

# *Samuel Moore*

Presents

## AL-ANDALUS

A JOURNEY TO MEDIEVAL MOORISH SPAIN

### PROGRAMME NOTES

The year is 711 AD. An army from North Africa has invaded Spain. It will soon sweep across the Iberian Peninsula, conquer it, and establish a major Islamic enclave on the shores of mainland Europe. This caliphate, Al-Andalus, will survive for the next eight centuries and its people will create a society so culturally rich it will become the envy of the known world. History will remember these people as the Moors and their civilization will contribute significantly to future Spanish culture.

Echoes of Al-Andalus are still present in modern Spain, from the country's language and traditional foods, to the architecture of the great cities of Andalucía. The flamenco tradition is no exception to this. Buried deep within the art form's DNA lie clues to Spain's Moorish past. Collectively, they give a tantalizing snapshot of the extraordinary moment when Islamic East met Christian West for the first time. It is this fascinating subject that forms the cornerstone of Samuel Moore's unique solo guitar concert programme 'Al-Andalus, A Journey into Medieval Moorish Spain'.