



BUIKA

Buika (María Concepción Balboa Buika) was born on May 11th 1972 in Palma de Mallorca, Spain, the daughter of African parents. She lives in Miami Florida..

Hailed as a star in contemporary World Music/Jazz/Flamenco/Fusion, Buika is blessed with a remarkable voice; raw and smoky, but with a tenderness that hits right at the heart, vibrantly deploying her rich, sensual and husky instrument, best described as ‘velvet gravel’.

It has been said that, “*Buika combines all styles along with her emotionally charged lyrics and a broken sensuality in her voice*”. Rare is the artist to garner comparisons to Nina Simone, Chavela Vargas and Cesarea Evora, but Buika in her own unique way has been compared to them all.

Buika performs all around the world and sings and communicates in multiple languages. She works without limitations, a fact reflected in the variety of her collaborations, including Pat Metheny, Anoushka Shankar, Chick Corea, Niño Josele, Mariza, Bebo y Chucho Valdes, Javier Limon, Charles Aznavour, Luz Casal, Seal, Armando Manzanero and Nelly Furtado.

Her last album “La Noche Más Larga” (The Longest Night) her 7th, is her most diverse. She continues to break down the walls that surround Flamenco and Copla, the root sources of everything she does, but a tradition that can’t contain her ever-evolving vision. The album charted in such diverse countries as the USA, Spain, France, the UK, Holland, Turkey, Mexico and Argentina. Most significantly, Buika wrote and was credited for nearly half of the songs.

Her most remarkable soundtrack and film collaboration took place in 2011, when Director Pedro Almodovar featured her in his movie “La piel que habito” (The Skin I Live in).

Buika has received multiple awards, including several Latin Grammys and she was nominated this year for Best Latin Jazz Album at the 2014 Grammys in LA.

NPR has listed Buika among the best 50 vocalists of all time and calls her “*The voice of freedom*”.

Buika makes songs her own. “I just do what my heart is demanding. Sometimes in the music business people do what they think other people will like, but that’s a limitation. I just want to be true. I want what Charlie Parker’s got — I want eternity.”

“*She has a husky, layered and imperious voice, something like Nina Simone’s but more flexible and virtuosic*” - the New York Times.

“*A singer like Buika comes only once in a generation.*” – The New York Post

“*The dynamic Spanish vocalist Buika has the timbre and style of a soul singer and the repertoire of a pop flamenco star*” – The New Yorker



“Buika traces the line of soul music from Africa, through the shores of the European continent, and then home to America” – The New York Daily News

“Unique is an over-used word but this Spanish-African singer and rising world music star’s gorgeous, smoky, profoundly soulful blend of jazz, flamenco, blues, soul and more deserves the title” - Miami Herald

“A mesmerizing, cross-cultural stew featuring the wailing emotionality of cante (flamenco song) and coplas with undercurrents of Latin jazz and soul” – The Washington Post

*“She can write emotions just as well as wringing them out of somebody else’s words” - Mojo UK 4**

“Buika possesses the most haunting voice to be found on either side of the Atlantic” - The Sunday Times

“With a husky voice that envelops the listener like a great blast of muffling Andalusian heat, this is a woman who could make the One Direction songbook sound like a masterpiece of powerhouse tormented passion” – The Daily Telegraph

“When taking on classics of any genre, she makes them entirely her own” – The Adelaide Review

“Buika is about as real as you can get” – The Sydney Morning Herald

“The queen of flamenco fusion” – The New Zealand Listener

“A powerhouse singer” – Stereophile

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