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**Rhythms of L.A.**  
**Experience a Night of Light, Motion, and Dreams at the  
Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County**

**Meet the artists**

**Omar Torrez**

Guitarist/Composer/Singer



Omar Torrez, guitar virtuoso, soulful vocalist and composer, creates a highly original style of music he describes as Latin Soul & Groove. This style reflects his European-Mexican roots and adventurous spirit, a passionate blend of infectious rhythms reminiscent of modern music masters like Stevie Wonder with echoes of Paco De Lucia's guitar.

“Omar Torrez is crossing many borders and establishing many unlikely links – between classical and pop, virtuoso and hot swinging, Latin and blues, European and American, sexy and pure... and doing all this with style,” said world-renowned music critic and member of World Music Consortium, Artemy Troitsky. The Seattle Times posed the question, “Dare we dub him the Latin Hendrix?” The musical critic, Tom Scanlon, added, “The fastest fingers in the West, a massive talent poised to break out and kiss the sky.” He radiates fiery passion, drawing in the musicians and the audience and connecting with them on the deepest spiritual and sensual levels.

The artist burst onto the Seattle music scene in 1995 as a finalist in the National Jimi Hendrix Gibson Guitar Competition. A then unknown, Omar took the stage with a borrowed guitar and brought a packed Seattle Opera house crowd to its feet with his guitar pyrotechnics. He then studied under well-known Flamenco guitar master, Juan Serrano, whose art injected masterful techniques and authentic rhythms into his music. Since then, the artist has been winning fans all over America and most recently, in Europe.

Biography courtesy of the artist.

## **Flavia de Mellow**

Singer/songwriter and dancer/choreographer



Flavia de Mellow is a truly gifted artist: a singer/songwriter and dancer/choreographer, she also plays piano, guitar, and percussion. Born in Rio de Janeiro, Flavia has been performing extensively throughout Europe, Asia, and the Americas, all the while composing her music and further developing her talents.

An accomplished songstress of Brazilian music, salsa, jazz, rock, and popular music, she has played/composed with renowned international artists Elza Soares, Moacir Santos, Antonio Adolfo, Oscar Castro-Neves, Guilherme Vergueiro, Octavio Bailly, Ricardo Lemmers, Lula Almeida, Nika, and Barry Wedgle (with whom she recorded her latest album).

Flavia de Mellow embodies the essence of the Brazilian soul which she believes lives in us all. Certain things have to be experienced to be understood.

Biography courtesy of the artist.

## **Buddy Collette**

