



What's an Encuentro?

Loco for Love Encuentros bring musicians, dancers, storytellers, scholars, and invited observers (members of the general public) together, in the same room, to explore specific aspects, themes, or eras in Florida history from a variety of different perspectives.

Encuentros offer a flexible format – part lecture-demo, part jam session, part mini-concert, part Q&A, part rehearsal, part performance, part sneak peek behind the scenes, part scholarly talk, part think tank, part time travel – for encountering history and making discoveries about music, dance, drama, and diversity.

Why is Theater with a Mission (TWAM) hosting these Encuentros?

Florida history is packed with perspectives that we sorely need today – perspectives on how past Floridians have wrestled with urgent questions about race relations, public health, cultural exchange, regime change, and civil liberties.

TWAM has found that mixing music, dance, drama, storytelling, and scholarship offers a powerful combination for bringing history to life, helping people today to see, hear, feel, and embody experience from the past.

Since Florida became US Territory in 1821, and since FSU scholar Wiley L. Housewright published a groundbreaking *History of Music & Dance in Florida, 1565-1865* in 1991, there are two historical milestones to map out themes for these Encuentros.

What themes will Loco for Love Encuentros explore?

To explore the 200th anniversary of Florida becoming US Territory and the 30th anniversary of Dr. Housewright's *History of Music & Dance in Florida*, we are targeting these themes for Encuentros this spring:

- Native Florida
exploring Native American music, dance, storytelling, and cultural presence in Florida
- Black Florida
exploring music, dance, storytelling, and hidden histories of African presence in Florida
- Florida during the 1600s
exploring music, dance, and drama in Florida during the late Renaissance and Early Modern eras (late 1500s and 1600s)
- Florida during the 1700s
exploring music, dance, and hidden histories in Florida during the Baroque era
- Florida during the early 1800s
exploring music, dance, and social practices in Florida during the Regency or early Territorial era.

One advantage of the Encuentro format will be sparking conversations that travel across these timelines and themes.

How will these Encuentros work?

All Encuentros will take place in controlled-access spaces; everyone must show a negative COVID test dated that day to enter. To accommodate presentations of different sizes, spaces rented include indoor and outdoor venues.

We expect that each encounter will last about 90 minutes, featuring 1 or 2 selections by musicians, 1 or 2 selections by dancers, 1 or 2 stories, short contributions by 1 or 2 scholars, plus conversation among the musicians, dancers, storytellers, scholars, and invited observers.

In the two weeks before Loco for Love, Theater with a Mission (TWAM) will host Zoom meetings to gather the principal presenters for each Encuentro. These Zoom meetings will use prompts that TWAM has prepped to establish a provisional sequence of presentations for each Encuentro.

During Loco for Love weekend, videographers will capture encounters, so that people can profit by this multicultural and multidisciplinary exploration of Florida's history in other times and places (enhanced by accessibility features). We hope musicians, dancers, storytellers, and scholars will attend Encuentros where they are not principal presenters, to cross-pollinate Q&As for each encounter.

Within 30 days after Loco for Love, all presenters will receive stipends.

When and where will Loco for Love's Encuentros on music, dance, & diversity in Florida history take place?

These Encounters will take place on March 5-6, 2022, in Tallahassee, Florida, following this roughly chronological schedule:

Saturday, Railroad Square and St. John's Episcopal Church

- 9:30-11 a.m. Encuentro with Native Florida, Masonbrick Garden
(Dominique Larrea coordinating)
- 12:30-2:00 p.m. Encuentro with Florida in the late 1500s-1600s, Alfriend Hall
(Russell Almond coordinating)
- 3-4:30 p.m. Encuentro with Florida in the 1700s, St. John's, Alfriend Hall
(Ben Gunter coordinating)
- 7-8:30 p.m. Encuentro with Florida in the early 1800s, Hyatt House
(Idy Codington coordinating)

Sunday, Railroad Square (and St. John's Episcopal Church)

- 9:30-11 a.m. Encuentro with Black Florida, Masonbrick Garden
(Aaron Ellis coordinating)
- 12-1:30 p.m. New Translations and Cross-Pollinations, Hyatt House
(Ben Gunter coordinating)
- (3-4:00 p.m. El Fuego with Bach Parley, St. John's Episcopal Church)
(Valerie Arsenault coordinating)

On Friday night, March 4, activities featuring some participants and exploring many themes involved in the Encuentros will take place at Florida State University.

Please note: **COVID protocols for Friday night “expect” everyone to wear a mask, but do not require a negative COVID test for entry, and cannot by law inquire about vaccination status or require masking.**

Friday, FSU College of Music

- 6 p.m. Housewright documents on display in Allen Music library
- 6:30 pre-concert talk Dohnányi Recital Hall
Luciana Kube
- 7 “A Celebration of Music and Dance in Florida, 1565–1865”
Piffaro and El Fuego
with Special Guests Misty Penton, Ken Pierce & Camilla Finlay
- Piffaro the Renaissance Band
dance music from the 1500s and 1600s with Ken Pierce dancers
- El Fuego, *El Camino Real*
Florida history told through music and dances
- Dohányi Recital Hall
- 8:30 30th anniversary party for the publication of Housewright’s
A History of Music & Dance in Florida, 1565-1865