Fanny Ara

